

Christopher Columbus on Trial: Innocent or Guilty?



Goal:

To reinforce our current practice of developing and supporting thesis statements you will be tasked with putting Christopher Columbus on trial for committing genocide against the native populations of the Americas.

Timeframe:

Tuesday: Trial introduction, dividing groups, selecting roles, and group brainstorming period.

Wednesday: Group planning, discussions, and research

Thursday: Trial

4 minutes- Opening Statement Prosecution

4 minutes- Opening Statement Defense

6 minutes- Supporting Evidence Prosecution

6 minutes- Supporting Evidence Defense

4 minutes- Closing Statement Prosecution

4 minutes- Closing Statement Defense

Friday:

Jury deliberates for 30-35 minutes. Delivers verdict to class. Exit slip.

Resources:

Students will be given computer to work on their presentation Wednesday. All research is up to them and their group. Evidence used in the presentation must be of scholarly value and must be used to prove your side.

Rubric:

	5	4	3	2	1	0
Group is on task and had meaningful discussion during the planning phases						
Group Cooperates and shows respect toward each other						
Follows the rules for the trial						
Does not interrupt, shout out, or put anyone down						
Leadership or Lack of leadership						

Total: /20