



Mock Trial Judging Form

For mock trial competitions, the performance winner is the side scoring the highest number of points. A sample rating sheet is provided that can be used to determine the winner in mock trial competitions.

Instructions

This rating sheet is to be used score mock trial teams. For each of the 13 standards listed below, indicate a score from the following scale.

1. **poor**
2. **below average**
3. **average**
4. **above average**
5. **superior**

Scoring of the presentation should be independent of your decision on the merits of the case. In case of a tie, the team with the highest overall performance score will be declared the winner. Circle the winning team below.

Prosecution: _____
(team name)

Defense: _____
(team name)

Standards		
ATTORNEYS	Prosecution	Defense
THE OPENING STATEMENT provides a clear and concise description of the anticipated presentation.		
ON DIRECT EXAMINATION, attorneys asked questions that brought out key information for their side of the case and kept the witnesses from discussing irrelevancies.		
ON CROSS-EXAMINATION, attorneys exposed contradictions in testimony and weakened the other's side case without becoming antagonistic.		
IN QUESTIONING OF WITNESS, attorneys properly phrased questions and demonstrated a clear understanding of trial procedures.		
IN THE CLOSING STATEMENT, the attorney made an organized and well-reasoned presentation emphasizing the strengths of his or her side of the case and addressing the flaws exposed by the opposing attorneys.		
UNDERSTANDING OF THE ISSUES AND LAW in the case was demonstrated by the attorneys.		
SPONTANEITY was demonstrated by attorneys in their ability to respond to witnesses and in the overall presentation of the case.		

Standards		
WITNESSES	Prosecution	Defense
CHARACTERIZATIONS were believable and witness testimony was convincing.		
PREPARATION was evident in the manner witnesses handled questions posed.		
FAVORABLE TESTIMONY for their side was given by witnesses based upon the record or what could be reasonably implied from the Fact Situation and Witness Sheets. (Deduct points for deviation and embellishment.)		
SPONTANEITY was demonstrated by witnesses in their responses to questions.		
Standards		
TEAM	Prosecution	Defense
COURTROOM DECORUM and courtesy were observed by team members, and voices were clear and distinct.		
ALL TEAM MEMBERS were actively involved in the presentation of the case.		
TOTAL SCORE FOR TEAMS: overall team performance (Maximum 65 points)		