



Lesson Plan: Graffiti on Trial

Assessment: Students will be evaluated through informal checks on their understanding of the trial proceedings, class participation, writing and art work.

Students will produce a dictionary of vocabulary words relating to the courts.

Students will write a letter to the participating judge, evaluating their learning during the mock trial.

Students will create a pamphlet urging citizens over the age of 18 to respond to their jury summons.

Quality Criteria:

Rubric for the Legal Dictionary

	4	3	2	1
Accuracy	Spelling, definitions, sentences and illustrations are accurate for all words	A few minor errors in spelling or meaning of vocabulary words.	Several significant errors in spelling or meaning of words.	Student work shows little or no comprehension of vocabulary words.
Completeness	All vocabulary words are included	No more than 1 vocabulary word omitted.	Several vocabulary words are missing.	Very few vocabulary words are included.
Neatness	Text and illustrations are careful, neat and clear.	Text and illustrations are mostly neat and comprehensible.	Lack of neatness makes understanding difficult for the reader.	Some parts are impossible to understand
GUM	No more than 1 or 2 errors in grammar, punctuation, spelling and word usage.	Few errors in grammar, usage or mechanics.	Multiple errors in grammar, usage and mechanics make understanding difficult.	One or more sentences are impossible to understand due to errors of GUM.



Rubric for Thank You Letter to the Judge

	4	3	2	1
Friendly letter format	Date, salutation, body, closing, and signature are all accurately located, capitalized, and punctuated	No more than 1 error in letter format	2 or 3 errors in format of letter	Multiple errors in letter format
Content	Letter includes an engaging topic (opening) sentence, and at least 3 detail sentences which expand on the topic	Letter includes a topic sentence and at least 3 detail sentences which relate to the topic.	Opening sentence partially states the topic. Detail sentences may be incomplete.	Opening sentence is unclear or incomplete, detail sentences are unfocused or inadequate.
Analysis	Detail sentences explain what the student has learned or changed his/her thinking about the courts	Detail sentences describe something the student has learned	Detail sentences list 2 or 3 things the student learned	Detail sentences are absent or do not relate to the topic
GUM	Few if any errors in grammatical structure, spelling, punctuation, or mechanics	Minimal errors do not interfere with reader comprehension	Multiple errors which may interfere with reader comprehension	Many errors make comprehension very difficult
Neatness	Writing is neat and easily legible	Writing is mostly neat and legible	Writing is mostly messy, and may be somewhat illegible	Legibility is decreased by poor penmanship



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Curricula for K-12 Civics Education

Rubric for Jury Duty Pamphlet

	4	3	2	1
Pamphlet is persuasive	Pamphlet includes multiple convincing reasons why jury duty is important.	Pamphlet states reasons why a person should serve on a jury.	Pamphlet includes at least one reason for serving on a jury.	Pamphlet's message is off topic or not clear at all.
Pamphlet is informative	Pamphlet includes useful, clearly stated information about how a jury works, <u>and</u> what a juror does.	Pamphlet includes useful information about how a jury works, <u>or</u> what a juror does.	Pamphlet makes at least one accurate statement about jury service.	There is little or no information about jury service in the pamphlet.
Pamphlet is interesting	Initial appearance is very appealing, and the text is well-organized and engrossing.	Initial appearance is appealing, and the text is easy and interesting to read.	Initial appearance may be appealing, but text does not lead the reader to continue reading.	Appearance and text lack appeal and organization.
Illustrations are well designed and drawn	The design fits the space well, the subject is easy to grasp, and the picture relates well to the theme.	The design fits the space adequately, the subject is mostly clear, and the picture relates well to the theme.	The design does not fit well, the subject is not clear, or the picture does not relate to the theme.	The design does not fit, is not clear and does not relate to the theme.
Grammar, usage, and punctuation	No more than one or two errors in grammar, punctuation, or capitalization.	No more than 3 or 4 errors in grammar, punctuation, or capitalization.	More than 4 errors in grammar, punctuation or capitalization.	Many errors in grammar, punctuation, and capitalization.
Spelling, especially spelling of court vocabulary words	No more than 1 or 2 minor spelling errors.	No more than 3 or 4 minor spelling errors.	More than 4 spelling errors, or there is an error in spelling one of the court vocabulary words.	Multiple spelling errors make reading the text difficult.
Work is neat and careful	Pamphlet has a neat appearance overall.	1 or 2 minor areas of carelessness in appearance.	Pamphlet has a somewhat messy appearance overall.	Work is very careless and messy.