This chapter deals with the third step in the IRAC method of legal essay writing: the application of the facts to the rules (legal authorities) presented in the second step of the essay. This technique is very seldom addressed in class discussions, and many students can become overwhelmed when seeking to undertake this element of the exam- and essay-writing process. The discussion explains what ‘application’ means under the IRAC system; the need for an application process in legal writing; how to distinguish ‘application’ from the ‘rules’ in IRAC methodology; and various stylistic and practical issues concerning the application of the facts to the rules. Writing tips are provided throughout the chapter. A worked example is also presented.
5. Step three in the IRAC method: the application

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