

Family Law Education Reform Project

William Mitchell Closing Argument Evaluation

OVERVIEW

This document is an evaluation for a client counseling exercise.

EXPLANATION AND COMMENTS

This evaluation may be used to assess students' performances in a closing argument exercise. It may be distributed to students in the form of feedback, used to grade each student's performance, or both.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Contributed by the Faculty of:
William Mitchell College of Law
St. Paul, Minnesota

The academic program at the William Mitchell College of Law is founded on legal theory and practical learning, professors who are both scholars and legal practitioners, and a student body that includes career professionals and recent college graduates.

The College of Law places an emphasis on practical lawyering skills by fusing together the curriculum and philosophy of teaching. From writing and trial advocacy program to their clinic program, the curriculum combines skills training with a focus on ethics and legal theory, preparing each student to be a powerful advocate and counselor to their clients.

**CLOSING ARGUMENT
EVALUATION FORM**

William Mitchell College of Law (Advocacy)

INSTRUCTOR: _____ STUDENT:

Absent: _____ Late: _____ (# of Min. _____) Left Early: _____ (# of Min. _____)
Student unprepared as opposing lawyer: _____ Student unprepared as witness: _____

CLOSING ARGUMENT

Instructors: Please circle the appropriate score for each exercise vector using 10 points as the high score.

| | | |
|-----------|--|--------------------------|
| 10 | A. Persuasiveness | 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 |
| | Effective presentation | |
| 10 | B. Interest | 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 |
| | Developed and maintained your interest | |
| 10 | C. Organization | 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 |
| | Presentation well organized | |
| 10 | D. Balance | 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 |
| | Appropriate balance of facts, law, reasons | |
| 10 | E. Responses to questions | 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 |
| | Appropriate answers | |
| 10 | F. Demeanor and presence | 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 |
| | Appropriate eye contact, voice projection, facial expressions, physical posture, and avoidance of distractions | |
| | | Total _____/60 |

SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT

WRITTEN WORK

Instructors: Please circle the appropriate score for each written work vector using 5 points as the high score.

| | |
|--|--------------|
| A. Thorough and complete detailed outline | 1 2 3 |
| 4 5 | |
| B. Persuasive explanation of facts and law | 1 2 3 |
| 4 5 | |
| C. Useful one page outline | 1 2 3 |
| 4 5 | |

Total _____/15

SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT
