1. [[1]](#footnote-1)Firstly, this writer will explain the meaning of arraignment. Arraignment means, calling an accused person formally before the court by name at the beginning of a criminal proceeding to read to him the allegation brought against him and to ask him whether he pleads guilty or not guilty. In the process of arraignment, the registrar of the court calls the accused by name while the accused is standing in the dock and reading over and explaining the charge or information to the accused in a satisfactory way and asking the accused to make his plea immediately, this whole process is called arraignment.

Imposition of sentence is a sentencing option that allows the trial court to place a defendant on probation, they may be sentenced to any possible punishment for the crime convicted. When an accused person is found guilty of a crime, a court may under the criminal procedure act or pass sentence and make one or more appropriate orders which are:

1. Imprisonment normally with hard labour
2. Fine
3. Death sentence
4. Caning
5. Deportation
6. Binding over order
7. Order for detention during the pleasure of the president or governor
8. Order for disposal of property
9. Order for costs
10. Award of damages
11. Probation of order

After imposition of sentence there are some remedies available to an aggrieved party and they are:

1. [[2]](#footnote-2)Order of mandamus
2. Declaration of rights
3. Injunction
4. Writ of habeas corpus
5. Award of damages
6. Offer of apology
7. Order of prohibition
8. Order of certiorari
9. [[3]](#footnote-3)There are various methods which civil procedure can commence in a high court, and this writer will briefly explain these methods below. These methods are;
10. **PRE-COURT STAGE AND CONSULTATION OF A LAWYER:** This is the first stage of any trial. In this stage, a party who is aggrieved and seeks relief from the high court consults a lawyer for legal advice. In this process the lawyer acts as a mediator between both parties. If the issue at hand does not need immediate action, the lawyer writes a letter of demand to the would be defendant demanding that a wrong be put right, the lawyer also gives a time limit for the demand to be met, failure of which action is thereafter filed with or without giving further notice to the would be defendant.
11. **FORM AND COMMENCEMENT OF ACTION:** An action may be filled through the following one or a combination of processes in court.
12. Writ of summons- when a writ of summon is filed it is sealed with the name of the court on it for service by a bailiff on the defendant in order to give him notice of the claim made against him and expects him to defend the service, if he fails to do so a statement of claim maybe filed along with the writ or within 14 days of the service of the writ on the defendant. A writ usually contains Important information like; Names of the parties to the suit and an endorsement of the claim against the defendant
13. Ex parte motion
14. Petition
15. **APPEARANCE:** This is the stage where the defendant acknowledges the writ and enters appearance in the case by instructing his solicitor to file a memorandum of appearance and show up to defend the case. If within a limited time a defendant fails to enter appearance the plaintiff may by motion obtain final judgement against the defendant in default of appearance.
16. **STAY OF PROCEEDING:** After a lawsuit is filed, whether or not a defendant has entered appearance a court may order a stay. A stay means temporary suspension of proceeding in an action until something requisite is done or until a party has complied with an order.
17. **DISCONTINUANCE:** This can be defined as a process in which a plaintiff willingly puts an end to a legal action. If the plaintiff doesn’t perform discontinuance on time he may be ordered to pay the defendants cost.
18. **NONSUIT:** In this stage when a wrong person is sued the court will strike out his name at his application.
19. **SETTLEMENT:** This means the settlement of dispute by both parties for valuable consideration or without consideration and withdraw the action without filing terms in which the action will be struck out by court and the terms of settlement and the terms of settlement will be pronounced as consent judgement of the court in conclusion of the action.
20. **SUMMARY JUDGEMENT:** This means promptly obtaining judgement in a case without going to trial.
21. **PLEADINGS:** These are written statements of material fact which are filed and exchanged by parties to a suit, which a party depends on for his claim.
22. **TRIAL:** This means a formal examination of evidence by a judge in order to decide guilt in a case of proceedings.
23. **JUDGEMENT:** This means when the judge sums up a case after the closing addresses of council’s. In this process he evaluates the given evidence given in the case and proceeds to judgement on the same day. There are some situations where the judge adjourns the matter for judgement to a later date and in situations like this the judge needs more time to consider the case. During the process of judgement date the judge gives verdict stating the facts and legal issues of the case, he explains the burden, standards of proof and states the basis of the judgement. He enters judgement in favour of the appropriate party and also makes such orders as are relevant in the case, provided that such orders were sought by such party.
24. **ENFORCEMENT OF JUDGEMENT:** When judgement has been given in favour of a party, if the plaintiff is not satisfied with the judgement he may enforce the judgement by the following ways.
25. **WRIT OF FIFA:** This means an order given by the sheriff to seize the debtor’s belongings for sale in satisfaction of the debt.
26. **A CHARGING ORDER:** This is made over a debtor shares or other property for payment of the debt. When the debt is not paid such property can be sold upon application in court in order to satisfy the debt.
27. **A WRIT OF SEQUESTRATION:** This is an order that directs persons to take control of and personal property of the debtor until the debtor has compiled with the courts order.
28. **APPOINTMENT OF A RECIEVER:** This means an order over the debtor’s property to take over incomes and apply the proceeds to pay off the judgement creditor and so forth.
29. **A GARNISHEE ORDER:** A garnishee order is a common form of enforcing a judgement debt against a creditor to recover money. In other words, the court directs a third party that owes money to the judgement debtor to instead pay the judgement creditor. The third party is called a “garnishee”.
30. **ATTACHEMENT OF EARNINGS:** If a debtor is in employment, a judgement creditor may obtain an order directing the debtor’s employee to deduct a specific amount from the defendant’s debtor’s salary and pay it into court for the plaintiff. This does not apply to the profit of a self-employed.

**The following can be used to enforce judgement for possession of land or other property**

7. A writ of possession

8. A vesting order or specified performance.

**The following can be used to enforce judgement for delivery of goods**

9. A writ of delivery

10. An order of specific performance.

**REFERENCE**

1. ESE MELAMI *THE NIGERIAN LEGAL SYSTEM* CHAPTER 11, 13 AND 14

1. ESE MALEMI *THE NIGERIAN LEGAL SYSTEM* CHAPTER 14 [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. ESE MELAMI *THE NIGERIAN LEGAL SYSTEM* CHAPTER 11 [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. ESE MELAMI *THE NIGERIAN LEGAL SYSTEM* CHAPTER 13 [↑](#footnote-ref-3)