This chapter discusses the rules of offer and acceptance that have been laid down by the courts over the years. It states that the rules claim to be of general application and that they purport to give effect to the intention of the parties, albeit their intention objectively ascertained. The chapter also establishes that the rules in practice are often inter-linked. For example, the question whether or not an offer has been accepted may depend in a particular case on whether or not the offer was revoked before it was accepted; a court deciding such a case must decide both when the acceptance and the revocation took effect. The chapter examines the difference between an offer and an invitation to negotiate (or an invitation to treat), particularly in its application to contracts concluded in shops, tenders and contracts concluded at an auction, the battle of the forms, the time at which acceptance takes place when a contract is concluded by post, and acceptance in the case of unilateral contracts.
3. Offer and Acceptance

Access to the complete content on Law Trove requires a subscription or purchase. Public users are able to search the site and view the abstracts and keywords for each book and chapter without a subscription.

Please subscribe or login to access full text content.

If you have purchased a print title that contains an access code, please see the information provided with the code or instructions printed within the title for information about how to register your code.

For questions on access or troubleshooting, please check our FAQs, and if you can't find the answer there, please contact us.