***The Stranger***

**Mock Trial**

**Roles & Responsibilities**  
The **witnesses** will work cooperatively with the lawyers to prepare responses to questions posed by the prosecution team and defense team. Witnesses must have specific knowledge of what happened along with specific textual evidence with relevant dialogue and details. Witnesses tell the jury what they think and feel (based on their understanding of their character).

**The Witnesses** **(up to 9 students)**  
Director of the Old Age Home in Marengo   
Caretaker of the Old Age Home in Marengo  
Thomas Perez   
Raymond   
Masson   
Salamano  
Marie   
Celeste  
Meursault

The **prosecution team** will work cooperatively to prepare an address to the jury, formulate and present their arguments, and question witnesses. The **prosecution lawyers** must understand the charges and determine what effects the defendant’s actions had on other people. The lawyers must find textual evidence and/or other sources to prove the defendant’s guilt and anticipate the ways the defense attorneys will try to minimize the issues. The prosecution team must develop an argument and supporting evidence which will convince the jury, demonstrate the strength of the argument through clear articulation and speak in a way that the jury understands the importance of each point, the effects the crimes had on others, and the reasons that the defendant deserves punishment.

**Prosecution Team (1-3 students)**  
Head Prosecutor   
Junior Prosecutor

Prosecution Clerk

The **head prosecutor** will make the opening and closing addresses to the jury. The **junior prosecutor** will question the witnesses during the trial. The **prosecution clerk** will ensure that everyone participates in meetings before and during the trial, keep the entire prosecution team within the time limits for their presentation, and help the group prioritize arguments.

The **defense team** will work cooperatively to prepare an address to the jury, formulate and present their arguments, and question witnesses. The **defense lawyers** must understand the charges and determine what effects their client’s actions had on other people. The lawyers must find textual evidence and/or other sources to prove the defendant’s innocence or extenuating circumstances, and to anticipate and counter the arguments made by the prosecuting attorneys. The defense team must be familiar with their client’s motives (why your client did what he did), actions (what your client did), and reactions (how your client responded to the actions—was your client remorseful, etc.) for the charge. The defense team must develop an argument and supporting evidence which will convince the jury, demonstrate the strength of the argument through clear articulation and speak in a way that the jury understands the importance of each point, the extenuating circumstances surrounding the crime, and the reasons that the defendant deserves to be set free.

**Defense Team (1-3 students)**  
Head Defense Attorney   
Junior Defense Attorney

The head **defense attorney** will make the opening and closing addresses to the jury. The **junior defense attorney** will question the witnesses during the trial. **The defense clerk** will ensure that everyone participates in meetings and during the trial, keep the entire defense team within the time limits for their presentation, and help the group prioritize arguments.

The **judges** will decide which disputed facts (evidence) may be presented to the jury. The judges will meet with the lawyers before the trial in order to review trial arguments and evidence.

**The Judges**  
Lead Magistrate  
Junior Judge

The **lead magistrate** will run the courtroom throughout the trial, calling witnesses and addresses the lawyers as needed (dealing with objections, etc.). The **junior judge** will give the jury their instructions before sending them off to deliberate. Both judges will deliberate before issuing the verdict and sentence.

Before the trial, judges will assist the press team in interviewing witnesses and researching for the news paper publication.

The **press** will prepare news stories preceding the trial. The news stories will be published into a newspaper and dispersed for the trial. The news stories will include interviews with witnesses conducted during the pre-trial preparations, press releases from both the prosecution team and the defense team, and editorials. The press should also write articles about the historical moment surrounding (but not related to) the trial and about other relevant matters in the news (such as the patricide trial which will begin after Meursault’s trial).

**Press Team**   
Editor   
Beat Reporter   
Court Correspondent  
Field Reporter  
Literary Critic

**The editor** will oversee the preparation of the newspaper, acting as a discerning eye and thoroughly checking the content of the paper for both grammatical errors as well as factual discrepancies. **The editor** will make sure that everyone participates in meetings and works cooperatively and manages time effectively. **The editor** is also responsible for the editorial. The and will write the main editorial (persuasive article) after meeting with the press team and determining the opinion of the newspaper regarding the Meursault trial. The **court correspondent** will report on the upcoming Meursault trial after conducting interviews with the witnesses and lawyers. The **beat reporter** will research the historical moment and report on the Algeria in the run-up to World War II (Arab-French relations, etc.). The **field reporter** will investigate the patricide case which will follow Meursault’s case (and make any relevant comparisons). The **literary critic** will write a feature article, focusing on the contemporary writer Albert Camus and exploring the new literary movement called Existentialism. All members of the press will double as members of the jury on trial day.

The class as a whole will act as **judge (magistrate) and jury,** issuing the final verdict and sentence.

**Trial Day**

Our trial day schedule will be quite tight. Please try to stick to the time limits suggested below:

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| |  |  | | --- | --- | | Prosecutor's Opening Remarks | 3 min. | | Defense Attorney's Opening Remarks | 3 min. | | Witness Testimony | 1.5 min. per witness, total about 20 min. | | Prosecutor's Closing Remarks | 2 min. | | Defense Attorney's Closing Remarks | 2 min. | | Judge/Jury decision and sentencing | 2 min. | |

MOCKTRIAL AGENDA

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| --- | --- |
| Tues., Jan. 21 | -Role Assignments  -Trial Description |
| Wed., Jan 22 | -Gathering textual evidence  -Initial outlining of arguments |
| Mon./Tues. Jan 27/28 | -Witness interviews commence (lawyers and press)  -General fact gathering |
| Wed. Jan. 29 | -Witness interviews continue  -Newspaper writing (can be digital or printed)  -Drafting of opening/closing remarks |
| Wed. Feb 5 | -Newspaper due  -Witness transcripts due |
| Thurs., Feb 6 | -Meursault’s trial (see trial schedule below)   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | Prosecutor's Opening Remarks | 3 min. | | Defense Attorney's Opening Remarks | 3 min. | | Witness Testimony | 1.5 min. per witness, total about 20 min. | | Prosecutor's Closing Remarks | 2 min. | | Defense Attorney's Closing Remarks | 2 min. | | Judge/Jury decision and sentencing | 2 min. | | |  | | \*Please note: Trial transcripts are part of the Court Record; thus, any witness interviews must be typed and submitted before the onset of the trial (Wed.) Always keep a copy for yourself. | |

**STUDENT ROLES**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Student Roles | Period 2 | Period 3 |
| 1 | (W) Director | Janeth | Lesli |
| 2 | (W) Caretaker | Jacqueline | Juan B. |
| 3 | (W) Thomas Perez | Sindur | Einer |
| 4 | (W) Raymond | Nathalia | Jesus |
| 5 | (W) Masson | Celina | Noah |
| 6 | (W) Celeste | Kevin | Heidi |
| 7 | (W) Meursault | Marisol | Juan G. |
| 8 | (W) Marie | Gabriela | Sarahi. |
| 9 | (W) Salamano | Yaritzy | Brian |
|  |  |  |  |
| 10 | (L) Head Prosecutor | Katherine | Alondra |
| 11 | (L) Junior Prosecutor | Asa | Angel |
| 12 | (L) Prosecution Clerk | --- | Zyhomara |
| 13 | (L) Head Defense Attorney | Enoc | Brisa |
| 14 | (L) Junior Defense Attorney | Lenin | Maria |
| 15 | (L) Defense Clerk | Silvia | Denisse |
|  |  |  |  |
| 16 | (P) Editor | Milagros | Andres G. |
| 17 | (P) Beat Reporter | Fatina | Lupe |
| 18 | (P) Court Correspondent | Anahy | Andres R. |
| 19 | (P) Field Reporter | Ashley | Cirino |
| 20 | (P) Literary Critic | Michael | Nelly |
|  |  |  |  |
| 21 | (J) Lead Magistrate | Britney (also help both teams clerk) | Fabiola (also help both teams clerk) |
| 22 | (J) Junior Judge | --- | --- |