



# Simulated Congressional Hearing Scoring Rubric

In each category, award a whole-number score between 0 and 10.

<b>Opening Statement</b>	(These criteria should only apply to the opening statement.)	<b>Score:</b>
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<b>Opportunities for Growth</b>	<b>Meets Expectations</b>	<b>Exceeds Expectations</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The opening statement addressed all elements of the question.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> All students participated in the presentation of the opening statement.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Students have taken a well-organized and logical approach to their statement, using appropriate and accurate references to the Constitution, scholarly sources, relevant cases, legal opinions, historical documents, and other materials to substantiate their arguments.</li> </ul>		

<b>Evidence</b>	(These criteria should apply to the follow-up portion of the hearings.)	<b>Score:</b>
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<b>Opportunities for Growth</b>	<b>Meets Expectations</b>	<b>Exceeds Expectations</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Students accurately referenced constitutional text, principles, and other relevant primary and secondary sources to support their arguments.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Students have referenced historical events or influential figures to demonstrate a contextual understanding of the question.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Students have provided historical or current-day examples or case studies that illustrate the real-world impact of the Constitution or constitutional principles.</li> </ul>		

<b>Analysis / Understanding</b>	(These criteria should apply to the follow-up portion of the hearings.)	<b>Score:</b>
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<b>Opportunities for Growth</b>	<b>Meets Expectations</b>	<b>Exceeds Expectations</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Students have accurately referenced key judicial decisions, amendments, historical context, or societal movements and have described their impact on the Constitution's meaning and application.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Students have recognized multiple perspectives on constitutional issues, including differing interpretations, dissenting opinions, and alternative arguments by scholars, jurists, or other stakeholders.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Students have identified the potential consequences of various interpretations of governing documents on society, policy, and individual rights.</li> </ul>		



<b>Application</b>	(These criteria should apply to the follow-up portion of the hearings.)	<b>Score:</b>
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<b>Opportunities for Growth</b>	<b>Meets Expectations</b>	<b>Exceeds Expectations</b>
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- Students have accurately addressed how a constitutional issue is currently assessed, including the legal framework, court interpretations, public policies, and prevailing arguments.
- Students analyzed how constitutional provisions and principles can be applied to resolve real-world situations, policies, debates, or contemporary issues.
- Students have demonstrated familiarity with constitutional principles and frameworks from other countries or historical time periods, using these comparative perspectives to enrich their analysis.

<b>Discussion</b>	(These criteria should apply to the follow-up portion of the hearings.)	<b>Score:</b>
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<b>Opportunities for Growth</b>	<b>Meets Expectations</b>	<b>Exceeds Expectations</b>
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- The discussion reflected a balanced level of intellectual engagement, with most students actively participating, generating thoughtful insights, and contributing to a meaningful exchange of ideas.
- In their discussion, students provided logical and well-supported reasoning for their positions, using relevant evidence, constitutional principles, and legal precedents to support their claims.
- Students connected their follow-up discussion to their opening statement, further elaborating on the ideas and arguments presented in their initial remarks.

<b>Total Score</b>	(Sum of scores in all five categories)	<b>Score:</b>
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**Space for Additional Notes Below**