

## EXAMPLE OF INTERPRETATION

### SARI LANKA CODE OF CRIMINAL PROCEDURE, (ACT, No. 15 of 1979)

#### ORIGINAL TEXT FOR LITERAL OR GRAMMATICAL INTERPRETATION

##### 145. Preliminary inquiry.

When the accused appears or is brought before the Magistrate's Court, the Magistrate shall in a case –

(a) where the offence or any one of them where there is more than one, falls within the list of offences set out in the Second Schedule to the Judicature Act; or

(b) where the Attorney-General being of opinion that evidence recorded at a preliminary inquiry will be necessary for preparing an indictment, within three months of the date of the commission of the offence so directs, hold a preliminary inquiry according to the provisions hereinafter mentioned.

#### CONTEXTUAL INTERPRETATION OF CLAUSES IN SECTION 145

1. when the accused appears or is brought before the Magistrate's Court (*Adverb clause of time, modifying, "shall hold" in 2*)
2. the Magistrate shall in a case hold a preliminary inquiry according to the provisions hereinafter mentioned, (*Main clause*)
3. (a) where the offence or any one of them where there is more than one, falls within the list of offences set out in the Second Schedule to the Judicature Act (*Adverb clause of place, modifying, "shall hold" in 2*)
4. or (b) where the Attorney-General being of opinion (*Adverb clause of place, modifying, "shall hold" in 2, coordinate to 4*)
5. that evidence recorded at a preliminary inquiry will be necessary for preparing an indictment (*Noun clause, appositive to "opinion" in 4*)

**CLASSIFICATION OF SECTION 145:** It contains one main clause and four subordinate clauses