

COURTROOM JOURNALIST SCORE SHEET

Applicant #: _____

Reviewer Initials: _____

For each of the 4 criteria listed, **provide a score on a scale of 1 to 5 where 1 is poor and 5 is excellent.**

Criteria	Score
Structure: Did the reporter properly structure the story with the most important elements early in the article (inverted pyramid)? Did the reporter develop an enticing lead paragraph with the necessary and basic elements of the case? (Who, what, where, when, why, and how.) Did the second paragraph add pertinent details related to the lead?	
Newsworthiness: Did the reporter write about the most newsworthy facts that occurred during the trial and not merely reiterate information that could be found in the case materials? Does the story demonstrate a sufficient understanding of legal procedures and the judicial process presented in the trial? Does the story present a fair and accurate account of events without any apparent editorial slant?	
Storytelling: Did the reporter make the article vivid by using well-chosen direct quotes from testimony and/or descriptions of the courtroom scene, participants, or their behavior? Did the reporter write as if this was a real trial and not a high school competition?	
Mechanics: Did the reporter use correct spelling, grammar, and punctuation? Did the reporter make strong, descriptive word choices? Does the story have an accurate headline that does not editorialize?	
Total Score	

Notes

It is helpful to provide some brief comments that will help the student artists understand specifically what they did well and/or what they might do to improve their art in the future.

Tie Breaker

In the event of a tie, contest staff will use a tie breaker to determine the rankings of the artists. Please rank this artists work in relation to the other artists you scored on a scale of 1 to 3.

Artist's Rank: _____