

3 Reading C: Types of law

The word *law* refers generally to legal documents which set forth rules governing a particular kind of activity.

3.1 Read these extracts, which each contain a word used to talk about types of law. Where did each appear? Match each extract (1–5) with its source (a–e).

1 The new EU Working Hours **Directive** is reported to be causing controversy amongst the medical profession.

2 When a **statute** is plain and unambiguous, the court must give effect to the intention of the legislature as expressed, rather than determine what the law should or should not be.

3 The purpose of this **Ordinance**¹ is to regulate traffic upon the Streets and Public Places in the Town of Hanville, New Hampshire, for the promotion of the safety and welfare of the public.

4 These workplace safety and health **regulations** are designed to prevent personal injuries and illnesses from occurring in the workplace.

5 Mr Speaker, I am pleased to have the opportunity to present the Dog Control Amendment **Bill** to the House. It is a further milestone in meeting the changing expectations we have about what is responsible dog ownership.

¹ (UK) by-law/bye-law

- a court ruling c newspaper e brochure for employees
b local government document d parliamentary speech

3.2 Find words in the extracts in Exercise 3.1 which match these definitions.

- 1** rules issued by a government agency to carry out the intent of the law; authorised by a statute, and generally providing more detail on a subject than the statute
- 2** law enacted by a town, city or county government
- 3** draft document before it is made into law
- 4** legal device used by the European Union to establish policies at the European level to be incorporated into the laws of the Member States
- 5** formal written law enacted by a legislative body

3.3 Complete the sentences below using the words in the box.

bill directive ordinance regulations statutes

- 1** The Town Council will conduct a public hearing regarding a proposed concerning property tax.
- 2** According to the concerning working time, overtime work is work which is officially ordered in excess of 40 hours in a working week or in excess of eight hours a day.
- 3** Early this year, the government introduced a new on electronic commerce to Parliament.
- 4** A number of changes have been made to the federal governing the seizing of computers and the gathering of electronic evidence.
- 5** The European Union on Data Protection established legal principles aimed at protecting personal data privacy and the free flow of data.