Jury Rubric

Category	Exceeds Expectations	Meets Expectations	Approaching Expectations	Below Expectations
Introduction/Thesis & Conclusion	The introduction is engaging, clearly presents the context of the trial, and contains a clear, strong thesis statement. Conclusion effectively reinforces the thesis and thoughtfully discusses the broader implications of the trial and its verdict.	The introduction presents the context of the trial and contains a clear thesis statement. Conclusion restates the thesis and addresses the broader implications of the trial, though in a more general manner.	The introduction is somewhat unclear or weakly presents the trial context and/or thesis. Conclusion weakly reinforces the thesis or neglects to address the broader implications.	The introduction is unclear or does not include a thesis statement/claim. Conclusion is missing or fails to reinforce the thesis or broader implications.
Use of Evidence	Provides well-organized, compelling evidence supporting the assigned side with multiple, specific examples. Effectively addresses counter-witnesses and refutes their claims.	Provides evidence supporting the assigned side with some clear examples. Addresses counter-witnesses, though some may not be fully refuted.	Uses limited or vague evidence to support the assigned side. Counter-witnesses may be weakly addressed or not fully refuted.	Lacks sufficient or relevant evidence to support the assigned side. Fails to address or refute counter-witnesses.
Organization & Transitions	The entire paper is written consistently in the past tense. Grammar, spelling, and punctuation are flawless or nearly flawless.	The paper is written in past tense with minimal errors in grammar, spelling, or punctuation.	The paper is written mostly in past tense, with some inconsistencies. Contains some grammar or spelling errors.	The paper is not consistently in past tense, with frequent grammar, spelling, or punctuation errors.
Logical Deductions & Analysis	Provides insightful analysis and makes strong logical deductions based on the evidence presented. Demonstrates deep understanding of the case.	Makes logical deductions based on the evidence. Demonstrates a solid understanding of the case.	Some deductions are logical, but analysis may be shallow or based on weak evidence.	Lacks logical deductions or makes unsupported claims. Shows limited understanding of the case.
Overall Structure & Coherence	The paper is fully coherent, well-structured, and meets all assignment guidelines.	The paper is generally coherent and meets most assignment guidelines.	The paper is somewhat disorganized or misses some assignment guidelines.	The paper is poorly organized and does not meet assignment guidelines.