

Year 1 Law Induction Task: A glimpse at "Precedent"

The screenshot shows the BAILII Case Law Search interface. The search form includes the following fields and options:

- Citation:** [Text input] e.g. [2000] 1 AC 360
- Case name:** [Text input] e.g. barber v somerset
- All of these words:** [Text input] e.g. breach fiduciary duty
- Exact phrase:** [Text input] e.g. parliamentary sovereignty
- Any of these words:** [Text input] e.g. waste pollution radiation
- Advanced query:** [Text input] e.g. pollut* and (nuclear or radioactiv*)
- Optional dates:** From [Text input] To [Text input] Enter as yyyy, yyyymm, or yyyymmdd
- Sort results by:** Date Jurisdiction Title Relevance
- Highlight search terms in result:** Yes No
- To limit jurisdictions, use tick-boxes below:**

Using the "Case Law Search" facility of <http://www.bailii.org> as shown above, locate the law report for the case of **R v Howe [1986] UKHL 4**.

Tip: just type in "Howe" not the full case name

Questions

1. What does the letter "R" above stand for in the case name above?
2. Who was "Howe"?
3. How many judges heard the case?
4. Which court was this case heard in?
5. Which other courts had previously dealt with the case?
6. What was the first "certified question" in the case?
7. What answer was given to this question?
8. Is there anything in the judgement about "attempted murder"?
9. What does the "Practice Statement" seem to allow the judge to do?

Tips:

- Try to skim read and not get bogged down in some of the technical detail. Don't worry; you won't have to read stuff like this every week!
- When searching through web pages, Word documents, etc, you can use the Control & F keys to search for a particular phrase.