

Name:

Date:

Trial Activity

Charlotte is going to be put on trial for the murder of Mr. Hollybrass. In this trial, you must determine who is guilty of the murder: Charlotte or Captain Jaggery.

The prosecution and the defense will each have 3-4 lawyers. The prosecution will try to prove that Charlotte is guilty. The defense will try to prove that Charlotte is innocent and that Captain Jaggery is actually guilty. The lawyers will have 10 minutes to prepare the questions they will ask the witnesses. They should ask each witness at least 3 questions that the witness will be forced to answer honestly. Produce questions that you feel will either incriminate or free Charlotte of the charge brought against her, depending on which side you're on. Form your questions carefully. You do not want to sentence an innocent person to death.

There will be 4-6 witnesses: Charlotte, Captain Jaggery, and several of the sailors. Each witness will take their turn on the witness stand. They must answer each question honestly, regardless of who they believe is guilty. Before the trial begins, the witnesses should plan out what they might say during the trial, even though they don't know what they will be asked. They should carefully consider what their character knows and believes.

The trial will be proceeded over by the Honorable Teacher, who has the right to swear in witnesses, object to questions or demand that a witness answer truthfully. The verdict will be delivered by a jury of Charlotte's peers, fellow sailors who are unsure at the beginning of the trial of her innocence or guilt. They will have 10 minutes to deliberate and decide on a verdict at the end of the trial.

