



Lesson Plan: Why Do I Have to Do jury Duty?

Student Handouts:

Mock Trial: Jury Selection Process Script

- Bailiff: All rise and come to order. (Judge walks onto the bench)
Department 55 of the MicroSociety Superior Court is now in session. The Honorable.....presiding. You may be seated.
- Judge Grudge: Ladies and gentlemen, thank you for taking seriously your civic duty to sit as jurors in this case. My clerk will be calling you names randomly. When she does, please sit in the juror chair indicated by the bailiff. You will be assigned numbers and will be asked to sit in your corresponding chair when called. Juror number one will sit in the back left seat (bailiff pointing) and subsequent jurors will sit along the same row (bailiff gesturing.) Juror number seven will sit in front of juror number one (bailiff gesturing) and so on.
I will now introduce the parties in this case. The People are being represented by the District Attorney(District Attorney stands and faced jury, then sits)
The defendant is being represented by(Defense attorney stands)
- Defense Attorney (still standing: I would like to introduce my client (Bob Hardluck
(defendant stand and faces the jury then both sit))
- Judge: This is the part of the trial known as jury selection. Each party will be allowed to ask each of you questions he or she feels are relevant to your serving as a juror. Please answer the questions honestly. Madam Clerk, please draw names and seat the first 12 jurors.



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Clerk: *Clerk draws a name card from the box and calls the name. Juror number one sits in the appropriate seat. Clerk continues until 12 people are seated (For ease in this lesson, names are in order)*

Judge: Thank you. I will now allow the District Attorney to ask questions of the jurors.

Mr./Miss....., do you have any questions for Juror No.1?

District Attorney asks questions from the Sample Questions list.

Juror answers consistent with their card information.

After finishing questioning, Say "Thank you, no further questions."

District Attorney sits.

Judge (to the Defense Attorney):

Mr./Miss....., do you have any questions for juror number 1?

Defense Attorney (standing):

Yes, Your Honor. Thank you

Defense Attorney asks questions from the Sample Questions list.

Juror answers consistent with their card information.

When finished with a juror, both attorneys thank them and say "No further questions" and sit down.

Judge: Mr. Prosecutor, do you have any questions for Juror No. 2?

(Use the same script above for each juror in order until all 12 are seated. Alternate between Prosecution and defense attorney)

Pause for mini-lesson:

After all 12 jurors have been seated, the judge will allow the attorneys to excuse certain jurors either "for cause" or "Just because" which is called a peremptory challenge.



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Judge (looking at Prosecutor):

Mr./Miss....., do you wish to challenge any of the jurors?

Prosecutor: Yes, Your Honor. I would like the Court to thank and excuse Juror No. 4.

Judge: *(Looking at juror list for name of juror):*

Mr./Miss Jones, you are excused. *(Juror leaved the jury box)*

Judge (to defense):

Mr./Miss, do you wish to challenge any of the jurors?

Defense: Yes, Your Honor, I would like the Court to excuse Juror No. 9.

Judge: Mr./Mrs. Smith, you are excused. *(Juror leaves the jury box)*

Continue with the same script until all the desired challenges are used.

(No more than 10 peremptory challenges per side)

After all jurors are dismissed, the Clerk will “randomly” call the remaining jurors, from the juror list, who will replace the dismissed jurors in the order called. The questioning process will begin again as to the newly-called prospective jurors.



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<p>Terry Brown, 34 Bank teller Was robbed at work last year Brother is an attorney</p>	<p>Tony Smith, 59 Store clerk Was robbed once and beaten Arrested for shop lifting</p>	<p>Blake Green, 19 College student One conviction for stealing a car Thinks all cops are liars</p>	<p>Dale Jones, 38 Car mechanic Was falsely arrested last year</p>
<p>Keri Tip, 36 Waitress at Olive Garden One arrest for drunk driving: (found not guilty) Sister is a law student (1st year)</p>	<p>Ariel Post, 55 Unemployed Gang member Many convictions for drug sales Lulu reminds him of his mother</p>	<p>Gayl Grimes, 43 Secretary for a Private Security Company Loves cops (wants to marry one)</p>	<p>Dana White, 28 Pool sweep Thinks it's okay to take other people's things thinks if you really want them</p>
<p>Alexis Smith, 39 Postal Worker Mother was robbed last year</p>	<p>Kris Kringle, 85 Works at Macy's Wraps Christmas presents</p>	<p>Joey Jordan, 53 Gardener Son is a prosecutor</p>	<p>Fran Chase, 31 Prison Guard Has been attacked many times</p>
<p>Billie Grippe, 25 Self-defense instructor Gives lessons all day Mon.-Fri. Supports his aging mother</p>	<p>Jody Baker, 61 Night Pastry chef at Dunkin Donuts Doesn't like being out during the day</p>	<p>Georgie Good, 68 Retired probation Officer Dying to sit on a jury and convict someone</p>	<p>Frankie Black, 67 Bar tender Once stole a ring Brother is a cop</p>
<p>Bobbie Smith, 38 IRS Auditor Went to police academy but flunked</p>	<p>Alex Ripp, 24 Middle School history teacher Spouse is a cop Cannot distinguish fact from fiction</p>	<p>Sami Gold, 25 Airline pilot Was hijacked last year</p>	<p>Jamie Jones, 21 Career criminal Hates all law enforcement</p>



Scripted Sample Questions for Attorneys to Ask Prospective Jurors:

Note: Look at the juror you are questioning so that you will know whether to say "Mr." or "Miss." Always use the juror's name when asking the FIRST question.

Also Note: The following are sample questions. You do not have to ask every juror every question. Ask each juror 3 or 4 questions unless you feel it would be helpful to ask more (such as if the answer to a question leads you to another question)

SAMPLE QUESTIONS FOR THE JURORS:

1. Have you ever been the victim of a crime?
2. Do you or does anyone close to you work in law enforcement (police, District Attorney, prison guard, etc.)?
3. Have you ever been accused of a crime you did not commit?
4. Do you have any felony convictions?
5. Have you ever had a negative experience with a law enforcement officer?
6. Have you already made up your mind about the guilt or innocence of the defendant Bob?
7. Will you promise to wait until all the evidence is in and you have deliberated with the other jurors to make a decision in this case?
8. Are you able to sit through a week or more of court days listening to evidence in this case?
9. Do you think it is possible for police officers to be wrong in their judgments?

Prospective jurors will be told to make up reasonable answers to each of the questions. They will be given the list of possible questions in advance so that they can plan their responses.



What's Happening in Court?

An Activity Book for Children Who Are Going to Court in California

Here are fun activities and useful information to help children and their families who may be in court for any reason – whether they are visitors, witnesses, or involved in a case.



[Start Here](#)

[Welcome From the Chief](#)

[Getting to Court](#)

[Court Proceeding Just for Children
Activities](#)

[About this Site](#)

[Back to Children, Families & the
Court Site](#)

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Each activity in this site is marked with a bear paw symbol. For each activity, you will be given a lettered clue that will help you receive a “What’s Happening in Court?” diploma.

In some activities you print a page and color or draw something. For these activities, look for the “Click here for your clue” link. For the other activities, when you click “Done!” you get the clue. There are 12 clues in all. As you receive each clue, write it in order on a piece of paper so you can get your diploma! Click for more details.

All of the pictures of this book can be printed so that you can color them. Just click on any picture and print.



Who Are the People in Court?

Jurors

Other times, a group of people decides who wins the argument. These people are called jurors. Jurors are people who come to court to listen to each side of a disagreement. Then the jurors decide how the disagreement will be settled. A group of jurors is called a jury.



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Who's Who In Court?

Now that you know about some of the people in a court, try this match game. Pick the title of the person who does each job.

1. These people come to court to tell the truth and talk about what they have seen or heard.
---pick one---
2. This person types everything that is said in court into a machine.
---pick one---
3. This person organizes all the papers and keeps track of the judge's decisions.
---pick one---
4. This person translates what is said in court.
---pick one---
5. This person's job is to make decisions and make sure that everyone follows the rules in court.
---pick one---
6. These people give advice and talk in court for the people who have disagreements.
---pick one---
7. This person keeps order in the courtroom and usually wears a uniform.
---pick one---
8. These people listen to both sides of a disagreement in court and then decide who wins.
---pick one---



What to Expect from Jury Service

Ideals Made Real

Democracy is made real every day by thousands of jurors across the nation. Many times, we don't trust any one official, politician, expert, or other individual to determine another person's fate. Whether it's a civil trial, or a criminal trial, there are times when no one person should have so much power. Instead we trust the community to make the right decision. This is our democratic ideal – to impart justice that is truly of the people, by the people, and for the people.



Being a juror is interesting and educational. Most jurors consider it an honor to play a part in the fair administration of justice. The following juror orientation video, "Ideals Made Real," is typically shown at the courthouse during your service and will help you learn more about your day in court.