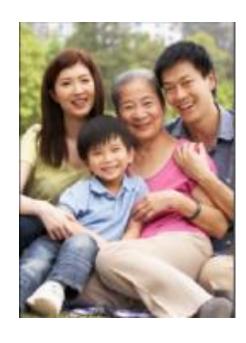


# Learning about the Law

Lesson: Family Law – Marriage,
Separation and Divorce

**CLB 5-6 Instructional Package** 





### Lesson Plan: Marriage, Separation, and Divorce (CLB 5-6)

#### **CLB Outcomes**

**CLB 5-IV: Sharing Information** Agree, disagree and give opinions in small group

discussions or meetings.

CLB 5-IV: Comprehending

Information

Understand simple to moderately complex descriptive or narrative texts on familiar topics.

**CLB 5-II: Reproducing Information** Reduce a page of information to a list of important

details.

#### **Content Outcomes**

Identify basic definitions related to marriage, separation, and divorce

Describe rules and practices related to marriage, separation, and divorce

Give a comparison of Family Law in Canada and home countries

#### Resources

- People's Law School (PLS) wikibook *Learning about the Law*, section on *Family Law*, subsections on marriage, separation and divorce. Resource also available in print format. To order visit www.publiclegaled.bc.ca/resources.
   http://wiki.clicklaw.bc.ca/index.php/Marriage Separation and Divorce Lesson Module
- PLS worksheets "Family Law: Marriage, Separation, and Divorce"
- Computer Lab (optional)

#### **External Resources and Referrals**

- For more information on children's rights in cases of separation and divorce, visit www.familylaw.lss.bc.ca
- Invite a family justice counsellor/ Legal Services Society officer to speak to the class about community services, legal aid and free legal aid or family justice services available for the residents of British Columbia
- Visit a community or government agency providing support to families and children

#### **Assessment Plan and Tools**

Self-assessment checklist

Family Law: Marriage, Separation and Divorce

- People's Law School 2013



### Sample Lesson Plan

Time	Sample Tasks	Expected Outcome	Resources
10′	<ul> <li>Warm up</li> <li>In small groups, students discuss the pictures and how they relate to family laws</li> </ul>	Generate interest  Activate prior knowledge	PLS Worksheet: <b>Get Ready!</b>
25'	<ul> <li>Vocabulary practice</li> <li>Hand out one definition to each student in the class</li> <li>First, students circle all of the words on the list that they already know and write their own definitions for those words</li> <li>Next, students look in the PLS booklet to find the words they don't know in order to try to understand them</li> <li>Finally, students circulate around the room to ask classmates about words they don't know in order to find the correct definition</li> <li>Students record the definitions on their worksheet</li> <li>Check and go over any new words</li> </ul>	Apply strategies to learn new vocabulary words related to the topic	PLS Worksheet: Vocabulary Practice!  Refer to Family Law section of Learning and the Law wikibook
15′	<ul> <li>Pronunciation practice</li> <li>Students break words into syllables and mark stress</li> <li>Drill pronunciation with students</li> </ul>	Pronounce words with correct word stress	PLS Worksheet: Say it!
30′	<ul> <li>Speaking focus</li> <li>Students practice comparing and contrasting various topics in small groups</li> <li>Go over any new phrases and words for comparing and contrasting</li> </ul>	Compare and contrast in a discussion	PLS Worksheet: Compare Share!
35′	<ul> <li>Read and Discuss</li> <li>Students skim PLS booklet to fill in notes about family laws</li> <li>Students write down laws they know in their own countries</li> <li>Students compare laws in Canada and their own countries in a discussion with partner</li> <li>Have each pair report back one similarity discovered about family laws in Canada and their countries and one difference</li> </ul>	Compare and contrast  Skim text in order to take notes	PLS Worksheet: <b>Read</b> and Take Notes!  Refer to Family Law section of Learning and the Law wikibook

Family Law: Marriage, Separation and Divorce





Time	Sample Tasks	Expected Outcome	Resources
25′	<ul> <li>Find out more</li> <li>Students find more on family law topics related to children's rights, custody, and child support by conducting internet research</li> </ul>	Get more information about family laws in British Columbia	Computer Lab  www.familylaw.lss.bc. ca
10′	Self-Assessment  • Allow students to fill out self-assessment form independently	Self-assessment	PLS Worksheet: What did you learn?

Family Law: Marriage, Separation and Divorce



### **Get Ready!**

Look at the pictures<sup>1</sup>. In groups, discuss the following questions.

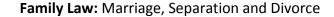
What do these pictures illustrate?

What do you know about family laws in Canada?

Discuss family laws in your country. What are the laws around marriage and divorce?



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> All images retrieved from: <a href="http://office.microsoft.com/en-us/images/?CTT=6&ver=14&app=winword.exe">http://office.microsoft.com/en-us/images/?CTT=6&ver=14&app=winword.exe</a>









### **Vocabulary Practice!**

Look at the list of words. Circle all of the words you already know and write your own meaning. For the words you don't know, look in the PLS wikibook to find the words.

spouse	
civil	
common-law	
legal	
adultery	
divorce	
breakdown	
intention	
intention	
permission	
file	
court order	



### Say it!

Mark the syllables and word stress on the words below. Practice saying these words with the correct word stress.

married	mar'	ried
divorce		
separated		
civil		
common-law		
legal		
adultery		
breakdown		
intention		
permission		
court order		



### **Compare and Share!**

In groups, practice comparing and contrasting the topics below.

"Watching TV is similar to going to the movies. Both are relaxing forms of entertainment."

"Watching TV is cheaper than going to the movies but movie theatres are more exciting than staying at home."

"Watching TV is very different than going to the movies. In the movie theatre the screen is very large and the sound quality is great, whereas a TV does not have good sound quality."

#### **Topics:**

getting married in Canada/getting married in your home country	legal marriage / common law relationship
going to court/making an agreement	agreement when you live together/agreement when you separate
divorce/ separation	Family Law Act/ Divorce Act

## Comparing & Contrasting

### Useful words/phrases to compare

- same
- the same as
- similar to
- both
- as \_\_\_\_ as
- -er/more
- too

#### **Useful words/phrases to** contrast

- (very, quite, extremely) different than/from
- unlike
- not at all alike
- opposite
- whereas
- on the other hand



### **Read and Take Notes!**

Family Law: Marriage, Separation and Divorce

Read the PLS wikibook in order to fill in notes about the following family laws in Canada and your home country.

Family Laws	Canada	My home country
being married		
getting separated		
getting divorced		



**Discuss!** With a partner from a different country, compare which laws are similar and which ones are different in your countries and report to the class.



### **Find out More!**

Use a computer at school or at home to find out the following information. Visit the Legal Services Society's Family Law website at <a href="http://www.familylaw.lss.bc.ca/">http://www.familylaw.lss.bc.ca/</a> and find the following information (Hint: Look for a search bar or find the FAQ section.)

1.	Where can you get legal aid for the family law problem?	
2.	At what age can children choose which parent they will live with?	
3.	Can you have the paternity test done before the baby is born?	
4.	When can you stop paying child support?	



### What did you learn?

Fill this out on your own.

	Yes, I can do this on my own.	I need to review this.	I can't do this yet.
I can understand key terms about family laws in Canada.			
I can read in order to find information and take notes on family laws in Canada.			
I can compare laws in Canada with laws in my home country.			
I can listen and understand others in order to make comparisons.			
I can research and find information online.			
What else did you learn today? What other que	estions do you ha	ve about Family	/ Law in Canada?



### **Vocabulary Practice!**

ANSWER KEY AND DEFINITION CARDS

spouse	someone you are married to or living with in a marriage-like situation
civil	related to citizens; non-religious; public or political
common-law	a marriage-like relationship between two people who have lived together for many years
legal	allowed by law
adultery	the act of being unfaithful to a marriage partner; having sexual relations with someone you are not married to
divorce	the legal separation of two people who were married
breakdown	fail; stop working
intention	plan of action; goal; aim
permission	agreement; allowed to do something by someone
file	to make an application; to arrange
court order	a command by a judge to do something



### Say it!

**ANSWER KEY** 

ma' rried married

di vorce' divorce

Se' pa ra separated ted

Ci' vil civil

CO' mmon law' common-law

le' gal legal

a dul' ter y adultery

break' down breakdown

in ten' intention

per **mi**'ssion permission

court' or' der court order