



A0QZ7658 [Redacted] v Mr X (04/07/2014 Bradford)

Claim dismissed. Judge rules signage is gibberish.

'Last Wednesday I was taken to court by [redacted] for not paying £100 fine, for parking in the wrong place in a free car park. I hadn't paid the fine (the amount of which kept altering) because I felt very strongly that it was unreasonable to demand so much money when I was not aware of having done anything wrong.

'The judge found that the signs, although large, had too much information on them to make them easy to read and ordered that signs should be put up which made it clear that although it was a free car park, penalties could apply. The [redacted] man said that this had already been done, although after I had got my parking ticket.'

The Parking Prankster helped Mr X with his defence, pointing out the misspellings in the signage, and also that according to the terms and conditions the only people allowed to park in the entire car park are disabled drivers parking in a disabled bay with a badge showing. Non-disabled motorists are not allowed to park at all, anywhere in the car park.

The signage also displayed terms conflicting with other signs in the car park.

Lastly, the fact that a charge would be applied was hidden in the small print, which is not allowed by the Unfair Terms in Consumer Contracts Regulations 1999.

[From the Parking Prankster website, July 2014]

Car-park signs at one hospital



Fig 1



Fig 2

Fig 3



Fig 4



Fig 5



Fig 6



Fig 7



Fig 8



Fig 9

 **Pay to park
with your phone** 

See side of machine for more details

WE RECOMMEND THAT YOU PAY ON EXIT.

Please note that there is a 20 minute grace period across site.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE:

- 1) Note your **ARRIVAL TIME** using the clock below
- 2) **RETURN TO THE MACHINE** when you are ready to leave
- 3) **NOTE THE TIME** using the clock below
- 4) Enter your **FULL VEHICLE REGISTRATION**
- 5) **PAY** according to the tariff
- 6) Press the **GREEN (CONFIRM)** button
- 7) **RETAIN** the ticket

TARIFF	
Up to 30 mins	£0.80
Up to 1 hour	£2.00
Up to 2 hours	£2.50
Up to 3 hours	£3.00
Up to 5 hours	£3.50
Up to 7 hours	£4.00
Up to 24 hours	£6.00
Weekly pass (7 days)	£8.00
Monthly pass (28 days)	£25.00
Night Rate (10pm-6am)	£1.50

Additional time can be purchased (if required) before you leave. An additional 50p will give you an extra 30 minutes parking time between 1-7 hours.

This machine does not give change or accept notes.
The nearest Chip and Pin machine is located **NEXT TO A&E**

 **TO PAY VISIT:** 

paybyphone.co.uk

OR CALL
0330 400 7275

Calls charged at local rate
See side of machine for more payment details

LOCATION **79492**





Not sure how long you will be staying?


- Make a note of your time of arrival using the clock on the machine
- Make sure that you have paid the correct fee before you leave the car park
- Follow payment instructions


Have you overstayed the time you have paid for?

- Enter your vehicle registration
- Top up the difference using the listed tariff
- Follow payment instructions









Please retain receipt as proof of payment





Fig 10



Fig 11



Fig 12

Task

To simulate the real-life situation for most car-park users, you **MUST NOT** use a calculator or pen and paper for this task. You may use a pen **ONLY** to write down your answers. You have **THREE** minutes.

Bearing in mind...

- figure 1, '20 minutes free parking'; and figure 4, '20 minutes free parking from this point'
- figure 10, 'Please note that there is a 20 minute grace period across site'
- the tariffs shown in figures 10, 11 and 12 (the evening tariff applies from 10pm to 6am, £1.50)
- that it may take you about 10 minutes to walk from the pay machine to your car, strap in your children and exit the car park – maybe longer if you are disabled, and
- figure 11, 'You can purchase additional time (if required) at the payment machines or by phone before leaving, an additional 50p will give an extra 30 mins parking time between 1-7 hours.'

...please calculate the cost of the five stays listed below.

1: Arrive 10.35am. Pay at 11.10am and leave soon after. *Answer*

2: Arrive 9.55am. Expect to stay for three hours and buy a £3 ticket, but actually finish your appointment later and have to pay a top-up at 2.10pm, leaving soon after. *Answer for cost of top-up*

3: Arrive 4am. Pay at 10am. *Answer*

4: Arrive 3pm Tuesday. Pay at 3.15pm on Wednesday. *Answer*

5: Arrive 2pm and buy a £4 ticket for seven hours. Pay a top-up at 9.45pm and leave soon after. *Answer for cost of top-up*