**How Courts Work
Steps in a Trial**

**Presentation of Evidence by the Defense and Rebuttal**

Answer the following questions after completing the readings:

Vocabulary

**self-incrimination:** telling on oneself
***speculate***: suggest
***rebuttal/refute***: prove wrong

1.  The defense has the right to present evidence on their behalf, but why might the defense simply choose not to do this ?

2.  Why doesn't the defendant have to testify against himself or herself?

3.  Is the prosecution allowed to suggest reasons why the defendant won't testify?

4.  If the defendant does not testify, why wouldn't the jury simply assume the defendant is hiding something and is guilty?

5.  If the defendant does testify, does the prosecution have the right to ask questions (cross-examine)?

6.  What can the prosecution do after the defendant takes the stand if they want to try and prove the defendant may be lying?