

## Structure

**When scoring these elements, do not consider style or presentation. Focus on the inclusion of the elements.**

<p><b>Introduction (2 points)</b> Does the advocate include the “may it please the court...” statement and reserve time for rebuttal if applicable?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 0 points if no</li> <li>• 1 point if yes with some substantive mistakes</li> <li>• 2 points if yes with no substantive mistakes</li> </ul>
<p><b>Roadmap (3 points)</b> Does the advocate include the “this case is about...” statement, prayer for relief, and a roadmap of their argument?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 0 points if no</li> <li>• 1 point if yes with some substantive mistakes</li> <li>• 2 points if yes with no substantive mistakes</li> <li>• 3 points if yes and it is particularly compelling</li> </ul>
<p><b>Argument (1 point)</b> Did the advocate address all points from his/her argument?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 0 if no</li> <li>• 1 if yes</li> </ul>
<p><b>Conclusion (2 points)</b> Does the advocate restate his/her roadmap and prayer for relief? Alternatively, “for the foregoing reasons” is acceptable when an advocate has run out of time.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 0 points if no</li> <li>• 1 point if yes with some substantive mistakes</li> <li>• 2 points if yes with no substantive mistakes</li> </ul>

## Substance

**When scoring these elements, do not consider style or presentation. Focus on content of the argument.**

<p><b>Well supported/reasoned claims (7 points)</b> Are the advocate’s arguments supported by the law and well thought-out? Does the argument include both precedential and policy arguments? Are the arguments easily defeated? Has the advocate considered counter-arguments?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 point if your answers to most of these questions are no</li> <li>• 3 points if your answers to most these questions are mixed</li> <li>• 5 points if your answers to most of these questions are yes</li> <li>• 7 points if your answers to virtually all these questions are yes</li> </ul>
<p><b>Command of materials and law (4 points)</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 point if minimal command (more than 5 mistakes)</li> <li>• 2 points if some command</li> <li>• 3 points if good command</li> <li>• 4 points if exceptional command (1 mistake or less)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Responsiveness to questions (5 points)</b> Does the advocate answer the question asked? Is the response a thorough answer to the question? Does the advocate use the question to support his/her argument? Is the answer substantively correct? Does the advocate use questions asked of his/her opponent to bolster his/her argument?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 point if your answers to most of these questions are no</li> <li>• 3 points if your answers to most of these questions are mixed</li> <li>• 5 points if your answers to virtually all these questions are yes</li> </ul>

## Presentation

**When scoring these elements, do not consider substance. Focus on the style of the argument.**

<p><b>Clarity (5 points)</b>          Does the advocate enunciate?          How easily can you follow the argument?          Does the advocate use signal words (e.g. first, second, next, finally)?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 point if your answers to most of these questions are no</li> <li>• 3 points if your answers to most of these questions are mixed</li> <li>• 5 points if your answers to most of these questions are yes</li> </ul>
<p><b>Transitions (4 points)</b>          Does the advocate transition smoothly between questions and his/her argument?          Does the advocate transition smoothly between different parts of his/her argument?          Does the advocate connect responses to questions to his/her argument?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 0 points if the advocate uses no transitions</li> <li>• 2 points if the advocate’s transitions are mostly choppy</li> <li>• 4 points if the advocate’s transitions are mostly smooth</li> </ul>
<p><b>Use of appropriate formalities (2 points)</b>          Does the advocate use “Your Honor”, “Justice/Judge”, “Mister/Madame Chief Justice”, the correct terms for referring to his/her opponent (i.e. appellant/appellee, petitioner/respondent, not he/she/my opponent), “this Court” when appropriate, and other appropriate formalities?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 0 points if the advocate does not use appropriate formalities</li> <li>• 1 point if the advocate sometimes uses appropriate formalities</li> <li>• 2 points if the advocate always uses appropriate formalities</li> </ul>
<p><b>Presence of verbal/physical tics (2 points)</b>          Does the advocate say “um”, “uh”, “like”, “so”, “you know”, end a statement with a higher pitch (sounding like a question), or click their tongue?          Does the advocate use their hands in a distracting fashion?          Does the advocate make other distracting noises?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 0 points if verbal/physical tics are present throughout</li> <li>• 1 point if verbal/physical tics are sporadically present</li> <li>• 2 points if verbal/physical tics are minimally present</li> </ul>
<p><b>Tone (1 point)</b>          Is the advocate’s tone formal but conversational?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 0 points if no for most of his/her argument</li> <li>• 1 point if yes for most of his/her argument</li> </ul>
<p><b>Eye Contact (1 point)</b>          Does the advocate make eye contact, with both judges, throughout their argument, including minimal reading of notes?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 0 points if no for most of his/her argument</li> <li>• 1 point if yes for most of his/her argument</li> </ul>
<p><b>Pacing (1 point)</b>          Does the advocate speak at an appropriate speed throughout their argument?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 0 points if no for most of his/her argument</li> <li>• 1 point if yes for most of his/her argument</li> </ul>