Guidelines for (0-5) Scoring

The following are general guidelines to be applied to each category on the score sheet. It is strongly recommended that scorers use “3” as an indication of an average performance, and adjust higher or lower for stronger or weaker performances.

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Score</th>
<th>Description</th>
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| 0 | **PENALTY (NONPERFORMANCE OF REQUIRED PRESENTATION)**  
  - Failure to cross-examine a witness (no time)  
  - Failure to conduct direct examination of a witness (no time)  
  - ONLY applies to rule violations that specify a zero score |
| 1 | **BELOW AVERAGE (FAIR, WEAK PERFORMANCE)**  
  - Disorganized  
  - Communication is minimally clear and disorganized and ineffective.  
  - Inadequate preparation and poor understanding of case and legal procedure  
  - Poor presentation  
  - Inadequate legal knowledge or understanding of role  
  - Weak or inaudible voice  
  - Disruptive or disrespectful during trial |
| 2 | **BELOW AVERAGE (FAIR, WEAK PERFORMANCE)**  
  - Some organization  
  - Some preparation and some understanding of case and legal procedure  
  - Awkward presentation  
  - Demonstrates some legal knowledge or some understanding of role  
  - Stronger voice needed  
  - Invents material facts and repeatedly stumbles over responses  
  - Needs more work on poise and delivery |
| 3 | **AVERAGE (MEETS REQUIRED STANDARDS)**  
  - Communication is clear and organized but could be stronger in fluency and persuasiveness.  
  - Adequate preparation and demonstrated a basic understanding of case and legal procedure  
  - Acceptable but uninspired presentation  
  - Demonstrated basic legal knowledge and mostly understood role  
  - Audible voice  
  - Needs more spontaneity and persuasiveness  
  - Can think on their feet but exhibits less confidence than with the script. |
| 4 | **ABOVE AVERAGE (GOOD, SOLID PERFORMANCE)**  
  - Well-organized and good preparation  
  - Demonstrated good understanding of case and legal procedure  
  - Good smooth presentation  
  - Clearly demonstrated legal knowledge and understood role  
  - Questions/answers mostly advance case theory  
  - Able to be spontaneous some of the time  
  - Clear mastery of case materials  
  - Communication is clear, organized and persuasive.  
  - Mostly believable performance  
  - Easily audible voice |
| 5 | **EXEMPLARY (EXCEPTIONAL PERFORMANCE)**  
  - Superior in qualities listed in above average presentation.  
  - Excellent preparation and well organized  
  - Demonstrated superior ability to think on her/his feet  
  - Demonstrated outstanding knowledge of case and legal procedure  
  - Questions and answers almost always advanced case theory  
  - Resourceful, original & innovative approaches  
  - Portrayal was both extraordinary and realistic, not overly rehearsed or memorized  
  - Clear understanding of rules and procedures  
  - Strong voice  
  - Polished |