**Mock Trial Procedure**

**Opening Statement**: This is an overview of each side’s case. Tell what the case is about and what each witness will say. Develop a theme for the case. Review the facts. Arguments are not allowed.

**Direct Examination**: An examination of the witness called by your side. Witnesses will be asked questions to take them through their testimony. Questions must be open ended. Leading questions are not allowed

**Cross Examination**: Questions of the witness from the other side. Questions should lead the witness to an answer. Avoid open-ended questions.

**Closing argument**: Go back to the theme of the case. Review the testimony from all witnesses, including witnesses from the other side. Using the facts and the law, explain why your side should win.

**Objections:**

1. Relevance: The testimony is not relevant to the legal issues in the case.
2. Leading: This objection can only be used on direct exam when a leading question is asked.
3. Heresay: The witness is testifying about what someone else (who is still living and available for trial) said.
4. Asked and answered: The question has been asked and answered already during the same examination.
5. Improper opinion: The witness is not an expert and is being asked to give an opinion that goes beyond common knowledge.