



## What is inside a Restatement?

A Restatement assumes the perspective of a common-law court, attentive to and respectful of precedent, but not bound by precedent that is inappropriate or inconsistent with the law as a whole. Restatements present each topic using three main components.

### **Black Letter**

**A black-letter provision normally consists of a single rule, principle, or statement of law or of an integrally related series of rules, principles, or statements. Black letter is easily identified in the publications as it appears in bold, black type.**

### **Comments:**

The Comments appended to an ALI black-letter provision are mainly explanatory. Along with the black letter, Comments are an integral part of the Section to which they belong. Readers consult the Comments in order more fully to understand the background and rationale of the black letter and the details of its application.

### **Illustrations:**

Illustrations are distinct but integral parts of the Comment. They are inserted into the Comment for the purpose of providing concrete, “real world” examples of how the black-letter rule or principle under discussion applies to specific factual situations.

### **REPORTERS’ NOTES**

Reporters’ Notes set forth and discuss the legal and other sources relied upon by the Reporter(s) in formulating the black letter and Comment and enable the reader better to evaluate these formulations; they also provide avenues for additional research. Reporters’ Notes often contain many citations to court cases, which can aid in additional research on any topic.