

Widener University School of Law
Ruby R. Vale Interschool Corporate Moot Court
Competition
Oral Argument Grading Guidelines

TEAM: _____ ADVOCATE'S NAME: _____
DATE/TIME: _____ APPELLANT / APPELLEE

FORMALITIES and DEMEANOR

COMMENTS

1 2 3 Introduction:

Did advocate identify himself/herself and the side that he/she is representing?

3 6 9 Adherence to Time Limitations:

Did advocate conclude when time expired or ask for permission to continue?

3 6 9 Eye Contact and Posture

Did advocate maintain eye contact and a professional posture?

ORAL SKILLS:

3 6 9 Audibility

Did advocate speak in a comfortable tone of voice?

6 9 12 Respect for the Bench

Did advocate act deferentially towards the bench?

10 15 20 Persuasiveness

Was advocate able to persuade the court to find for his/her side?

10 15 20 25 30 Clarity

Did advocate present arguments in a clear manner?

10 15 20 25 30 Ability to Answer Questions

Was advocate able to respond to questions in an effective manner?

6 8 10 Composure

Was advocate able to return to the point where the argument was interrupted?

ANALYTICAL SKILLS:

10 15 20 Factual Application

Was advocate able to integrate the record with the legal issues?

10 15 20 25 30 Understanding of the Law

Was advocate familiar with the law and able to accurately state the proposition of each authority?

10 15 20 25 30 Was advocate able to apply the facts of the present case to the applicable law?

MISCELLANEOUS:

3 6 9

Did advocate distinguish herself/himself in any additional manner?

Recommend for BEST ADVOCATE? Up to 10 additional points ___

TOTAL SCORE: _____

(Min Score: 85 Median Score: 153 Max Score: 220)

The highlighted number is the average score .

Judges start at that score, adding or subtracting points.

These scores are guideposts to ensure fairness in grades.