

**NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR LEGISLATIVE STUDIES/UNIVERSITY OF  
BENIN POST GRADUATE PROGRAMMES**

**FIRST SEMESTER 2014/2015 EXAMINATIONS**

*October 30<sup>th</sup> 2014*

COURSE LECTURER: Prof. Ilegbeni C. (SAN)

INSTRUCTIONS: Answer any Four Questions

TIME ALLOWED: 3 Hours

**COURSE: MLD 805: LEGISLATIVE STRUCTURE AND ARRANGEMENT**

1. The structure and general arrangement of a bill or statute follow more or less a definite pattern. Identify and explain the terms usually embodied in the part generally known as the Final Part of Provisions, and clearly explain the import of TWO of the issues in statutory interpretation.
2. The Preamble in a statute, where it exists, has been judicially described as “a key to open the minds of the makers of the Act, and the mischiefs which they intend to redress” – *Stowell v. Lord Zouch* 1 Plowd. 369, per Dyer, C.J. Clearly illustrate the nature of a Preamble and its application in statutory interpretations.
3. Write explanatory notes on ANY TWO of the following parts of a statute and the way the courts use them in statutory interpretation:
  - a. Marginal notes;
  - b. Definition (or Interpretation ) clauses;
  - c. Duration (or Sunset) clauses;
  - d. Commencement.
4. “There is a considerable weight of authority in support of the use of the purpose clause in legislation” – Sylvester O. Imhanobe, *Lawyer’s Deskbook*, vol. 2., p. 935. Illustrate what a Purpose Clause is, and what use the courts make of it in statutory interpretations.
5. You have been requested to draft a Bill to establish a body to be known as “The NILS Examination Board.” Briefly outline the heads of an ideal structure and arrangement which you will follow in making the draft, indicating the proper introductory statement for each structural head.
6. One of the main parts in the structure of a statute has come to be known by the general rubric “Preliminary Part.” Outline FOUR of the items usually contained in this part, giving examples of their format and import in statutory interpretations.

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