**How Courts Work**

**Steps in a Trial**

**Pre-trial Court Appearances in a Criminal Case**

Answer the following questions after completing the readings

Vocabulary:

**Arraignment**: first appearance in court to hear charges against you  
**No lo contendre:** a latin phrase meaning “I will not fight this?”

1. What is the first step in the prosecution of a misdemeanor?

2. What happens at an arraignment?

3. What happens once a defendant enters a plea of “not guilty?”

4. What happens once a defendant enters a plea of “guilty?

5.  What is the difference between a plea of “no lo contender” and a “guilty” plea?

6. In a felony case, there are a few differences in procedures. What happens in a felony case, that does not happen in a misdemeanor case?

7. What is the purpose of a “pre-trial hearing?”

8. At the pre-trial hearing, What must the government prove

9. At the pre-trial hearing, what must the court find in order to continue the case to to trial?

10. What does the phrase “bound over for trial” mean?