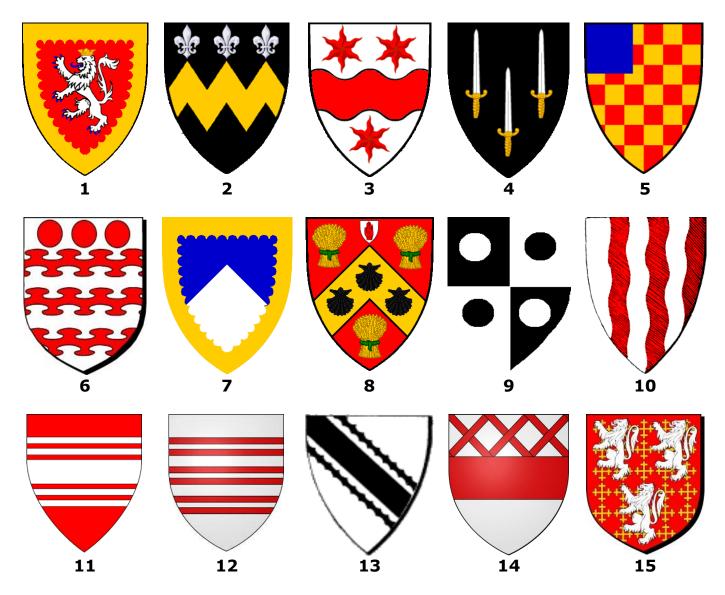
MHS Heraldry Group

Blazoning - Unit 16

EXERCISE 1 - PRACTICE



ANIMAL HEADS

With heads, one has to notice how they are separated from the rest of the body. The choice is usually between couped and erased.

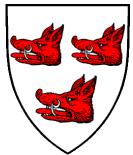
Couped implies a straight cut, though the heads may be **couped at the neck** or **couped close**.

Erased implies a more untidy, jagged split as if the head has been forcible torn off the body.. Erased separations are frequently indicated by the neck being split into three parts, as in the third example below.

The word **Caboshed** is used for heads looking outwards without any neck.



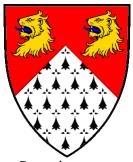
Gules a horse's head couped at the neck between three crosses crosslet fitchy argent



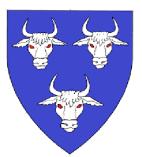
Argent three boars' heads couped close gules armed silver



Gules on a fess sable between three wolves' heads erased argent langued sable a bar wavy silver



Per chevron gules and ermine in chief two lions' heads erased or langued azure



Azure three cows' heads caboshed argent eyes qules

DEER

The **Stag** and **Hart** are identical heraldically. They have a full set of spiky antlers, like a red deer.

By contrast, the antlers of a **Buck** are broader, like a those of a fallow deer.

The **Hind** has no antlers.



red deer



fallow deer

There are some special words involved when blazoning deer.

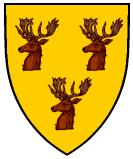
A deer is **trippant** when walking with one foot raised, but this term is only used for deer. For other mammals the term *passant* is used.

When standing still looking out at the observer it is said to be at gaze.

If sitting with all four legs under it, it is said to be **lodged**.

The horns of a deer are called **attires** so it may be **attired gules** for example.

If the hooves are a different colour the deer may be **unguled azure**, for instance.



Or three bucks' heads couped at the neck tenné



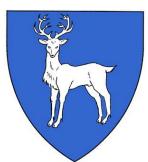
Argent a hart lodged gules attired or holding in its mouth a branch proper



Ermine a hind trippant gules



Vert three bucks trippant attired or



Azure a stag at gaze argent

OTHER ANIMALS

Many terms applied to the lion and the deer are applied to other mammals too. Most of these are pretty obvious to blazon. The dogs most frequently found in heraldry are the **talbot** and the **greyhound**.



Per fess dancetty gules and or in base a fox passant guardant proper



Argent a bear rampant sable armed, langued and pizzled gules



Sable on a fess embattled counterembattled between three goats passant argent three pellets of the first

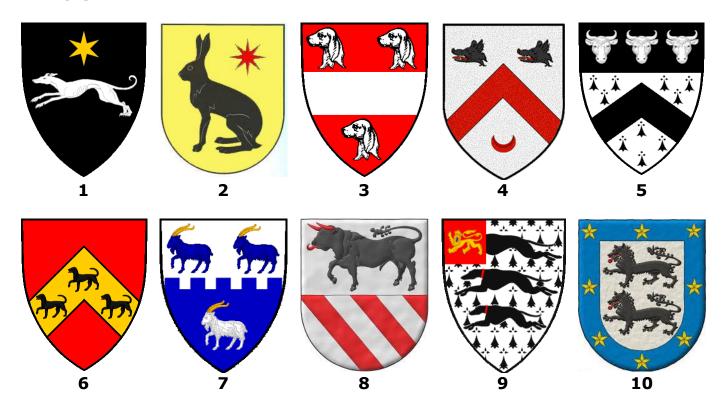


Per fess argent and gules, in chief a bull passant of the second



Argent on a fess wavy between three calves passant sable a sword proper fesswise point to the sinister

EXERCISE 2



ANSWERS

Exercise 1

- 1. Gules a lion rampant argent crowned or within a bordure engrailed gold
- 2. Sable a fess dancetty or in chief three fleurs-de-lys argent
- 3. Argent a fess wavy between three estoiles gules
- 4. Sable three swords proper
- 5. Checky or and gules a canton azure
- 6. Argent three bars nebuly gules in chief three torteaux
- 7. Per chevron azure and argent a bordure engrailed or
- 8. Gules on a chevron between three garbs or banded vert three escallops sable, in chief the escutcheon of a baronet
- 9. Quarterly sable and argent four roundels counterchanged
- 10. Paly wavy of six argent and gules
- 11. Gules a fess doubly cotised argent
- 12. Argent three bars gemelles gules
- 13. Argent a bend between two cotises engrailed sable
- 14. Argent a fess gules the chief fretty of the same
- 15. Gules crusily or three lions rampant argent

Exercise 2

- 1. Sable a greyhound courant argent, in chief a mullet of six points or
- 2. Or a hare sejant sable, in sinister chief a mullet of eight points gules
- 3. Gules a fess between three talbots heads erased argent
- 4. Argent a chevron gules between in chief two wolves' heads erased sable and in base a crescent of the second
- 5. Ermine a chevron sable, on a chief of the second three bulls' heads caboshed argent
- 6. Gules on a chevron or three talbots passant sable
- 7. Per fess embattled argent and azure, in chief two goats passant sable armed or and in base a goat passant argent armed or
- 8. Per fess argent and bendy of six gules and argent, in chief a bull passant armed and ringed gules
- 9. Ermine three greyhounds sable collared gules in pale, on a canton gules a lion passant guardant or langued azure
- 10. Argent two wolves passant sable langued gules in pale, on a bordure azure eight mullets or