

**American Bar Association**  
**Grades 7-9: What Juries Should Hear and See**

**Student Handout**

- Questions by Attorneys
  - A leading question is one that suggests an answer.
  - Direct questions allow the witness to tell a story or provide facts in his or her own words on the basis of actual experiences or observations.
  
- Kinds of Evidence
  - Direct evidence usually is that which speaks for itself such as eyewitness accounts, a confession, or a weapon.
  - Circumstantial evidence usually is that which suggests a fact by implication or inference such as the appearance of a scene of a crime or criminal activity. (E.g., seeing someone running away from a store that has a broken window)
  - Irrelevant evidence has nothing to do with the issues in the case.
  - Relevant evidence is evidence that is directly related to the case.
  
- Testimony by Witnesses
  - Firsthand knowledge comes from direct experience. It is something that a witness has directly seen, heard, or experienced related to the case.
  - An opinion is what a person thinks or believes.
  - Hearsay statements are ones in which a witness tells about something that he or she has not experienced directly