Name:

Cross Examination of Witness

Preparation Worksheet

Cross examination is when the attorney questions an opposing witness. The attorney wants to keep their own theory of the case prominent so will try to limit what the witness can answer. During cross, the attorney:

* asks CLOSED ENDED QUESTIONS (only “yes” or “no” answers possible)
* asks for only one new fact per question
* asks questions only for which you know what the answer will be
* does not argue with the witness
* uses 3 strong approach points (three major areas to question)
* includes page and line numbers with questions so you know where to look if you believe the witness has not kept to their previous testimony or their testimony may be false (called “impeaching the witness).

**Witness:**

**Approach Point** **1** (a **strong** area for your side)

List your main questions & themes. Begin with: “Now let’s talk about…”

1.

2.

3.

**Approach Point** **2** (your **weakest** area)

List your main questions & themes. Begin with: “Now let’s talk about…”

1.

2.

3.

**Approach Point** **3** (your **strongest** area)

List your main questions & themes. Begin with: “Now let’s talk about…”

1.

2.

3.