

# Unit 5: Mock Trial: The Art of Advocacy

Content Area: **Business**  
Course(s): **Bus Law & Advocacy**  
Time Period: **Sept-June**  
Length: **36 Days**  
Status: **Published**

## **Title Section**

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## **Department of Curriculum and Instruction**



**Belleville Public Schools**

**Curriculum Guide**

**Business Law & Advocacy, Unit 5**

**Mock Trial: The Art of Advocacy**

**Belleville Board of Education**

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## **Unit Overview**

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In this Unit students will utilize critical thinking, legal reasoning, listening, and writing skills to develop persuasive arguments in support of a person involved in a legal dispute. Students will rely upon knowledge acquired in substantive areas of law to advocate for their side. Students will work co-operatively role play the parts of lawyers and witnesses during the mock trial presentations. Students will be responsible for all legal research necessary to prepare the cases for trial. Students will represent either the prosecution/plaintiff or the defense and advocate for their side. Student jurors and the judge will evaluate the mock trial presentation, deliberate, and render a verdict.

## **Enduring Understanding**

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Students will value the ability to work co-operatively on a team to gather, organize, and present information using effective writing, speaking, listening and problem solving skills. Students will realize that legal reasoning problem solving skills can be utilized to resolve all types of issues and disputes in both their

personal and professional lives. Participating in mock trial will enable students to understand how the legal process works and how our constitutional rights act as a shield against possible human rights violations.

## **Essential Questions**

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- What are the elements of persuasive writing?
- What are effective persuasive speaking techniques,
- How can we develop listening skills that allow us to incorporate recently acquired information into a presentation.
- How can we utilize legal reasoning problem solving skills and apply appropriate legal principals to resolve legal disputes.
- What are elements of effective research skills to investigate an issue or problem.
- What are the benefits of working co-operatively within a group or team to gather, organize, and present information.

## **Exit Skills**

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By the end of Unit 5, the student should be able to:

- Demonstrate effective writing, speaking, listening and problem solving skills.
- Apply appropriate legal principals to resolve legal disputes.
- Demonstrate effective research skills to investigate an issue or problem.
- Communicate using effective public speaking skills.
- Work co-operatively within a group to gather, organize, and present data.

## **New Jersey Student Learning Standards (NJSL)**

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12.9.3.LW	Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security
12.9.3.LW.1	Analyze the nature and scope of the Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security Career Cluster and the role law, public safety, corrections and security play in society and the economy.
12.9.3.LW.2	Formulate ideas, proposals and solutions to ensure effective and efficient delivery of law, public safety, corrections and/or security services.
12.9.3.LW.5	Analyze the various laws, ordinances, regulations and organizational rules that apply to careers in law, public safety, corrections and security.
12.9.3.LW-LEG	Legal Services
12.9.3.LW-LEG.1	Demonstrate effective communication skills (e.g., writing, speaking, listening and nonverbal communication) in the legal services environment.
12.9.3.LW-LEG.2	Interpret nonverbal communication cues in order to discern facts from fabrication.
12.9.3.LW-LEG.3	Produce written legal materials using writing strategies applicable to the legal services environment.
12.9.3.LW-LEG.4	Apply information technology tools to perform daily tasks assigned to legal services professionals.
12.9.3.LW-LEG.5	Analyze the role forensics plays in preventing and solving crimes.
12.9.3.LW-LEG.6	Use legal terminology to communicate within the legal services community.
12.9.3.LW-LEG.7	Compare and contrast different career fields in the legal services.
12.9.3.LW-LEG.8	Analyze the influence of the three branches of the U.S. Government (judicial, legislative and executive) on the legal services.
12.9.3.LW-LEG.9	Analyze the impact of the Fourth, Fifth, Sixth and Fourteenth Amendments on the provision of legal services.

## **Interdisciplinary Connections**

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LA.L.11-12.1	Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.
LA.L.11-12.2	Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing.
LA.L.11-12.2.B	Spell correctly.
LA.W.11-12.1	Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.
LA.W.11-12.1.A	Introduce precise, knowledgeable claim(s), establish the significance of the claim(s), distinguish the claim(s) from alternate or opposing claims, and create an organization that logically sequences claim(s), counterclaims, reasons, and evidence.
LA.W.11-12.1.B	Develop claim(s) and counterclaims avoiding common logical fallacies and using sound reasoning and thoroughly, supplying the most relevant evidence for each while pointing out the strengths and limitations of both in a manner that anticipates the audience's knowledge level, concerns, values, and possible biases.
LA.RI.11-12.7	Integrate and evaluate multiple sources of information presented in different media or formats (e.g., visually, quantitatively) as well as in words in order to address a question or solve a problem.
LA.RI.11-12.8	Describe and evaluate the reasoning in seminal U.S. and global texts, including the application of constitutional principles and use of legal reasoning (e.g., in U.S. Supreme Court majority opinions and dissents) and the premises, purposes, and arguments in works of public advocacy (e.g., The Federalist, presidential addresses).
LA.RI.11-12.9	Analyze and reflect on (e.g., practical knowledge, historical/cultural context, and background knowledge) documents of historical and literary significance for their themes, purposes and rhetorical features, including primary source documents relevant to U.S. and/or global history.

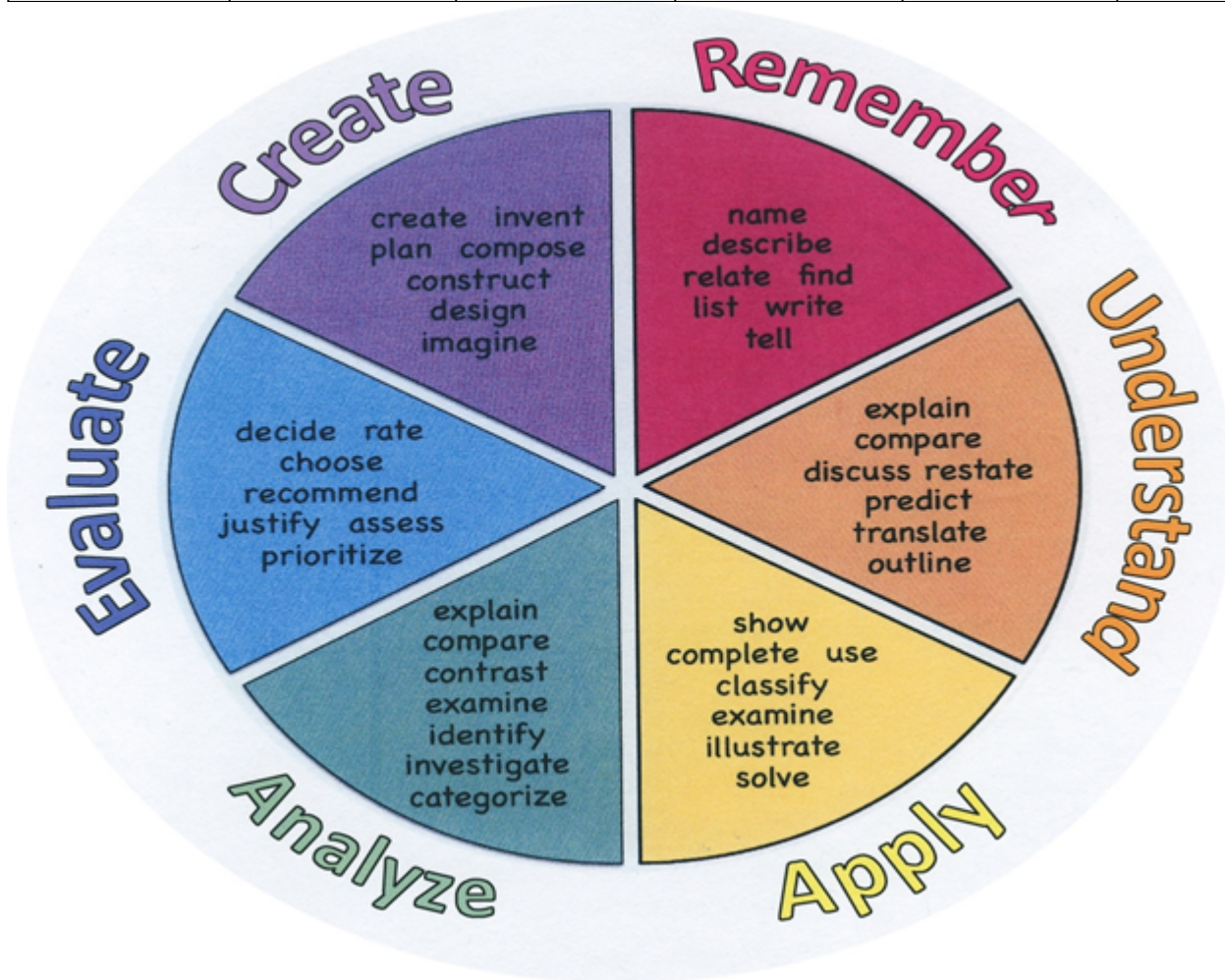
## Learning Objectives

- Demonstrate effective writing, speaking, listening and problem solving skills to construct a persuasive argument.
- Apply appropriate legal principals to resolve legal disputes.
- Demonstrate effective research skills to investigate an issue or problem.
- Communicate using effective public speaking skills.
- Work co-operatively within a group to gather, oragnize, and present information.

**Action Verbs:** Below are examples of action verbs associated with each level of the Revised Bloom's Taxonomy.

Remember	Understand	Apply	Analyze	Evaluate	Create
Choose	Classify	Choose	Categorize	Appraise	Combine
Describe	Defend	Dramatize	Classify	Judge	Compose
Define	Demonstrate	Explain	Compare	Criticize	Construct
Label	Distinguish	Generalize	Differentiate	Defend	Design
List	Explain	Judge	Distinguish	Compare	Develop
Locate	Express	Organize	Identify	Assess	Formulate
Match	Extend	Paint	Infer	Conclude	Hypothesize

Memorize	Give Examples	Prepare	Point out	Contrast	Invent
Name	Illustrate	Produce	Select	Critique	Make
Omit	Indicate	Select	Subdivide	Determine	Originate
Recite	Interrelate	Show	Survey	Grade	Organize
Select	Interpret	Sketch	Arrange	Justify	Plan
State	Infer	Solve	Breakdown	Measure	Produce
Count	Match	Use	Combine	Rank	Role Play
Draw	Paraphrase	Add	Detect	Rate	Drive
Outline	Represent	Calculate	Diagram	Support	Devise
Point	Restate	Change	Discriminate	Test	Generate
Quote	Rewrite	Classify	Illustrate		Integrate
Recall	Select	Complete	Outline		Prescribe
Recognize	Show	Compute	Point out		Propose
Repeat	Summarize	Discover	Separate		Reconstruct
Reproduce	Tell	Divide			Revise
	Translate	Examine			Rewrite
	Associate	Graph			Transform
	Compute	Interpolate			
	Convert	Manipulate			
	Discuss	Modify			
	Estimate	Operate			
	Extrapolate	Subtract			
	Generalize				
	Predict				



## **Suggested Activities & Best Practices**

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- Reading and outlining text
- Teacher oriented class discussion
- Use of PowerPoint to reinforce outlines
- Reaction Papers
- Team debate
- Answering questions
- Vocabulary
- Analyze Real Cases

## **Assessment Evidence - Checking for Understanding (CFU)**

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- Students will create outlines that will be reviewed and revised based on PowerPoint Presentation and class discussion-alternate assessment
  - Checklists and Google Classroom will be used to review student work for comprehension and understanding
  - Reviewing Reaction Papers and observation during ensuing class discussion
  - Unit test-summative assessment
  - Explaining-formative assessment
  - Create a Multimedia poster-benchmark assessment
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- Admit Tickets
  - Anticipation Guide
  - Common Benchmarks
  - Compare & Contrast
  - Create a Multimedia Poster
  - Define
  - Describe
  - Evaluate
  - Evaluation rubrics
  - Exit Tickets
  - Explaining
  - Illustration
  - Journals
  - KWL Chart
  - Learning Center Activities
  - Multimedia Reports

- Newspaper Headline
- Outline
- Question Stems
- Quickwrite
- Quizzes
- Self- assessments
- Socratic Seminar
- Study Guide
- Surveys
- Teacher Observation Checklist
- Think, Pair, Share
- Think, Write, Pair, Share
- Top 10 List
- Unit review/Test prep
- Unit tests
- Web-Based Assessments
- Written Reports

## **Primary Resources & Materials**

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- Textbook
- Internet
- Lap-tops
- Mock Trial Materials

## **Ancillary Resources**

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- Use of current event news items accessed through the internet.
- Legal research accessed through the use of the internet.
- BHS Courtroom
- BHS Law Library



## Technology Infusion

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- Internet research on mock trial subject matter
- PowerPoint presentations used for lesson delivery
- Smart T.V.
- Chromebooks
- E-Learning Platform (Google Classroom)
- Video/Audio equipment for recording and reviewing courtroom presentations

# Win 8.1 Apps/Tools Pedagogy Wheel

Podcasts  
 Photostory 3  
 Kid Story Builder  
 Music Maker Jam  
 Paint A Story  
 Office 365  
 MS PowerPoint  
 Stack 'Em Up  
 NqSquared Numbers  
 Physamajig  
 Xylophone 8

Wikipedia  
 Skydrive  
 Lync  
 SkyMap  
 Skype  
 Office 365  
 Puzzle Touch  
 Easy QR  
 Memorylage  
 Life Moments  
 Word Cloud Maker

Where's Waldo?  
 MS Excel  
 Flipboard  
 Office 365  
 Nova Mindmapping

Ted Talks  
 Record Voice Pen



## Alignment to 21st Century Skills & Technology

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Mastery and infusion of **21st Century Skills & Technology** and their Alignment to the core content areas is essential to student learning. The core content areas include:

- English Language Arts;
- Mathematics;
- Science and Scientific Inquiry (Next Generation);
- Social Studies, including American History, World History, Geography, Government and Civics, and Economics;
- World languages;
- Technology;
- Visual and Performing Arts.

CRP.K-12.CRP1	Act as a responsible and contributing citizen and employee.
CRP.K-12.CRP2	Apply appropriate academic and technical skills.
CRP.K-12.CRP3	Attend to personal health and financial well-being.
CRP.K-12.CRP4	Communicate clearly and effectively and with reason.
CRP.K-12.CRP6	Demonstrate creativity and innovation.
CRP.K-12.CRP7	Employ valid and reliable research strategies.
CRP.K-12.CRP8	Utilize critical thinking to make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.
CRP.K-12.CRP11	Use technology to enhance productivity.
CRP.K-12.CRP12	Work productively in teams while using cultural global competence.
CAEP.9.2.12.C.2	Modify Personalized Student Learning Plans to support declared career goals.
CAEP.9.2.12.C.3	Identify transferable career skills and design alternate career plans.
CAEP.9.2.12.C.5	Research career opportunities in the United States and abroad that require knowledge of world languages and diverse cultures.
TECH.8.1.12	Educational Technology: All students will use digital tools to access, manage, evaluate, and synthesize information in order to solve problems individually and collaborate and to create and communicate knowledge.
TECH.8.1.12.A	Technology Operations and Concepts: Students demonstrate a sound understanding of technology concepts, systems and operations.
TECH.8.1.12.A.3	Collaborate in online courses, learning communities, social networks or virtual worlds to discuss a resolution to a problem or issue.
TECH.8.1.12.A.CS1	Understand and use technology systems.
TECH.8.1.12.A.CS2	Select and use applications effectively and productively.
TECH.8.1.12.B.CS2	Create original works as a means of personal or group expression.

## **21st Century Skills/Interdisciplinary Themes**

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Please list only the **21st Century/Interdisciplinary Themes** that will be incorporated into this unit.

- Communication and Collaboration
- Creativity and Innovation
- Critical thinking and Problem Solving
- ICT (Information, Communications and Technology) Literacy
- Information Literacy
- Life and Career Skills
- Media Literacy

## **21st Century Skills**

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- Civic Literacy
- Environmental Literacy
- Financial, Economic, Business and Entrepreneurial Literacy
- Global Awareness

## **Differentiation**

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- Students will be given additional time for completion of assignments or assessments
- Cooperative grouping to enhance and elevate student productivity during legal research projects such as mock trials
- Use of visual and auditory presentations (i.e. PowerPoint, video clips, pictures) to introduce and support lesson delivery

### **Differentiations:**

- Small group instruction
- Small group assignments
- Extra time to complete assignments
- Pairing oral instruction with visuals
- Repeat directions
- Use manipulatives
- Center-based instruction
- Token economy
- Study guides
- Teacher reads assessments allowed
- Scheduled breaks
- Rephrase written directions
- Multisensory approaches
- Additional time
- Preview vocabulary

- Preview content & concepts
- Story guides
- Behavior management plan
- Highlight text
- Student(s) work with assigned partner
- Visual presentation
- Assistive technology
- Auditory presentations
- Large print edition
- Dictation to scribe
- Small group setting

#### **Hi-Prep Differentiations:**

- Alternative formative and summative assessments
- Choice boards
- Games and tournaments
- Group investigations
- Guided Reading
- Independent research and projects
- Interest groups
- Learning contracts
- Leveled rubrics
- Literature circles
- Multiple intelligence options
- Multiple texts
- Personal agendas
- Project-based learning
- Problem-based learning
- Stations/centers
- Think-Tac-Toes
- Tiered activities/assignments
- Tiered products
- Varying organizers for instructions

#### **Lo-Prep Differentiations**

- Choice of books or activities
- Cubing activities
- Exploration by interest
- Flexible grouping
- Goal setting with students
- Jigsaw
- Mini workshops to re-teach or extend skills
- Open-ended activities
- Think-Pair-Share
- Reading buddies
- Varied journal prompts
- Varied supplemental materials

## **Special Education Learning (IEP's & 504's)**

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- Students will work in cooperative groups to prepare Unit outline
  - Students will use Unit outline to complete Unit assignments and assessments
  - Students will work cooperatively to resolve legal disputes using Legal Reasoning problem solving skills
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- printed copy of board work/notes provided
  - additional time for skill mastery
  - assistive technology
  - behavior management plan
  - Center-Based Instruction
  - check work frequently for understanding
  - computer or electronic device utilizes
  - extended time on tests/ quizzes
  - have student repeat directions to check for understanding
  - highlighted text visual presentation
  - modified assignment format
  - modified test content
  - modified test format
  - modified test length
  - multiple test sessions
  - multi-sensory presentation
  - preferential seating
  - preview of content, concepts, and vocabulary
  - Provide modifications as dictated in the student's IEP/504 plan
  - reduced/shortened reading assignments
  - Reduced/shortened written assignments
  - secure attention before giving instruction/directions
  - shortened assignments
  - student working with an assigned partner
  - teacher initiated weekly assignment sheet
  - Use open book, study guides, test prototypes

## **English Language Learning (ELL)**

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- Students will work with a peer tutor on Unit assignments and assessments
- Assignments will be modified to enable students to focus on selected objectives such as legal vocabulary by providing a glossary
- Students and teacher will use translation apps to enable students to focus on selected objectives such as legal vocabulary

- teaching key aspects of a topic. Eliminate nonessential information
- using videos, illustrations, pictures, and drawings to explain or clarify
- allowing products (projects, timelines, demonstrations, models, drawings, dioramas, poster boards, charts, graphs, slide shows, videos, etc.) to demonstrate student's learning;
- allowing students to correct errors (looking for understanding)
- allowing the use of note cards or open-book during testing
- decreasing the amount of work presented or required
- having peers take notes or providing a copy of the teacher's notes
- modifying tests to reflect selected objectives
- providing study guides
- reducing or omitting lengthy outside reading assignments
- reducing the number of answer choices on a multiple choice test
- tutoring by peers
- using computer word processing spell check and grammar check features
- using true/false, matching, or fill in the blank tests in lieu of essay tests

## **At Risk**

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- Students will be provided with Unit PowerPoint study guide
- Students will be allowed to use study guide/outline on Unit assessments
- Alternate assessments will be used such as Reaction Papers focusing on current events

- allowing students to correct errors (looking for understanding)
- teaching key aspects of a topic. Eliminate nonessential information
- allowing products (projects, timelines, demonstrations, models, drawings, dioramas, poster boards, charts, graphs, slide shows, videos, etc.) to demonstrate student's learning
- allowing students to select from given choices
- allowing the use of note cards or open-book during testing
- collaborating (general education teacher and specialist) to modify vocabulary, omit or modify items to reflect objectives for the student, eliminate sections of the test, and determine how the grade will be determined prior to giving the test.
- decreasing the amount of work presented or required
- having peers take notes or providing a copy of the teacher's notes

- marking students' correct and acceptable work, not the mistakes
- modifying tests to reflect selected objectives
- providing study guides
- reducing or omitting lengthy outside reading assignments
- reducing the number of answer choices on a multiple choice test
- tutoring by peers
- using authentic assessments with real-life problem-solving
- using true/false, matching, or fill in the blank tests in lieu of essay tests
- using videos, illustrations, pictures, and drawings to explain or clarify

## **Talented and Gifted Learning (T&G)**

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- Students will use Legal Reasoning problem solving skills to resolve legal disputes
  - Students will work in groups to represent each side of legal dispute and present arguments to student jurors
  - Students will identify a current legal issue and present the issue and arguments on class web page for other students to participate in a threaded discussion
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- Above grade level placement option for qualified students
  - Advanced problem-solving
  - Allow students to work at a faster pace
  - Cluster grouping
  - Complete activities aligned with above grade level text using Benchmark results
  - Create a blog or social media page about their unit
  - Create a plan to solve an issue presented in the class or in a text
  - Debate issues with research to support arguments
  - Flexible skill grouping within a class or across grade level for rigor
  - Higher order, critical & creative thinking skills, and discovery
  - Multi-disciplinary unit and/or project
  - Teacher-selected instructional strategies that are focused to provide challenge, engagement, and growth opportunities
  - Utilize exploratory connections to higher-grade concepts
  - Utilize project-based learning for greater depth of knowledge

## **Sample Lesson**

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### **Unit Name:**

Mock Trial (State v. Jackson)

### **NJSLS:**

See Link Below

### **Interdisciplinary Connection:**



Critical Thinking

Problem Solving

Persasive writing and speaking

Listening and questioning

Reading- Informative text/vocabulary

Writing-analysis/evaluation

**Statement of Objective:**

SWDAT incorporate facts and legal concepts from previous day of trial to enhance their team's persuasive oral presentation **by** participating in mock trial. Students will present Direct and Cross Examination. Teams will earn a grade of at least 90 the mock trial presentation.

**Anticipatory Set/Do Now:**

Review Mock Trial Folder.

**Learning Activity:**

Mock Trial presentation. Presentation of witnesses.

**Student Assessment/CFU's:**

See Link Below

**Materials:**

Mock Trial materials

Computer/Internet

PowerPoint

**21st Century Themes and Skills:**

See Link Below

**Differentiation:**

See Link Below

**Integration of Technology:**

Computer/Internet

Lap-Tops

PowerPoint

SmartBoard

