

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
<p>Building the argument: What questions did Elle ask?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “What had you done earlier that day?” • Elle confirmed what Chutney did that day. • “Ms. Windham, 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 Chutney’s story to see if it would change. • Elle noticed a hole in Chutney’s story and began to lead Chutney to admit it.
<p>Tracy and the perm: What was the importance of the story?</p>	<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 you could not take a shower after getting a perm.
<p>Objection: Why did the other attorney object?</p>	<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.
<p>Conclusion of the argument: How did Elle end her argument?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Why were Tracy’s curls ruined?” • Elle Confirms how many perms Chutney 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 Chutney to share her knowledge on perm maintenance. • Elle builds Chutney’s credibility by having her tell the court how many perms she has had. • Elle has led Chutney to admit that she knows why her story does not make sense.