

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.

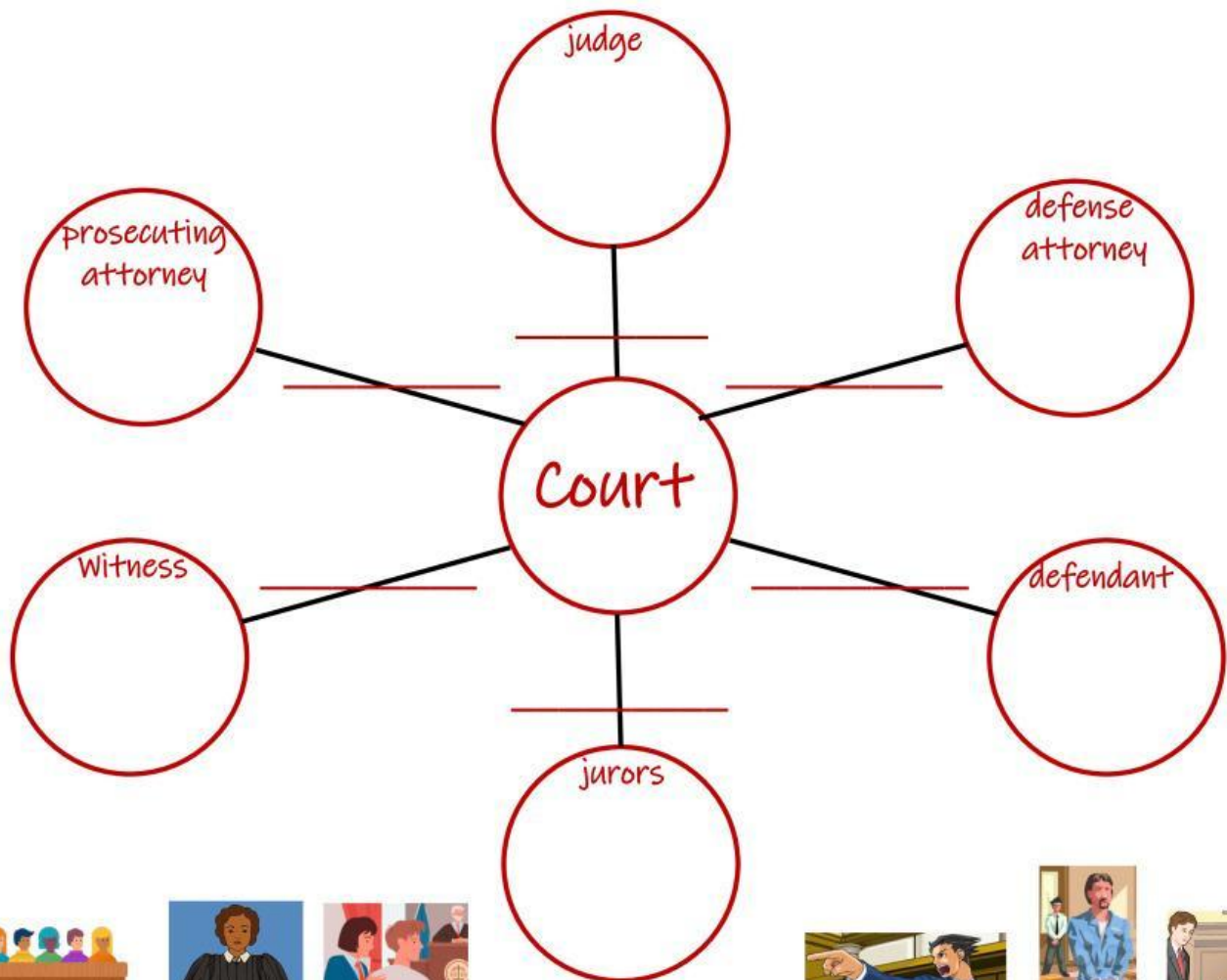
Why does Jeremy believe Tim hit his car **intentionally**? (**intentionally** = wanted to do it)

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 NOT need to prove 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 guilty? _____

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	
Case No.	Date
Reporting Officer	Report No.
Address	
Detail of Incident	
Arrests Taken	
Remarks	

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) _____ 2) _____

In your personal opinion, do you think Tim intentionally hit Jeremy's car? _____ Explain. _____

Do you think the court will find him guilty? _____ Explain. _____

