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In Banner Universal Motion Pictures Ltd v Endemol Shine Group Ltd, the High Court has confirmed that TV formats are arguably capable of being dramatic works, if they at least contain enough distinguishing features connected in a coherent framework that can be repeatedly applied, to enable the show to be reproduced in recognisable form. On the facts, the features of Minute Winner, in which members of the public were to be chosen at random and given the chance to win a prize, were found to be commonplace and indistinguishable from those of many other game shows. Accordingly, the claim of copyright infringement was dismissed at summary judgment.

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The IPEC has held that a clause requiring licences to be construed and enforced under the laws of New York could not be read as an exclusive-jurisdiction clause. Warner Chappell had applied for an order that the English court did not have jurisdiction to hear a case brought by Mr Berrocal, who sought a declaration that certain licences of the Irving Berlin catalogue had been terminated.

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