**How Courts Work**

**STEPS in a Trial**

**Plea Bargaining**

Answer the following questions after completing the readings

Vocabulary:

**Prevalent**: common

**Publicity:** making know throughout the community

**Leniency**: going easy on a person regarding punishment

**Input:** giving one’s opinion

1. How do we define plea bargaining?
2. What amount of criminal cases are resolved by plea bargaining?
3. What are four important reasons why plea bargaining is so popular?

1.

2.

3.

4.

1. Who starts the plea bargaining process?
2. You are a defendant accused of several crimes. What are two conditions under which you may want to plea bargain?

1.

2.

1. Why do some want to make plea bargaining an open (not private) process?