**How Courts Work
Steps in a Trial**

**Evidence**

Answer the following questions after completing the readings:

Vocabulary

***circumstantial****:* evidence or a legal case) pointing indirectly toward someone's guilt but not conclusively proving it.
***implication****:* the conclusion that can be drawn from something, although it is not exactly stated.
***inference:*** a conclusion reached on the basis of evidence and reasoning.

1.  What are the two types of evidence?

1.

2.  What is the difference between the two?

3.  Indicate whether the evidence listed below is direct or circumstantial and why:

* *Leo has filed a civil lawsuit against Fred, claiming that Fred backed into his car in a parking lot, causing substantial damage. In court, Fred admits to being in the parking lot at the same time as Leo, but denies he hit anything, and there were no other witnesses to the incident. Leo presents photos of the parking lot, with a diagram of how the accident occurred, and shows photos of the damage to both vehicles, and points out the red paint transfer from his car to Leo’s bumper.*
* *Three people were arrested for a bank robbery. At their trial, an eyewitness who worked in the bank testifies that she saw the men who were robbing the bank and identifies one of the defendants as one of the robbers*
* *Mark and Bob get into a heated argument, during which Mark declares in front of a room full of people, that he wanted to kill Bob. A week later, Bob is found murdered in his back yard.*
* *A family is suing a toy company because the toy malfunctioned when their son was playing with it and it hurt the child.  The toy and its defecting part are brought into evidence.*
* *a gun store receipt is used as evidence to prove the defendant owned a gun*
* *a gun store receipt is used as evidence to prove the defendant killed someone with that gun*