

THE LEGAL VAULT

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FREE RESOURCE

IRAC Blank Worksheet

A Printable Template for Practising IRAC on Any Problem

KNOW THE LAW. OWN THE ROOM.

NOTE TO STUDENTS

These notes are a study aid produced by The Legal Vault. They supplement but do **not** replace your lecture notes, prescribed texts, relevant statutes and legislation, and reading the cases in full. Always verify citations and section numbers against the primary sources before relying on them in assessment.

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How to Use This Worksheet

This worksheet gives you a structured template for writing IRAC answers to any problem question in any law subject. Use it for:

- Exam practice and preparation
- Tutorial assignments and problem questions
- Self-testing after each lecture
- Study group exercises

Instructions

Step 1

Read the problem question carefully. Read it twice. Underline or highlight every fact that might be legally significant.

Step 2

List every legal issue you can identify in the "Issue Identification" section on page 3. Do not start writing your answer until you have identified all the issues. Missing an issue costs marks.

Step 3

For each issue, complete one full IRAC block -- Issue, Rule, Application, Conclusion. Use a separate block for each issue.

Step 4

Write an overall conclusion that draws together all your individual issue conclusions into one coherent answer to the question.

Step 5

Review your answer against the IRAC checklist on the final page.

KEY REMINDER

The Application is where most marks are won or lost. Do not jump from the Rule to the Conclusion. Apply the rule to every relevant fact. Explain WHY the rule leads to your conclusion on THESE specific facts.

Quick IRAC Reference

I ISSUE	What is the precise legal question raised by these facts? Frame it as a specific, answerable question. "Whether X constitutes Y under Z."
R RULE	What is the legal rule that governs this issue? State the rule precisely. Cite the authority -- case name and citation, or statute and section.
A APPLICATION	How does the rule apply to these specific facts? Engage with every relevant fact. Explain the connection between the rule and the facts. This is the most important section.
C CONCLUSION	What is the answer to the issue? One to two sentences. Direct and clear. No new points.

Step 1 -- Issue Identification

Before writing your answer, list every legal issue you can identify from the problem question. Number them. You will write one IRAC block for each issue.

1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	
6.	

ISSUE 1

I ISSUE

Frame the issue as a precise legal question.

R RULE

State the rule and cite the authority (case or statute).

A APPLICATION

Apply the rule to the specific facts. Engage with every relevant fact.

C CONCLUSION*Direct answer to the issue. 1-2 sentences.*

ISSUE 2**I ISSUE***Frame the issue as a precise legal question.***R RULE***State the rule and cite the authority (case or statute).***A APPLICATION***Apply the rule to the specific facts. Engage with every relevant fact.***C CONCLUSION***Direct answer to the issue. 1-2 sentences.*

ISSUE 3**I ISSUE***Frame the issue as a precise legal question.*

R RULE*State the rule and cite the authority (case or statute).*

A APPLICATION*Apply the rule to the specific facts. Engage with every relevant fact.*

C CONCLUSION*Direct answer to the issue. 1-2 sentences.*

Overall Conclusion

Draw all your individual issue conclusions together into one coherent answer to the overall question.

Self-Assessment Checklist

Before submitting or finalising your answer, check every item below.

- I identified every legal issue in the problem question
- Each issue is framed as a precise, specific legal question
- Each Rule section states the applicable legal principle clearly
- Each Rule section cites a specific case or statute as authority
- Each Application section engages with the specific facts of the problem
- I did not jump from Rule directly to Conclusion without a full Application
- Each Conclusion section gives a direct, clear answer to the issue
- My overall conclusion draws together all individual conclusions
- I have not introduced any new legal points in the Conclusion sections
- My answer addresses the specific question asked in the problem

PRACTICE MAKES PERMANENT

Print this worksheet and complete it by hand for every practice question you attempt. The physical act of writing reinforces the IRAC structure more effectively than typing. Aim to complete at least one full worksheet per week throughout the semester.

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