

WITNESS TESTIMONY—SAMPLE RESPONSE

Students will construct the argument based on their familiarity with the movie. Use this page to guide students' thinking and remind them of what happened in the clip.

Argument	Line of Questioning	Reason
Building the argument: What questions did Elle ask?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “What had you done earlier that day?” • Elle confirmed what the witness did that day. • “Have you ever gotten a perm before?” • “How many would you say?” 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elle was nervous at first and was not sure where to start. • Elle wanted to test the witness’s story to see if it would change. • Elle noticed a hole in the witness’s story and began to lead the witness to admit it.
Tracy and the perm: What was the importance of the story?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elle tells the story about Tracy and the perm she got right before the wet T-shirt contest. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elle started to share how she personally knew that someone could not take a shower after getting a perm.
Objection: Why did the other attorney object?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The attorney objected on the grounds of relevance. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elle’s story was not necessary. The case is not about explaining what Elle knows, it’s about hearing what the witness has to say.
Conclusion of the argument: How did Elle end her argument?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Why were Tracy’s curls ruined?” • Elle confirms how many perms the witness has gotten in her life. • “And since your curls are intact, wouldn’t that mean you weren’t in the shower?” 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elle asks the witness to share her knowledge on perm maintenance. • Elle builds the witness’s credibility by having her tell the court how many perms she has had. • Elle has led the witness to admit that she knows why her story does not make sense.