

Table 6. Rubrics for mock trial students.

Rubric for Mock Trial -- Attorneys					
<i>Teacher Name:</i> _____					
<i>Student Name:</i> _____					
CATEGORY	Exceeds Expectations 10–9 of 10	Meets Expectations 8 of 10	Approaches Expectations 7–6 of 10	Does not Meet Expectations 5 or less of 10	Points
Presentation of evidence using facts/statistics (20 points)	Every major point was well supported with several relevant facts, statistics, and/or examples.	Every major point was adequately supported with relevant facts, statistics, and/or examples.	Every major point was supported with facts, statistics, and/or examples, but the relevance of some was questionable.	Every point was not supported.	
Cross-examinations (20 points)	All counter-arguments were accurate, relevant, and strong.	Most counter-arguments were accurate, relevant, and strong.	Most counter-arguments were accurate and relevant, but several were weak.	Counter-arguments were not accurate and/or relevant.	
Organization / case strategy (10 points)	All arguments were clearly tied to an idea (premise) and organized in a tight, logical fashion.	Most arguments were clearly tied to an idea (premise) and organized in a tight, logical fashion.	All arguments were clearly tied to an idea (premise) but the organization was sometimes not clear or logical.	Arguments were not clearly tied to an idea (premise).	
Understanding of facts of the case (10 points)	The team clearly understood the topic in-depth and presented their information forcefully and convincingly.	The team clearly understood the topic in-depth and presented their information with ease.	The team seemed to understand the main points of the topic and presented those with ease.	The team did not show an adequate understanding of the topic.	
Presentation style (10 points)	The team consistently used gestures, eye contact, tone of voice, and a level of enthusiasm in a way that kept the attention of the audience.	The team usually used gestures, eye contact, tone of voice, and a level of enthusiasm in a way that kept the attention of the audience.	The team sometimes used gestures, eye contact, tone of voice, and a level of enthusiasm in a way that kept the attention of the audience.	One or more members of the team had a presentation style that did not keep the attention of the audience.	
Witnesses must-call list (10 points)	All must-call witnesses on your team are called before the stand (10/10).			One or more must-call witnesses are not called (0/10).	
Opening statement/closing argument (20 points)	The case is outlined convincingly with all the relevant information (including anticipating the other side's arguments) and related in a manner easily understood by the jurors.	The case is outlined convincingly with all the relevant information (but fails to anticipate the other side's arguments) and related in a manner easily understood by the jurors.	The case is outlined fairly well and related in a manner understood by the jurors.	The outline is too short, doesn't cover key evidence, and/or is laid out in a confusing manner which may be misunderstood by the jurors.	
Total:					

Rubric for Mock Trial -- Jurors

Teacher Name: _____

Student Name: _____

CATEGORY	Exceeds Expectations 10–9 of 10	Meets Expectations 8 of 10	Approaches Expectations 7–6 of 10	Does not Meet Expectations 5 or less of 10	Points
Juror attentiveness (30 points)	Juror is clearly attentive and taking notes on the case during the trial at all times.	Juror is clearly attentive and takes some notes during the trial.	Juror is attentive most of the time, but doesn't take notes.	Juror does not appear engaged in the trial.	
Juror deliberation (20 points)	Juror actively engages in pointed and relevant debate during deliberation, making use of points of evidence to promote his/her views.	Juror engages in relevant debate during deliberation, sometimes making use of points of evidence to promote his/her views.	Juror engages in some relevant debate during deliberation, and occasionally uses evidence to promote his/her views.	Juror expresses opinion but offers little or no evidence to support that opinion or is silent during deliberations.	
Jury worksheet (50 points)	Juror worksheet is completed and correct.	Juror worksheet is completed and mostly correct.	Juror worksheet is completed but with multiple errors.	Juror worksheet is not completed or not turned in at all.	
Total:					

Rubric for Mock Trial -- Witnesses

Teacher Name: _____

Student Name: _____

CATEGORY	Exceeds Expectations 10–9 of 10	Meets Expectations 8 of 10	Approaches Expectations 7–6 of 10	Does not Meet Expectations 5 or less of 10	Points
Accuracy to written profile (50 points)	Witness keeps precisely to written witness profile and does not have to be reminded of testimony on the stand by attorneys.	Witness keeps precisely to written profile but has to be reminded once on the stand of his/her position by attorneys.	Witness makes minor error on the stand in testimony, diverging from written profile, but it doesn't alter the outcome of the trial.	Witness makes multiple errors in testimony on the stand, needs to be reminded by attorneys repeatedly of testimony, and/or makes major errors that alter the balance of the trial.	
Cross-examination (30 points)	Witness actively and articulately rebuts attorney's assertions while remaining true to written profile.	Witness mostly effectively rebuts attorney's assertions while remaining true to written profile.	Witness partially withdraws previous testimony, but mostly remains true to written profile.	The witness withers on the stand under cross-examination, and refutes his/her own testimony.	
General presentation on the stand (20 points)	Witness consistently used gestures, eye contact, tone of voice and a level of enthusiasm in a way that kept the attention of the jury.	Witness usually used gestures, eye contact, tone of voice and a level of enthusiasm in a way that kept the attention of the jury.	Witness sometimes used gestures, eye contact, tone of voice and a level of enthusiasm in a way that kept the attention of the jury.	Witness had a presentation style that did not keep the attention of the jury.	
Total:					

Rubric for Mock Trial – Defense and Prosecution Team Members

Teacher Name: _____

Student Name: _____

CATEGORY	Exceeds Expectations 10–9 of 10	Meets Expectations 8 of 10	Approaches Expectations 7–6 of 10	Does not Meet Expectations 5 or less of 10	Points
Team Member attentiveness (50 points)	Member is clearly attentive during the trial at all times.	Team member is clearly attentive and takes some notes during the trial.	Team member is attentive most of the time, but doesn't take notes.	Team member does not appear engaged in the trial.	
Team Member Preparation (50 points)	Clearly helped develop questions and witness statements – integral part of the team.	Was somewhat on task in regards to team preparation.	Made attempts to work with team to prepare for trial.	Made little attempt if any to help out team.	
Total:					