

Name \_\_\_\_\_



## Colonial Courtroom

**Directions:** Read the scenario below. Then, prepare your arguments and participate in your class's mock colonial trial or town meeting.

**Scenario:** In the colony of Massachusetts Bay, strict community rules help keep order. A farmer named Robert Hayes has been accused of refusing to attend Sunday church services for several weeks. Church attendance is required by colonial law. The town has gathered to decide whether Robert broke the law and what his punishment should be, if any.

**Choose a Role** - Circle one:

- Judge (town magistrate)
- Accused Colonist (Robert Hayes)
- Witness for the Accused
- Witness for the Town
- Town Council Member (jury role)
- Recorder (note-taker)

Write 3 key points to present during the trial or meeting:

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

**Courtroom Reflection:** Answer after the reenactment.

1. What verdict was reached? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Was the punishment fair or unfair? Explain your reasoning in 3-4 sentences.

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