

Drafting effective witness statements

Synopsis

This course is for desk-bound litigation lawyers who rarely see the witness statements they draft exposed in the courtroom. By recreating the experience of witnesses, it highlights the techniques used in cross-examination and allows lawyers to practise counteracting them as they draft statements.

Duration

4 hours

Format

Courtroom reconstructions on video, live cross-examinations, group discussions, redrafting work.

Delegates

Lawyers
Maximum 8 per course

Outcomes

As a result of attending the course, you will be able to:

- prepare statements that are accurate and fit for purpose
- use the witness's words and not your own
- protect the witness from avoidable damage in cross-examination

Content

How to recognise statements that include:

- unnecessary evidence
- evidential gaps
- lawyer's wording
- inconsistency
- uncertainty
- argument

How advocates take advantage of drafting errors

How to manage the risks when drafting statements