

08 - Closing Arguments

Steps to Closing Argument (5 mins)

- A. *Introduction* - Hook the Audience
 - a. Go back to theme/catchphrase
 - b. Draw judge/jury's attention back in with power
- B. *The Law*
 - a. Remind the jury of the legal stuff of the case
 - b. And how you met or the other side failed to meet each point
- C. *Connect the Dots*
 - a. Pockets - focus on some key highlights
 - b. Use evidence from numerous witnesses
 - i. Trace back... "Pat Hurst told you..."
- D. *Banger*
 - a. End with a powerful section
 - b. Then tell them to reach the verdict of guilty or not guilty

Tips for Prosecution v. Defense

- E. *For the Prosecution* -
 - a. Talk about the law in case
 - b. How you have met your burden
 - c. What your witnesses showed
 - d. Major flaws of the defense
- F. *For the Defense*
 - a. You have no burden
 - b. Prosecution especially has not met their burden
 - c. Tell us everything about the Pros. could not do, and what they promised but DIDN'T prove
 - d. Introduce alternative stories and explanations

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Draft your closing argument in the space below. Try to follow the structure above. Remember this is not memorized like an opening, so you really just want a skeleton of a speech that you can modify throughout the trial.

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