# EL/Civics Lesson Plan

Program Name	Fostoria Community Schools	
Staff Responsible for Lesson	Anitha Thomas	
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Date(s) Used	5/ 19/10
Civics Category	I. Rights and Responsibilities of Citizenship
Civics Objective	7. Government and Law-Law-Jury duty Identify basic features of the local, state, and federal legal system including individual rights, laws, and ordinances as well as procedures for obtaining legal help
Time Frame to Complete Lesson	2 hours
EFL(s)	4 and 5
Standard(s)/Components of Performance	C4
Benchmark(s)	R4.5 R5.5
Materials	Hand outs and dictionaries, <u>www.uscourts.gov/uscourts/EducationalResources/Courtroo</u> <u>msAsClassrooms/FuncQualJuryService.pdf</u> , Citizenship questions
Activities	Discuss jury trials and jury duty. Look up the meaning of the unknown vocabulary. Discuss the qualifications for being a juror. Read and answer the questions. Write a list of qualifications for being a juror.
Assessment/ Evidence Reflection	Discussion and sharing of information. Answering worksheet and citizenship questions. Interesting discussions and questions.

#### JURY TRIALS

The sixth amendment of the constitution guarantees an accused the right to a jury trial in all criminal prosecutions. Jury trials are trials of an issue of fact before a jury. The parties present their evidence to the jury, the Judge then instruct the jury how the law applies to their findings of fact. The Jury weighs the evidence and testimony to determine the question of fact. The jury then deliberates and presents its verdict. In civil cases, the jury consists of 6-12 jurors. In all federal criminal trials the jury consists of 12 members. In these cases, proof beyond a reasonable doubt must be established by the unanimous vote of all 12 jurors.

To be a juror:

One must be a United States citizen At least eighteen years old Reside in the district for at least one year Adequate proficiency in English No disqualifying mental or physical conditions Not currently subject to felony charges Never convicted of a felony

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### **Qualifications for Being a Juror**

Read through the following descriptions and determine whether the people described should be able to serve on a jury. Write "Y" for yes and "N" for no. Be sure to include a brief explanation after each one. After you have recorded your initial impressions, your teacher will review them and together the class will draft a list of qualifications based on the discussion of the descriptions.

\_\_\_\_\_1.

Knut received a notice to serve on a jury in Washington, D.C. He is a resident of Washington, D.C., and is a German citizen.

Explain:

\_\_\_\_\_2.

Elia received a notice to serve on a jury in her town. She is 17 and a student at the local high school.

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Explain:

3.

Juan received a notice to serve on a jury in his area. He speaks only Spanish.

Explain:

4.

Jackie received a notice to serve on a jury in her city. She has been living in the judicial district for two years. She is a waitress in a local diner and has never been convicted of a felony.

Explain:

\_\_\_\_\_5.

Roger received a notice to serve on a jury. He is currently in a hospital receiving treatment

for schizophrenia.

Explain: 6.

Elizabeth received a notice to serve on a jury. She is a lawyer in town and knows the defendant in the trial.

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Explain:

Based on your class discussion of the descriptions above, draft a list of qualifications for being a juror: