

Analysing a Problem

Law

Turning a messy set of facts into legal issues.

A working method.

1

Build a chronology

Dated events, with the source of each fact.

2

List the parties

And the relationship between each pair.

3

Identify the causes of action

What claim might each party bring, against whom.

4

Break each into elements

What must be proved for each claim.

5

Map facts to elements

Marking which are supported, disputed or missing.

6

Identify the evidence gaps

What you would need to obtain.

Educational reference. The gaps matter as much as the facts: an unprovable element defeats an otherwise strong claim.