

LAWYER/ "JUDGE" INSTRUCTIONS/NOTES

(These steps are SCRIPTED)

Everyone in the classroom (courtroom) is in their place, except the Judge who can be outside the classroom door.

Bailiff announces the Judge is coming in. They ask everyone to stand up to show respect for the Judge, the court and the law by saying: *"All rise. This court is now in session."*

Judge comes in, sits down and tells everyone else to be seated.

Judge tells everyone what the trial is about. He'll say something like "Ladies and gentlemen of the jury, this is a criminal/civil?? case....."

Judge will then ask lawyers if they are ready to proceed.

Judge will ask each lawyer to make their opening statements to the Jury. (Lawyer stands in front of Jurors) Prosecutor/Plaintiff lawyer makes statements first, then defense lawyers.

Judge will then ask both prosecution/plaintiff and defense lawyers if they have witnesses.

Each witness goes with the bailiff to the clerk. They stand in front of the clerk until they are sworn in, then proceed to witness stand.

Lawyer who called the witness will ask the witness questions. (Lawyer stands halfway between their table and Judge, looking at witness).

Lawyers on the opposing side also have a chance to question (cross examine) THAT witness AND call their own witnesses. (Lawyer stands in the same place as previous lawyer)

Judge will ask if there are any other witnesses. If not, he will ask lawyers for closing arguments. (Lawyer stands in front of Jurors for closing arguments).

Judge will give the Jury appropriate rules of law in weighing the evidence (instructing them) AND will also reinforce that the defendant is INNOCENT UNTIL PROVEN GUILTY.

Judge tells the jury they have 5 minutes to reach a verdict, and then everyone is dismissed until bailiff hears the buzzer and brings the jurors back to the classroom/courtroom.

Judge will say, *"Will the foreperson of the jury please stand? Have you reached a verdict?"* The foreperson will answer, *"Yes, your honor."* Judge then says, *"Will the defendant please stand?"* Defendants/defense lawyers stand. Judge says, *"You may read the verdict."*

Jury foreperson reads the verdict.

Judge makes sure the verdict is unanimous by saying, *"So say you all?"* to which the entire Jury should respond, *"Yes, Your Honor."*

Judge talks about sentencing. In a criminal case bailiff can pretend to take guilty party away. In a civil case the amount to be awarded to the plaintiff is decided if the jury believes their side of the story.

Judge ends trial by saying, *"Court is adjourned."*

(Don't forget to BANG the gavel and then conduct a general Q & A with the students!)