



COURT HOUSE

2022-2023

CPP MOCK TRIAL TRY OUT PACKET

**HELLO! WE ARE SO EXCITED THAT
YOU'VE DECIDED TO TRY OUT FOR
OUR MOCK TRIAL TEAM!**

Your try out will be about 15 minutes long. You will perform in front of our 3 E-board members and 4 coaches.

You must complete **all 3 components** of each try out. If you plan on trying out for both an attorney & a witness role this will require 2 separate try outs so make sure you sign up for 2 time slots.



GETTING READY FOR YOUR TRY OUT

First sign up for a try out by filling out the google form using this link

<http://www.cppmocktrial.com/tryout>

Your try out will consist of 3 parts:

- **Attorney Try Out:**
 - 1) Opening Statement
 - 2) Direct Examination
 - 3) Cross Examination of one witness
- **Witness Try Out:**
 - 1) A monologue of your choosing
 - 2) Be direct examined as a witness
 - 3) Be cross examined as a witness

more information on each of these components will be listed below.

TRY OUT TIPS

- Be confident! Even if you forget something don't worry about it we want to see how well you perform and present.
- Be creative! A big part of mock trial is character and performance. That's what makes you stand out so show us what you can do!

Attorney Try Out Requirements

1. OPENING STATEMENT

Below is a fact pattern for the State of Bronconia v. Demitri Lenin using this and the affidavits you will write an opening statement. You can choose prosecution or defense. The opening statement should be 4-5 minutes long.

2. DIRECT EXAMINATION

You will choose one of the 4 witnesses and perform a direct examination. One of our judges will play your witness. The purpose of a direct examination is to tell a story and use questions to bring out facts that help your case. For examples of what a direct looks like check out of website for videos. The examination should be around 5 minutes long.

3. CROSS EXAMINATION

You will choose one of the 4 witnesses and perform a cross examination. One of our judges will play your witness. The purpose of a cross examination is to bring out facts from an opposing side's witness. Cross examinations are usually made up of entirely leading questions. You can choose whether or not you'd like to cross examine from the prosecution or defense. This should be around 5 minutes long. Examples of this are also on our website.

Witness Try Out Requirements

1. MONOLOGUE

You can pick a 3-5 minute monologue of your choice to perform. This can be From any genre. Here we are looking at your ability to act, show emotion, stay in character, and creativity. Do your best to make it your own and show us what you can do!

2. DIRECT EXAMINATION

You will choose one of the 4 witnesses to play from the witness statements below. One of our members will then perform a direct examination. Here the goal is to tell a story. The attorney will be bringing out facts that will help his/her case. Your job as the witness is to Answer questions based on the information you studied and be credible and interesting.

3. CROSS EXAMINATION

You will choose one of the 4 witnesses to play from the witness statements below. One of our members will then cross examine you. During cross examination, the opposing party will try to bring out information that may undermine your witness' purpose or damage the opposing side's case. You will be judged on your ability to (A) respond to tough questions, (B) stay in character (including accents), and (C) remain credible.

Fact Pattern

STATE OF BRONCONIA V. LENIN

There has been a burglary in the Mock Trial headquarters of Stefan Bartholomew's apartment. Stefan returned to their apartment in the University Shire after a long day of classes on Thursday, March 14, 2019. It was around 7:15 p.m. when they reached their apartment. As Stefan walked up the stairs to the apartment on the second floor, they noticed that the door was slightly ajar. Stefan had one other roommate, Dimitri Lenin, a very responsible international student from Russia. Sensing that there was something wrong, Stefan decided to call the University Police before entering their apartment. Around 7:20, Officer Venice Valencia arrived to the building. After being informed by Stefan of the situation, they entered the apartment with their standard-issue firearm drawn.

At first glance, everything seemed normal, with no visible signs of forced entry and no mess in the apartment. After clearing the living room/kitchen area, Officer Valencia proceeded down the hall toward the bedrooms. They heard what sounded like a window opening from the bedroom at the end. They rushed into the bedroom shouting "Freeze", but discovered an empty room with an open window. Looking out from the window, Officer Valencia saw a strange figure in a black sweatshirt and black pants running on the ground with a large poster bag that had "Staples" on it. The figure looked back for a second, and then jumped into a waiting white Toyota Camry, and was gone.

After clearing the rest of the apartment, Officer Valencia informed Stefan of what had just occurred and requested backup. Stefan's eyes went wide and they screamed, "NO! NOT THE RISK-O-METER!" and ran into the apartment. They came out with tears in their eyes as they explained to the officer that the demonstrative for their Mock Trial team's expert witness was what the thief had stolen.

By this time it was about 7:30, and Officer Jillian Harris had arrived on the scene. Officer Harris began to look for any witnesses who they could talk to. A person from the crowd introduced themselves as Keenan Baggins and informed Officer Harris of a conversation they had overheard. They worked as a receptionist for the front office of the University Shire, and recalled that earlier that day two people were at reception arguing heatedly in Russian. Keenan had picked up some Russian online and was able to hear one say, "Need that thing as soon as possible, these kids have no idea what they've created." The other replied, "I will do anything for our leader, but you must understand that I am in a difficult place here." They began arguing in more guttural Russian until the first speaker said, "Okay, we will double your fee. Just get it done by tonight", followed by silence from both people.

As Keenan was being interviewed by Officer Harris, around 7:40 Dimitri Lenin arrived at the apartment. Keenan pointed to Lenin and exclaimed, "That's them! That's the person who I heard speaking at the front office of the Shire." Lenin was wearing black pants and a black shirt. Officer Valencia detained Lenin for further questioning. There were no security cameras positioned near Stefan's apartment or in the back of the building where the thief ran.

STEPHAN BARTHOLOMEW

My name is Stefan Bartholomew. I am a fourth-year Political Science major, and have done Mock Trial for two years. This year I was the President of the Mock Trial team. I've always loved law, but I'm not sure what I'm going to do with it yet. I'm also a Lead Student Assistant at the Bronconia State University Police Department. I believe in the concept of justice, which is why I know that it was Dimitri who took the Risk-o-Meter. I met Dimitri Lenin on move-in day at the beginning of the 2018-2019 school year, August 19th. They seemed nice, although I noticed that they always wore black. I remember asking them if they listened to emo music, to which they responded "Code blue. Civilian asking about emo music" and after a pause they said "No, I only listen to classical artist Young Thug". I found that a bit strange, but hey, who am I to judge? Dimitri usually kept to themselves, and I was too busy with school and Mock Trial to pay attention to anything else. After passing our regional competition on the weekend of February 9th, things really started to heat up. I do remember one night the team came over to my apartment to practice after we were kicked out of Building 5. The expert witness Emily, directed by a second-year named Sean Bambi, had a demonstrative poster which we called the "Risk-o-Meter". It was basically the crux of our entire case. They were practicing with it, and I saw Dimitri wander in out of the corner of my eye and stare at what was going on. At the time I just thought they were really impressed, and thought nothing of when Dimitri said "Great Gulag what have we here." On March 14th, 2019 I had a full day of classes. After my last one ended at 7:00, I was able to take the Bronconia Shuttle to the University Shire. As I was walking up the stairs to my apartment around 7:15, I noticed that the door was open. I had heard that people were breaking into apartments in the Shire, so I phoned the University Police. It was actually my supervisor Jillian Harris who picked up. Jillian and I get along really well, and they told me they'd send the best they had, Officer Venice Valencia. Five minutes later, Officer Venice, who I have to admit is known for fearing nothing, arrived on the scene. They strutted into the apartment with their gun drawn. But then they ran out, and told me they saw someone in all black running off with a Staples poster bag! I knew it was the same bag that I kept the Risk-o-Meter in. I ran in and came back out sobbing. Next thing I know, I'm being interviewed when I hear someone from the crowd shout "That's them! That's the person I heard speaking Russian". I looked up and saw Keenan from the Shire's office pointing at Dimitri. Dimitri looked at me, and I just knew they were guilty!

OFFICER VENICE VALENCIA

My name is Venice "Danger" Valencia. My middle name is Danger because I eat bullets for breakfast and nails for supper. I graduated from the School of Hard Knocks in 2009 and completed my police training by just showing up and challenging the police chief to an arm-wrestling battle, which I of course won. I was then assigned to the Bronconian State University's Police Department with the task of catching bad guys and fostering interpersonal relationships with the campus community. My patrol on Thursday evenings includes the BRICK (Bronconian Running In a Cage Kingdom), The Olives which is the dining hall for residents, and the Penthouses. I was at the Penthouses defusing (single-handedly) a major arms deal which was taking place when at 7:15 I got a call from my boss, Officer Jillian Harris, that Stefan Bartholomew was in trouble at the University Shire. I handcuffed the bad guys to a statue of a horse and ran over to the Shire. Once I arrived there, Stefan informed me that they were concerned about their door being open with no one home. Alarm bells started going off in my head. Intruder alert! Intruder alert!! I withdrew my firearm, a standard-issue 9mm Glock 17. I marched up the stairs. I kicked open the door and saw Stefan's kitchen and living room, and made a mental note to remind her to clean in case of inspections. I was making my way down the hall to my right when all of a sudden, I heard the whistle of wind. And I realized, if we're indoors, there's only one place that sound can be coming from... a window. I kicked down the door to the bedroom and yelled, "Freeze!" The bedroom was empty but there was an open window. I looked out and saw a figure in all black, clutching a large poster bag that had "Staples" written on it. The person looked back for a second, but I couldn't get a good glimpse of who it was before they got into a white Toyota Camry that then sped off. I came back out and sadly informed Stefan of what had occurred. I felt completely dejected while I was interviewing Stefan, when all of a sudden someone from the crowd yelled "that's them! That's the person I heard speaking Russian earlier". And there in front of me was the person I'm pretty sure I had seen out of the window! They hadn't even bothered to change out of black clothes! I arrested them and took them to the University Police Department for questioning.

SEAN BAMBI

My name is Sean Bambi. I'm a third year Environmental Biology major here at Bronconian State University. I originally wanted to pursue a B.A. in Political Science, but my parents wouldn't help with tuition unless I received a degree in a STEM field. I've been a member of the Mock Trial team since my freshman year, and was in my second year when my Risk-o-Meter was stolen. For the Mock Trial season one of my roles was to perform the direct examination of Dr. Willoughby Hawkins, our expert witness for the plaintiff played by the talented Emily Johanne-Sanders. Our coaches recommended that we create a visual aid to assist with the direct examination, since expert witnesses could get a little difficult to sit through for a first-time observer. What to do, what to do. Then it hit me- an idea that I call the "Risk-O-Meter". The Risk-O-Meter was a poster with a large red arrow running through it. Spread evenly through the arrow are blankholes, and as Emily would take our jury through the risks associated with Elias, she would move a circular blown-up representation of Elias's phase through each blank hole. It really was a wonderful piece of art. I remember that on February 23rd, we were practising with it at Stefan's place in the University Shire. Stefan's roommate Dmitri was fascinated by it, and was staring at myself and Emily the entire time that we performed our direct examination. Dmitri even came up to me and said "That's such a cool poster, I would kill to have it". That's when I knew we had something good.

To my surprise, the next Tuesday I saw Dmitri in my Organic Chemistry class. I had never seen them before, but maybe I just didn't notice because Dmitri always wore all black. That day we were assigned to the same group for a presentation due on March 14th. Dmitri was really cool to work with though. They did most of the work at group meetings while myself and the others just kind of screwed around. Eventually, the day of March 14th came around. Our class was from 6:30-7:15, and we were slated to go third. Each presentation was about ten minutes or so, so I'd say our group began at 6:50 and ended at 7:00. I know for sure Dmitri was there since they were the one leading the presentation, however, I am not so sure if they were still in the class after we sat back down. They could have been, but I don't remember seeing them when the professor dismissed us at 7:30. If Dmitri really stole our Risk-o-Meter that would be super uncool. Although he did get me to a passing grade in Organic Chemistry so I couldn't be mad at them forever.

INTERVIEW OF DIMITRI LENIN, MARCH 14TH, 2017, 9:48 P.M.

Officer Venice Valencia: Good evening. Please state your name and age for the record.

Dimitri Lenin: My name is Dimitri Lenin, and I am twenty-one years of age.

VV: Dimitri just admit. You did it didn't you?

DL: No I did not.

VV: *whispering* He's not budging.

VV: Okay then Dimitri, if that's even your real name. We just ran your visa, and you're wanted in thirteen countries for espionage. How would you explain that?

DL: I don't think that happened.

VV: *whispering* Dang he's good alright.

VV: Okay you may be right about that. Let's start from the beginning. When did you first arrive in the United States?

DL: After waiting for a year in Russia, I finally got my student visa to study Mechanical Engineering here at the Bronconian State University. I am very grateful to the country for giving me this opportunity.

VV: Now Dimitri, it's true that you submitted a paper to your Thermal Fluids Engineering Class about risk management correct?

DL: Well yes, that's true. What does this have to do with anything.

VV: Now hold your horses there Billy Ray. In this paper you talked about a lack of risk management in major developed countries with the way they heat their water supply correct?

DL: Yes that's true. It's a major concern.

VV: You say specifically, "If someone was to find a catch-all system for evaluating risk, this person would become rich beyond their wildest dreams" right?

DL: Yes I said that.

VV: What did you mean by that?

DL: Well I just, you know... it would be a very lucrative field, that's all I meant.

VV: Is this a field you want to go in?

DL: Not particularly, no. I'd like to work for an AI startup that specialized with robots.

VV: Now Dimitri, where were you at 7:15 today?

DL: I was in class, I have class until 7:30 on Thursdays.

VV: Can anyone prove that?

DL: Yes, I was presenting on a group project. My group partners included Chris Gill, Sean Bambi, John Cooper, and Miguel Linguini.

VV: We'll be checking in with them Dimitri, we'll be checking in indeed. For now, you are free to go.

DL: Thank you.