## The Judicial System

## A Day in Court

court = where people go to decide if someone broke the law

guilty = yes, the person broke the law not guilty = no, the person did not break the law watch, listen, and read what happens HERE. More information is HERE.

What did you see and hear happen in the school parking lot? Give at least 3 details.

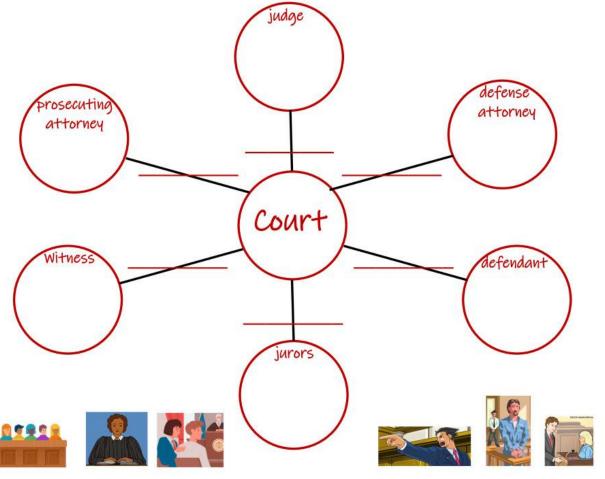
Why does Jeremy believe Tim hit his car intentionally? (intentionally = wanted to do it)

\_\_\_\_\_\_ Does Tim say that he hit Jeremy's car? \_\_\_\_\_

## Why is what the court decides important?

If Tim accidentally hit Jeremy's car, he will get a ticket. That means he will have to pay a little money. If Tim intentionally hit Jeremy's car, he will have to pay thousands of dollars and maybe go to jail.

Who is in the court? Tell what each person does. Drag an illustration to each word.





## innocent = has done nothing wrong

In American courts, a person is "innocent until proven guilty." The defendant (the person the police think broke the law) does <u>NOT</u> need to <u>prove</u> he is innocent. He is innocent. He stays innocent until the prosecuting attorney can prove he broke the law. Your boss says you stole money from the cash register. How could you prove you are innocent? How could your boss prove you are quilty? Which would be easier: to prove you are innocent or to let your boss try to prove you are guilty? Why? Usually it is much more difficult to prove you did NOT do something. What are the responsibilities of a juror? All American citizens must serve as a juror when called. Would you enjoy being a juror? \_\_\_\_ Why? What evidence would the prosecuting attorney need to PROVE that Tim broke the law? (not what she has-what she would need) Give at least 2 examples: What evidence did the police officer in Tim's case find? POLICE REPORT What other evidence does the prosecuting attorney have? Tim might be guilty, but if the prosecuting attorney does not have the evidence to prove that, the jury must find him NOT guilty. If you were a juror in this court, would you find Tim guilty or not guilty? Give 2 reasons for your response. 1) In your personal opinion, do you think Tim intentionally hit Jeremy's car? \_\_\_\_ Explain. Do you think the court will find him guilty? \_\_\_\_ Explain. \_\_\_\_

