

## College Prep Stats Chapter 5 Project

In this Mock Trial project, your project team members (2 Attorneys and 1 Judge and/or 1 Assistant) will analyze the observed result by applying the “Range Rule of Thumb” and the mean and standard deviation of Binomial Probability Distribution to verify the observed result is usual or unusual. Then the Judge will draw the conclusion to favor in one party. When the project team does the presentation, the team needs to share their screen to all other students in the Google Classroom. **This is a group project with minimum of 3 and maximum of 4 students.**

**Case 1:** Juan Torres is an American of Mexican ancestry. He has been convicted of murder in Hidalgo County. His team of lawyers is appealing the conviction on the grounds of an unfair trial. The official complaint filed states:

“Mr. Torres was not given a fair trial. Hidalgo County had 229,500 registered voters at the time of selection, 181,535 of which are of Mexican ancestry. However, of the 870 people on the grand jury for the case, only 339 were of Mexican ancestry. Furthermore, the 12-person jury that tried the actual case was comprised of only 7 people of Mexican ancestry.”

Your Job:

- State’s Attorney: Use the above information to formulate a statistics-based argument for why the conviction should stand. Any calculations should be supported with written work that can be shown to the audience.
- Defense Attorney: Use the above information to formulate a statistics-based argument for why the conviction should be thrown out. Any calculations should be supported with written work that can be shown to the audience.
- Judge: Analyze the information objectively. Determine a procedure for how the trial will run and how the ultimate decision will be made. You will facilitate the process, if you lose control of your courtroom, it will be reflected in your score. Note: Your research is meant to educate you on the case and allow you to determine the validity of the attorney’s arguments. Your decision should not be made before the trial is heard.

**Case 2:** Anthony Briggioni is a resident of Los Angeles, California. He was recently a contestant on a game show that involved spinning a wheel that contained 26 evenly sized slots. The premise of the game is that the contestant spins the wheel 50 times and adds up the total of each of the 50 spins. If, however, he hits one of the 5 “Bankrupt” slots, his total goes back down to 0. Mr. Briggioni is suing the TVP television network. His complaint is given below:

“Mr. Briggioni recently earned a chance to play ‘Spin the Wheel.’ He signed a contract that stated, among other things, that each of the 26 slots on the wheel would have an equal probability of occurring. Based on the 16 times that he landed on a Bankrupt slot, we believe that the game was unfair and he is entitled to compensation.”

- Mr. Briggioni’s Attorney: Use the above information to formulate a statistics-based argument for why the game is unfair and what type of compensation should be made. Any calculations should be supported with written work that can be shown to the audience.
- TVP Attorney: Use the above information to formulate a statistics-based argument for why the game should still be considered fair. Be prepared to counter the amount of money the opposing attorney suggests you should compensate their client. Any calculations should be supported with written work that can be shown to the audience.
- Judge: Analyze the information objectively. Determine a procedure for how the trial will run and how the ultimate decision will be made. You will facilitate the process, if you lose control of your courtroom, it will be reflected in your score. Note: Your research is meant to educate you on the case and allow you to determine the validity of the attorney’s arguments. Your decision should not be made before the trial is heard.

Attorney:

Topic	3	2	0
Research	The group uses their time appropriately.	The group gets work done but could have done more, or prevents others from working.	The group poorly utilizes their time.
Calculations	The group performs appropriate and accurate calculations.	The group performs appropriate calculation with minimal flaws; or The group performs some appropriate calculations accurately.	The group does not perform any appropriate calculations; or all calculations are very wrong.
Arguments	The group makes appropriate arguments supported with statistical evidence.	The group makes appropriate arguments but lack statistical support.	The group makes mostly inappropriate arguments.
Organization	The group organizes their information and is easily able to access it during the trial.	The group has all of the information they need, but are not able to quickly access it consistently.	The group is unable to access their information throughout the trial.
Participation and Professionalism	Every member of the group participates in a professional manner.	Group members take the assignment seriously with a few inappropriate comments/actions.	Group members do not take the assignment seriously.

Judge:

Topic	3	2	0
Research	The group uses their time appropriately.	The group gets work done but could have done more, or prevents others from working.	The group poorly utilizes their time.
Calculations	The group performs appropriate and accurate calculations.	The group performs appropriate calculation with minimal flaws; or The group performs some appropriate calculations accurately.	The group does not perform any appropriate calculations; or all calculations are very wrong.
Facilitation	The group maintains order and designs an appropriate process	The group has minor flaws in order and/or process design	The group fails to maintain order
Ruling	The group makes an appropriate decision and supports it using evidence presented	The group has minor flaws in their justification.	The group has a very inappropriate ruling and/or justification
Participation and Professionalism	Every member of the group participates in a professional manner.	Group members take the assignment seriously with a few inappropriate comments/actions.	Group members do not take the assignment seriously.