**AP World History**

**Mock Trial Protocol**

Witnesses must share their biographies with the attorneys at least three days before the trial. The defendant must share a copy of his speech with the attorneys at least three days before the trial. Attorneys must coordinate with the opposing team to make sure all of these pieces of information are shared with each other at least three days before the trial.

On the day of the trial, both teams must give copies of their opening statements, direct and cross-examination questions and closing arguments to the judge (Mrs. Bloom). See back of this sheet for more information about expectations for each participant.

**Procedures**

* Judge reads the indictment (charges) and key question
* Defendant enters his plea
* Opening statements by prosecution and defense attorneys (each side: 1-2 minutes)
* Defendant reads his 3-4 minute speech
* Direct examination: prosecution calls up prosecution witnesses (maximum two)
* Defense cross-examines each prosecution witness
* 1-2 follow-up questions allowed by prosecution (redirect), then defense (recross)
* Direct examination: defense calls up defendant and defense witnesses (maximum two)
* Prosecution cross-examines defendant and each defense witness
* 1-2 follow-up questions allowed by defense (redirect), then prosecution (recross)
* Closing statements by prosecution and defense attorneys (each side: 1-2 minutes)
* Jury deliberation and verdict (to be read in court at the conclusion of the trial)

**Acceptable Objections**

Objections to the form of the question

* *Leading question*: question suggests its own answer
* *Asked and answered*: repeats the same question

Substantive objections

* *Relevance*
* *Hearsay*: testimony where the witness does not have direct knowledge of the facts assertive

(OVER)

**Expectations for jurors** (everyone not directly involved in the trial)

Make a chart on notebook paper for each of the charges against the defendant, with a column for the prosecution and for the defense (see example below). As you listen to the evidence presenting during the trial, list the main arguments made by both sides that relate to each charge. At the conclusion of the trial, highlight the key deciding argument in your view for each charge. Be prepared to weigh in during the jury deliberation.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Charges** | **Prosecution** | **Defense** |
| Charge #1: | Bullet points – main arguments | Bullet points – main arguments |
| Charge #2 (etc.) |  |  |

**Defendant:**Your opening speech should be 3-4 minutes long and must include a clear, accurate description of your actions that relate to the charges and a persuasive defense of these actions. Your speech must demonstrate that you are knowledgeable enough to answer potential questions from the prosecution. ***Share this information with Mrs. Bloom and with the attorneys on both sides at least three days before the trial. Include at least four sources used for the historical information in your speech.***

Work with your attorneys to prepare for the trial. Be ready to answer questions from attorneys on both sides directly, accurately and clearly. Stay in character throughout the trial.

**Witnesses:** Your biography should be at least one page long and must include your “eye-witness testimony” that directly relates to at least some of the charges. ***Share a copy of your biography with attorneys on both sides and with Mrs. Bloom at least three days before the trial.*** ***You should have at least three sources used for the historical information in your biography.*** Stay in character throughout the trial.

**Attorneys**:

*Opening statements*: Speak for 1-2 minutes, outlining the case that your side expects to prove.

*Closing arguments*: Provide a 1-2 minute summary of the evidence supporting your side, and explain why the jury should favor your side.

*Direct examination questions:* These are questions you ask your witnesses (and in addition, in the case of the defense, questions for the defendant). They should be carefully worded to encourage/elicit answers portraying innocence or guilt. You should be knowledgeable enough about the historical information that you can ask follow-up questions as necessary.

*Cross-examination questions*: These are questions you ask the witnesses on the opposing side (and in addition, in the case of the prosecution, questions for the defendant). Follow similar structure/strategy as indicated for the direct examination questions above.

Note: You may decide as a group whether you’d prefer to submit these pieces of information as a group for a group grade, or divide up the work and submit individual pieces for an individual grade.

***Turn in a copy of all of these items to Mrs. Bloom before the trial, and include at least four sources used for your research.***