

HOW TO READ A JUDGEMENT EFFICIENTLY

- 1) Summaries are great but can sometimes be misleading.
- 2) There is no shortcut. Always read the full judgement to be sure. Read carefully but fast enough.
- 3) Do not rely on Indian Kanoon or Casemine. Always use reliable sources like SCC or Manupatra or AIR Manuals and books.
- 4) Prioritize Supreme Court judgements, then High Courts , preferably the ones of the State your case is being heard in.
- 5) Write down or highlight all the important facts and other important portions for future referencing.
- 6) Make a fact flow chart for easy comprehension.
- 7) Make a table of dates to keep track.
- 8) Make crisp yet clear notes. Not just keywords that you do not understand yourself.
- 9) Obiter Dicta may not be binding but is still useful to understand the reasons behind the judgement.
- 10) Understand the ideology of the judge , to better understand the judgement and his/her reasoning for the same.
- 11) Do not hesitate to critique the judgement. You do not always have to agree with the judges on all points.