A Case in Point
Justice's Instructions for Hearing Moot Court Oral Arguments

J

When preparing to hear arguments, Supreme Court Justices review documents with their clerks about a case and identify the questions they want to ask the attorneys.

Write down the following information:

- What don't you understand about the case?
- What facts do you want clarified?
- Which of their clients' actions would you like the attorneys to justify or explain?

Justices also prepare by reviewing the relevant portions of the U.S. Constitution and previous court decisions. Which cases could be applied to this case? Remember, you must consider these precedents but you are not bound by them.

If you are working as a Court, decide which team member will serve as Chief Justice, and whether there are any specific questions you will want to ask the litigants.

CRFC

Adapted by Constitutional Rights Foundation Chicago from: *The Drug Question: The Constitution and Public Policy*. Copyright © 1990, 1991, Constitutional Rights Foundation.