

# VIS MOOT DOS AND DON'TS

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## PREPARATION

- Master the facts;
- Give the tribunal a moment to look up the references you mention;
- Take notes and from other Moots and Pre-Moots;
- Don't watch your prospective opposing teams' pleadings (no scouting!);
- Prepare scripts of different lengths to adapt to each tribunal due to more or less questions;
- Know your scrip, don't memorize it;
- Don't read it;
- Practice and videotape yourself;
- "Tie your hair": don't let your appearance be disruptive;
- Be punctual.

## PRESENTATION/ OUTER APPEARANCE

- Dress up;
- Don't wear skirts too short or other inappropriate clothing;
- Don't hold papers if you're nervous/shaking;
- Be confident, get ahold of your nerves;
- Know your Tribunal, adjust to the arbitrators' style (quiet, more passionate body language, etc.);
- Maintain a professional manner;
- Avoid ticks (clicking pens, for instance);
- Project your voice and speak clearly, but be conversational.

## STRUCTURE OF THE ARGUMENT

- Give the Tribunal a road map and sign posts as you progress;
- Be practical in your approach;
- Keep it short and simple;
- Don't overload with arguments.

## INTERACTION WITH THE TRIBUNAL

- Keep eye contact with all the arbitrators, not only the one talking to you or asking most questions;
- Time keeping is key;
- Telephones and computer off the room unless necessary;
- Answer (and embrace) questions;
- Don't argue with arbitrators;
- Don't be crushed by arbitrators' comments;
- Don't compliment the arbitrators;
- Don't speak too fast or too slow;
- Acknowledge that the tribunal said something if you are going to mention it in your arguments;
- Be careful with sources of law and explain why they are relevant;
- No conversation between teammates during presentations;
- Be focused even after you're done talking. You may be asked a question by the tribunal at any time.

## AFTER THE SESSION

- Ask the arbitrators for feedback if you have any questions; you can get meaningful insights;
- "After the game is before the game". Start immediately to prepare for your next pleading.

» **Be prepared, be practical, be aware of cultural differences and take this experience to real life**

» **Be yourself, prepare yourself, enjoy the opportunity to be in the Moot**