

Name: _____



PART 1: MAKE YOUR CHOICE

Read the scenario below. Then answer the questions.

You are in a store with some friends. One of them takes an item off the shelf and puts it into your backpack without your knowledge. A little while later a security guard accuses you of shoplifting. He searches your backpack and finds the item. He accuses you of breaking the law. You say that you did not break the law. The dispute must be settled in a trial of your choosing. Which type of trial do you choose and why?

TRIAL INFORMATION FORM

Date: _____

Nature of the alleged crime: _____

Your side of the story: _____

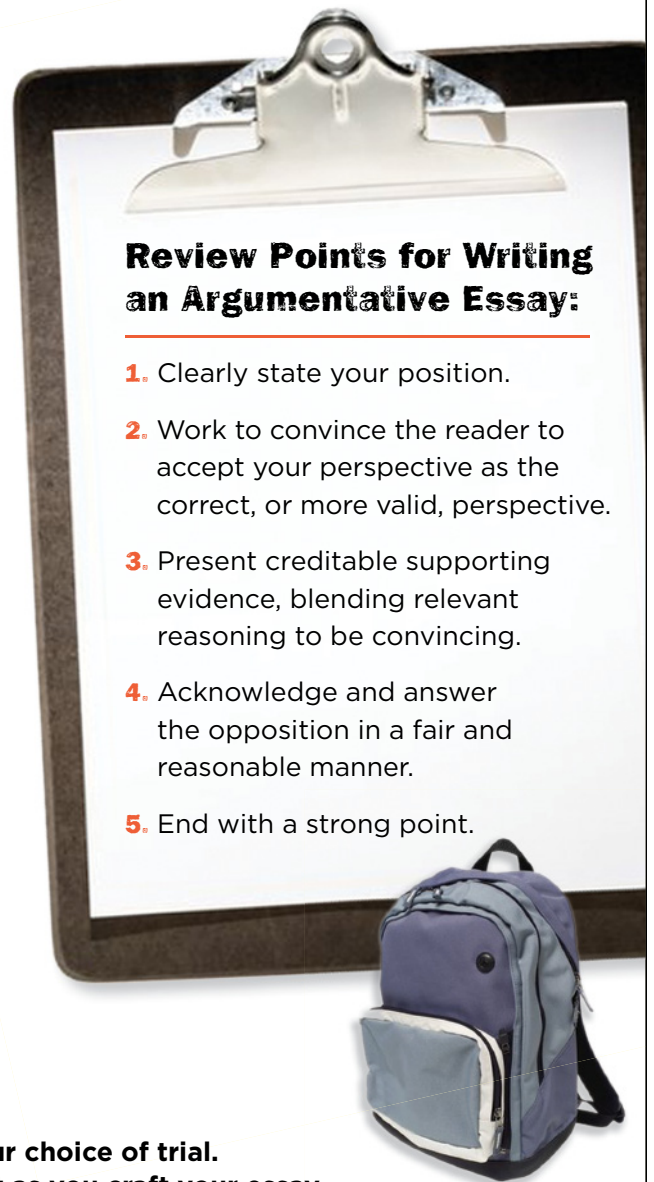
Trial preference:

- Trial by ordeal Trial by combat
 Trial by oath Trial by jury

Reasons for your choice: _____

PART 2: DEFEND YOUR CHOICE

Write a one- to two-page argumentative essay arguing for your choice of trial. Refer to your *Comparing Trial Systems from History* worksheet as you craft your essay.



Review Points for Writing an Argumentative Essay:

1. Clearly state your position.
2. Work to convince the reader to accept your perspective as the correct, or more valid, perspective.
3. Present credible supporting evidence, blending relevant reasoning to be convincing.
4. Acknowledge and answer the opposition in a fair and reasonable manner.
5. End with a strong point.