**COURTROOM ROLES**

**Part A. Match the courtroom role with its description. Each one will be used once. Use the PowerPoint as a reference, if needed.**

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| Clerk | Judge | Plaintiff | Juror |
| Prosecutor | Bailiff | Defense Attorney (Criminal) | Defendant (Criminal) |
| Victim | Court Reporter | Defense Attorney (Civil) | Defendant (Civil) |
|  | Witness | Attorney for Plaintiff (Civil) |  |

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| **DESCRIPTION** | **ROLE/JOB** |
| 1) I record and transcribe what everyone says word for word. When I’m not in the courtroom, I am busy editing transcripts I typed during other court proceedings like hearings or trials. |  |
| 2) I have been sued by a plaintiff. Before a trial, I give my lawyer as much information as I can to help her prove that I did not break the law or violate the other person’s rights. During a trial, I will probably get up and tell my side of the story. |  |
| 3) I am the person that a crime was committed against. Before a trial, I will give the prosecutor as much information as I can to help her convict the person who committed a crime against me. I might sit and watch the trial or testify against the defendant. |  |
| 4) I swear in anyone who takes the stand. I get things the judge needs and makes sure there is order in the court. |  |
| 5) I represent someone accused of a crime in court. I may be employed by the defendant or appointed by the state as a public defender. I try to build a case to prove my client is innocent of any crime. If I can’t do that, I work to get my client the most fair punishment. During a trial, I present evidence to convince the jury that my client did not commit a crime. |  |
| 6) Before a trial, I meet with lawyers and tell them what I heard or saw, to help them prepare their cases. During a trial, I come to the courtroom to testify about what I heard or saw. |  |
| 7) Before a trial, I am just a regular citizen going about my business. During a trial, I listen carefully to all the evidence so I can help. Then I will go into a room with the rest of my group to decide what really happened and what the verdict should be. |  |
| 8) I take notes in the courtroom, mark all the evidence the lawyers want to use during the trial, and give each piece of evidence a number. |  |
| 9) I am accused of a crime. During a trial, I sit with my lawyer and hope the judge or jury will decide I did not commit a crime. I may tell my side of the story during a trial, but I don’t have to because the Constitution says I don’t have to testify against myself. |  |
| 10) I represent a plaintiff. Before a trial, I study the law, talk to witnesses, and gather evidence to build a case to show that the defendant violated my client’s rights. During a trial, I present evidence to convince the jury that the defendant violated my client’s rights and owes something to my client. |  |
| 11) I represent the state in a criminal case. I study the law, talk to witnesses, and gather evidence to build a case to prove the defendant committed a crime. I also negotiate with the other side to offer the defendant the most fair punishment. During a trial, I present evidence to convince the jury that the defendant committed a crime. |  |
| 12) I am the referee in the courtroom. I make decisions about different issues that come up as the lawyers prepare for trial. During a jury trial, I make sure the lawyers follow courtroom rules and I explain to the jury what the law says so they can make a decision. |  |
| 13) I represent a defendant who has been sued by a plaintiff. Before a trial, I study the law, talk to witnesses, and gather evidence to build a case to show my client did not break the law or violate anyone’s rights. Often, I work with the other side’s lawyer to try to settle the case without a trial. During a trial, I present evidence to convince the jury that my client did not violate the other side’s rights and does not owe the other side anything. |  |
| 14) I file a lawsuit against someone that I think has violated my rights. During a trial, I sit with my lawyer and hope that the judge or jury will decide my rights were violated and order the other side to pay me back. |  |

**Part B. Which of these roles do you think is the most important? Write a short paragraph creating an argument for why this job is the most important out of any in the courtroom. What might happen if that role did not exist?**

ANSWER:

I think the most important role in the courtroom is: