Chapter 2--Traditional and Online Dispute Resolution

Student: _

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Java Cafes, Inc., and Kaffe Import Corporation dispute a term in their contract.

Refer to Fact Pattern 2-1. The least expensive method to resolve the dispute between Java and Kaffe may be

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- A. arbitration.
- B. conciliation.
- C. intervention.
- D. mediation.
- 65. National Consumer Goods Corporation and Paula Purchaser agree to resolve their dispute in arbitration. The arbitrator's decision is called
 - A. a conclusion of law.
 - B. a finding of fact.
 - C. an award.
 - D. a verdict.
- 66. Owen, in Pennsylvania, and Quik Jobs, Inc., in Maryland agree to have their dispute resolved in arbitration according to the law of Virginia. This is a ground for a court to
 - A. do nothing.
 - B. review the merits of the dispute.
 - C. review the sufficiency of the evidence.
 - D. set aside the award.

- 67. Transnational Corporation and United Shipping, Inc., agree to a contract that includes an arbitration clause. If a dispute arises, a court having jurisdiction may
 - A. monitor any arbitration until it concludes.
 - B. order an arbitrator to rule in a particular way.
 - C. order a party to bring the dispute to court.
 - D. order a party to submit to arbitration.
- 68. In Harley's suit against Irma, the parties meet before going to trial, and each party's attorney argues the party's case before the other party. A third party renders an opinion as to how a court would likely decide the dispute. This is
 - A. a mini-trial.
 - B. arbitration.
 - C. a summary jury trial.
 - D. early neutral case evaluation.
- 69. Molly files a suit against Naomi. They meet, and each party's attorney argues the party's case before a judge and jury. The jury presents an advisory verdict, after which the judge meets with the parties to encourage them to settle their dispute. This is
 - A. court-ordered arbitration.
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- 70. To resolve a dispute, Amy in Boston and Chris in Denver utilize E-Solution, an online dispute resolution (ODR) service. This limits these parties' recourse to the courts
 - A. not at all.
 - B. until the ODR service has issued a decision.
 - C. with respect to any dispute arising between them.
 - D. with respect to this dispute only.

71. Norwest Trucking Corporation files a suit in a state court against Bob's Service Company (BSC), and wins. BSC appeals the court's decision, asserting that the evidence presented at trial to support Norwest's claim was so scanty that no reasonable jury could have found for the plaintiff. Therefore, argues BSC, the appellate court should reverse the trial court's decision. Is the appellate court likely to reverse the trial court's findings with respect to the facts? If not, why not? What are an appellate court's options after reviewing a case?

72. Discount Mart, Inc., files a suit in a state court against Elements Computer Corporation, alleging that Elements breached a contract to sell 500 notebook computers to Discount. During the course of the suit, Discount files a motion for judgment on the pleadings, Elements files a motion for a directed verdict, and both parties file motions for summary judgment. When and for what purpose are each of these motions made?

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- C. intervention.
- D. mediation.
- 65. National Consumer Goods Corporation and Paula Purchaser agree to resolve their dispute in arbitration. The arbitrator's decision is called
 - A. a conclusion of law.
 - B. a finding of fact.
 - <u>C.</u> an award.
 - D. a verdict.
- 66. Owen, in Pennsylvania, and Quik Jobs, Inc., in Maryland agree to have their dispute resolved in arbitration according to the law of Virginia. This is a ground for a court to

<u>A.</u> do nothing.

- B. review the merits of the dispute.
- C. review the sufficiency of the evidence.
- D. set aside the award.

- 67. Transnational Corporation and United Shipping, Inc., agree to a contract that includes an arbitration clause. If a dispute arises, a court having jurisdiction may
 - A. monitor any arbitration until it concludes.
 - B. order an arbitrator to rule in a particular way.
 - C. order a party to bring the dispute to court.
 - **<u>D.</u>** order a party to submit to arbitration.
- 68. In Harley's suit against Irma, the parties meet before going to trial, and each party's attorney argues the party's case before the other party. A third party renders an opinion as to how a court would likely decide the dispute. This is
 - <u>A.</u> a mini-trial.
 - B. arbitration.
 - C. a summary jury trial.
 - D. early neutral case evaluation.
- 69. Molly files a suit against Naomi. They meet, and each party's attorney argues the party's case before a judge and jury. The jury presents an advisory verdict, after which the judge meets with the parties to encourage them to settle their dispute. This is
 - A. court-ordered arbitration.
 - B. early neutral case evaluation.
 - C. a mini-trial.
 - **<u>D.</u>** a summary jury trial.
- 70. To resolve a dispute, Amy in Boston and Chris in Denver utilize E-Solution, an online dispute resolution (ODR) service. This limits these parties' recourse to the courts

$\underline{\mathbf{A}}$. not at all.

- B. until the ODR service has issued a decision.
- C. with respect to any dispute arising between them.
- D. with respect to this dispute only.

71. Norwest Trucking Corporation files a suit in a state court against Bob's Service Company (BSC), and wins. BSC appeals the court's decision, asserting that the evidence presented at trial to support Norwest's claim was so scanty that no reasonable jury could have found for the plaintiff. Therefore, argues BSC, the appellate court should reverse the trial court's decision. Is the appellate court likely to reverse the trial court's findings with respect to the facts? If not, why not? What are an appellate court's options after reviewing a case?

An appellate court will reverse a lower court's decision on the basis of the facts if the evidence does not support the findings or if it contradicts them. Appellate courts normally defer to a judge's decision with regard to the facts of a case, however, for a number of reasons. First, trial judges routinely sit as fact finders. As a result, they develop a particular expertise in determining what kind of evidence and testimony is reliable and what kind is not. Second, trial judges and juries have the opportunity to observe witnesses and tangible evidence first hand. The appellate court sees only a cold record of the trial court proceedings and therefore cannot make the kind of judgments about the credibility of witnesses and the persuasiveness of evidence that can be gleaned only from first-hand experience. (There are also constitutional reasons for an appellate court to defer to a jury verdict. If, based on the evidence presented to a jury, a reasonable person could have come to the same decision that the jury came to, an appellate court cannot reverse the jury's decision with regard to the facts because this would, in essence, take away a person's right to a jury trial.) An appellate court's options after reviewing a case are to affirm the trial court's judgment, to reverse it in whole, to reverse it in part, to modify the decision, or to remand the case for further proceedings.

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72. Discount Mart, Inc., files a suit in a state court against Elements Computer Corporation, alleging that Elements breached a contract to sell 500 notebook computers to Discount. During the course of the suit, Discount files a motion for judgment on the pleadings, Elements files a motion for a directed verdict, and both parties file motions for summary judgment. When and for what purpose are each of these motions made?

After the pleadings have been filed, either party can file a motion for judgment on the pleadings. This motion may be used when no facts are disputed and, thus, only questions of law are at issue. The difference between this motion and a motion for summary judgment is that the party requesting the motion may support a motion for summary judgment with sworn statements and other materials; on a motion for a judgment on the pleadings, a court may consider only those facts pleaded. At the conclusion of the plaintiff's case, the defendant can file a motion for a directed verdict (federal courts use the term motion for a judgment as a matter of law), asking the court to direct a verdict for the defendant on the ground that the plaintiff has presented no evidence to justify the granting of the plaintiff's remedy. In considering the motion, the judge looks at the evidence in the light most favorable to the plaintiff and grants the motion only if there is insufficient evidence to raise an issue of fact. At the end of the defendant's case, either party can move for a directed verdict. If the only question is which laws apply to the facts in a case, either party can move for summary judgment before or during a trial. When a court considers a motion for summary judgment, it can take into account evidence outside the pleadings. The evidence may consist of sworn statements by parties or witnesses, as well as documents. A motion for summary judgment will be granted only when there are no genuine questions of fact, and the only question is a question of law.