

Should jury
trials be
abolished for
lesser offences?

ITSA 2025 Essay Competition
due 14 November 2025 – 6PM





Competition Rules Part 1

- This competition is **only open for Inner Temple students** who have not yet attained pupillage.
- **Word limit is 2,000** including references and footnotes.
- You must use the **OSCOLA** referencing system.
- Essay must address the essay competition title and it should be written in English.



Competition Rules Part 2

- **The use AI is cheating and will be taken very seriously by Inner Temple.** Anyone using or thought to have been using AI in writing an essay will be reported to the Inn for misconduct with the possible sanction of expulsion from the Inn.



Competition Rules Part 3

- You must have a **cover page** which includes the following:
 - essay title
 - your full name
 - your email address
 - your Inner Temple membership number
 - your word count, and
 - the Statement of Authenticity [see final slide].
- The cover page will be removed during marking for anonymity and fairness.
- Do not write your name or any identifiable details in the rest of the essay.
- **Deadline is 4PM on 14 November 2025.** Submission instructions on the next slide.
- **One entry per person.** Only one author per entry.



Marking Criteria

Total available marks: 100 marks

5 marks

Spelling, Punctuation, and Grammar

5 marks

Use of sources

25 marks

Structure

30 marks

Originality and creativity

35 marks

Quality of writing



How to submit

Submit your essay in **Microsoft Word format**, not PDF.

Email your submissions to
itsa@innertemplesocieties.org

Email with the subject:
ITSA Essay Competition 2025 – [Full Name]



Prizes

1st prize:

£150 gift card and
30 minutes mentoring session with a barrister

2nd prize:

£100 gift card and
30 minutes mentoring session with a barrister

3rd prize:

£50 gift card and
30 minutes mentoring session with a barrister

All three essays will be published on the Inner Temple website. The top essay will also be published on Innerview – the Inner Temple Yearbook.



Statement of Authenticity

I, [INSERT FULL NAME] certify that the following essay is my own work. I confirm that I have acknowledged the author(s) of referenced works in the footnotes. I confirm that I have not used any form of Artificial Intelligence and/or Chatbots to assist me with this essay.

[Please write the declaration above on the cover page of your entry. Failure to include this will render your entry invalid and it will not be considered for marking.]