

TITLE: Legal Professions

ESTIMATED TIME: 3.5-5 hours

LESSON OBJECTIVES:

- Students will present details in an oral presentation about a specific legal occupation.
- Students will research and paraphrase information from multiple sources, avoiding plagiarism.
- Students will review and apply simple present sentences and questions in their presentations.

Essential Vocabulary:	Materials Needed:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lawyer • Notary Public • Prerequisite • Plagiarism • Research 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction PowerPoint (ppt.) • Law Jobs • Index Cards 4x6 • Speech Template, Law Professions Handout. Copy for each student and an extra for each group to be turned in to you. • Peer Review for Law Profession Speech Handout. Make one copy for each student.



WARM UP (10-15 minutes):

- Ask students if they have ever received a traffic ticket or any other kind of infraction.
- Ask them if they have ever had to get in touch with an attorney or the court system.
- Ask students for what situations they think they need an attorney. For example, explain that they don't need an attorney for a traffic violation, but they will need one if they get arrested during a traffic stop. They don't need an attorney to fill out immigration forms, but they need one if they have to go to court for immigration issues.
- Encourage students to talk about situations they are familiar with (either ones that happened to them or someone they know) and to use the past tense correctly.



INTRODUCTION (30 minutes):

- Use ppt. to introduce the topic of different types of law professions. Slide #1 is the title of this ppt.
- Go to Slide #2 and talk about when someone might need an attorney. Explain that usually an attorney is not needed for a traffic violation. Drivers can represent themselves and talk to the judge directly. However, if they get arrested during a traffic stop, they may need a lawyer to talk on their behalf at court.
- Use Slide #3 to bring up the question, how they can find an attorney when they need one.
- Often students from other countries don't know the appropriate terminology for attorneys and lawyers. Even in other English speaking countries, they use terms that have different meanings in US. For example, UK uses barristers and solicitors, and advocates are a higher form of attorneys in South Africa. Use slide #4 to explain what is an attorney in US.
- This lack of knowledge can lead to the immigrants being taken advantage of by those who pose as a legal attorney. Use slide #5 and the link to go to the State Bar of California to show



INTRODUCTION (30 minutes):

students how they can check on an attorney's records and also how they can find whether an attorney is in good standing if they need one. Click on the link and

- Click on Need Legal Help. You will get this page and go through the information with your students.



INTRODUCTION (30 minutes):

The screenshot shows the website for The State Bar of California. The main heading is "Need Legal Help?". Below this, there is a "Free Legal Help" button and a "Lawyer Referral Service" button. The text on the page states: "Legal problems can sometimes be hard to solve. Whether it involves your business or your family, the right lawyer can help you. The State Bar can point you in the right direction, whether you are looking for a lawyer who can represent you for free or just looking for a lawyer practicing in a particular field." It also includes a section titled "Free legal help" which says: "If you can't afford a lawyer, you may be eligible for free or low-cost legal services. Legal aid groups across California get grants from the State Bar to help people who are low-income. Their clients include people with a disabilities, seniors and those facing homelessness."

- The last slide of the ppt., Slide #6, explains that there are many different professions in law. It lists 14 professions.
- Ask the students if they know what research is. Let students know that they are going to learn how to do research and that they are going to use this list for their research.
- In the Guided Practice of this lesson, you will use 'notary public' to teach how to do a search on the internet.
- The other 13 jobs will be used by students in the Communicative Practice to do their own search.



PRESENTATION (45 minutes):

- Since this is a research lesson, do the presentation as a search for students, so they can learn by watching and following what you do.
- Project the computer monitor on the screen for all students to see.
- Explain that you are going to get them ready to do a search on one of the jobs they just saw on your list, but first, you are going to teach them about plagiarism.
- Ask students if they have ever heard the word or know what it means.
- Citing is when the writer/speaker gives credit to where they found the information. When they search on the internet, they need to do 5 things to make sure they are citing correctly.



PRESENTATION (45 minutes):

They need to take down and give 1) the name of the author, 2) the name of the article, 3) the name of the publication, 4) the date it was published, and 5) the URL.

- To practice finding the information, explain to the students that you want to find: 1) job duties of a court artist, 2) education and training, including prerequisites and 3) salary.
- At this point, it's a good idea to discuss what prerequisite means and why it is important to pay attention to it. I had a vocational program come to my class and announce their curriculum to my students. Many students got very excited to study it or tell their relatives about it. At the very end, they mentioned that HS diploma or GED was a prerequisite. Students not only were disappointed, a few were angry and complained that the presentation only wasted their time. So, before they pursue the occupation, they need to know what is required to get into the program.
- Open a search engine, such as Google. I like to use Google because it is very popular and because of the way it works using sentences instead of words in quotation marks.
- Type in the word 'court artist' and hit enter.

The screenshot shows a Google search for 'court artist'. The search results include:

- Courtroom sketch - Wikipedia**: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Courtroom_sketch. Jump to **Notable American courtroom artists** - Notable American courtroom artists include Howard Brodie, Ruben O. Lopez, Marguerite Martyn, Bill Robles, Aggie Whelan Kenny, Elizabeth Williams, Christine Cornell (WNBC and CNN), Marilyn Church (The New York Times), Richard Tomlinson (WNEW-TV), and ... [Creating courtroom ... - In the United States](#)
- People also ask**:
 - What was a court artist?
 - How much money does a court artist make?
 - How much does a sketch artist make a year?
 - How do you become a sketch artist for the police?
- Courtartist - Supreme Court and Other Courtroom Sketches by ...**: courtartist.com/. Supreme Court and Other Courtroom Sketches by Courtartist.
- Courtroom Sketch Artist | Careers | Salary | TheArtCareerProject.com**: <https://www.theartcareerproject.com/careers/courtroom-sketch-artist>. Courtroom sketch artists are individuals who record and report trials using visual art creations. While many trials allow cameras to be present in the courtroom, judges can ban their use in trials which require discretion. The depictions of courtroom events and emotions are utilized by the media to inform the public in areas ...
- Taylor Swift's court sketch: A misunderstood art - BBC News**: www.bbc.com/news/world-us-canada-40909553. Aug 14, 2017 - Court sketches of Taylor Swift have attracted mockery online - but there's a lot more to the job than just sketching a likeness.
- Courtroom sketch artists: Documenting history where cameras aren't ...**

The taskbar at the bottom shows several open applications: GovernLawIntHigh..., Edit Notes - Micro..., Document1 - Micro..., Intermediate High, court artist - Google..., and Tavantzis, Mara - O...

- You will find several websites that give the information you need. However, you can also find the information on the Google page without going to any other link. You will show students how to use the links in the Guided Practice.



PRESENTATION (45 minutes):

Mini Lesson: Plagiarism

It is essential to teach students about plagiarism. I have often been told by international students that this concept is not an issue (or does not exist) in their cultures. Almost everyone knows about cheating, but plagiarism is very new to many.

- Start by asking the class if they know what cheating is? Almost all students will have some definition of cheating. You can explore a bit and let them know that cheating isn't just copying from someone else but also helping another student by letting them copy from your paper.
- Then, ask them if they know what plagiarism is. Type plagiarism on the Google search engine, and read the description to them.
- Explain that it is against the law to pass someone else's ideas as one's own.
- You can also search for 'How can teachers check for plagiarism?' There will be many articles, i.e. [10 signs of plagiarism every teacher should know](https://www.teachthought.com/pedagogy/10-signs-of-plagiarism-every-teacher-should-know/) (<https://www.teachthought.com/pedagogy/10-signs-of-plagiarism-every-teacher-should-know/>). You can click on it and let the students see the telltale signs of a plagiarized paper.
- You may also come across several programs that teachers in college and high school use to check for plagiarism such as Turnitin.
- Now, search for how to avoid plagiarism. There will be numerous articles and bullet points to make sure that their paper or speech is not plagiarized. For example, paraphrasing, quoting, and citing are common ways of avoiding plagiarism.



GUIDED PRACTICE (20-30 minutes):

- In this lesson, teach your students how to use a search engine to do a search on the internet and how to cite their findings.
- Project the computer monitor on the screen so your students can see what you are doing.
- Explain to the students that you want to find: 1) job duties of a notary public, 2) education and training, and 3) salary. Write these on the board for students to see so that they can keep them in mind as they research.
- Open the search engine and type in the word 'notary public' and hit enter.



GUIDED PRACTICE (20-30 minutes):

The screenshot shows a Google search for 'notary public' in Huntington Beach, CA. The results include a map with three locations: AYS Mobile Notary (no reviews), AIM Mail Center (4.8 stars, 14 reviews), and The UPS Store (4.1 stars, 11 reviews). Below the map, there are search results for 'What is a Notary Public | NNA' and 'Best Notary services in Huntington Beach, CA - Yelp'. The task instruction points to the NNA link.

- You will see several ads for notary publics. Half way through the page you will find the link for National Notary Public. It may say ‘What is a Notary Public’. Click on it and show students the first page.



GUIDED PRACTICE (20-30 minutes):

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL <https://www.nationalnotary.org/knowledge-center/about-notaries>. The page features the National Notary Association logo and a navigation menu with options like 'Become a NOTARY', 'Renew as a NOTARY', 'Signing AGENT', 'Supplies', 'Insurance & Bonds', 'Training & Education', and 'Knowledge Center'. The main content area is titled 'What Is a Notary Public?' and includes a sub-section 'Notary 101' with links to 'Why Become a Notary?', 'How to Become a Notary', 'How to Renew Your Notary Commission', 'How to Become a Signing Agent', 'What is Notarization', 'Being a Public Official', 'Stamp/Seal Information', 'Notary Forms', 'Notary History', 'Notaries and Notarios', 'Glossary of Terms', and 'Notary Links'. The article text explains that a Notary Public is an official of integrity appointed by state government, typically by the secretary of state, to serve the public as an impartial witness in performing a variety of official fraud-deterrent acts related to the signing of important documents. It also discusses the importance of impartiality and the proper execution of life-changing documents.

- The first page explains the role and importance of a notary. Go through the page and take notes about the information you are looking for. You can ask a student to be the note-taker and write the information as a list on the board for everyone to see.
- On the left side of that page, you can see other links within the site. Click on the second link, 'How to become a notary'.



GUIDED PRACTICE (20-30 minutes):

The screenshot shows the National Notary Association website. The main heading is "How to Become a Notary Public". Below the heading, it states: "While procedures differ from state to state, the general steps to become a Notary are:" followed by a numbered list of 10 steps. The steps are: 1. Make sure you meet all of your state's qualifications. 2. Complete and submit an application. 3. Pay the state's filing fee. 4. Get training from an approved education vendor (if applicable). 5. Pass a state-administered exam (if applicable). 6. Complete fingerprinting and background check (if applicable). 7. Receive your commission certificate from the state. 8. Get your surety bond (if applicable). 9. File your commission paperwork (and bond) with your Notary regulating official. 10. Buy your Notary supplies. Below the list is a section titled "Step-by-Step Instructions" which contains a text prompt: "Select a state to view the step-by-step instructions to begin your Notary commission." and a dropdown menu labeled "Select a State".

- In the middle of this page, you can enter your state and it will give you step-by-step instructions on how to become a notary public in your state. Type California and click to show students the results.



GUIDED PRACTICE (20-30 minutes):

The screenshot shows the website <https://www.nationalnotary.org/california>. The page is titled "How to Become a Notary Public in California". The navigation bar includes links for "Become a NOTARY", "Renew as a NOTARY", "Signing AGENT", "Supplies", "Insurance & Bonds", "Training & Education", and "Knowledge Center". The main content area has a sidebar with links to "Become a California Notary", "Notary Renewal in California", "California Notary Supplies", "California Notary Insurance & Bonds", "California Training", and "Signing Agent". The main text explains the process of becoming a Notary Public in California and provides a "START YOUR NOTARY CAREER NOW" button. Below this, it lists requirements and who can become a Notary, including the requirement to be a legal resident of the State of California.

- This page explains the requirements and the process of becoming a notary public in California.
- To find the salary, go back on Google do a search on 'How much does a notary public make in California?'



GUIDED PRACTICE (20-30 minutes):

Google search results for "how much does a notary public make in california".

Search results include:

- According to PayScale data, an average public notary in America makes a yearly salary of **\$31,180 – \$60,519**/year. The pay differs according to the kind of public notaries, such as: Paralegal. Administrative Assistant. Feb 29, 2016
- [Why Becoming a Notary in California is a Viable Career Choice](https://notaryclassonline.com/blog/becoming-a-notary-is-a-viable-career)

People also ask:

- Do notary publics make good money?
- How much does it cost to become a notary public in California?
- What is a notary public salary?
- How do you become a notary public in California?

Task instruction: Under 'People also ask', click on 'Do notary publics make good money?'



GUIDED PRACTICE (20-30 minutes):

Google search results for "how much does a notary public make in california".

Search results snippet: According to PayScale data, an average public notary in America makes a yearly salary of **\$31,180 – \$60,519**/year. The pay differs according to the kind of public notaries, such as: Paralegal, Administrative Assistant. Feb 29, 2016

Why Becoming a Notary in California is a Viable Career Choice
<https://notaryclassonline.com/blog/becoming-a-notary-is-a-viable-career>

People also ask

Do notary publics make good money?

Make great money, start part time, have the potential to grow your income to a six-figure business, all without requiring a college degree. In conclusion a part-time **notary making \$100** a file makes roughly \$2,200 a month and a full-time signing agent that makes \$100 dollars a file makes \$6,500 a month. Feb 6, 2018

How Much a Notary Public Loan Signing Agent Can Make Per Month ...
<https://www.loansigningsystem.com/.../how-much-a-notary-public-loan-signing-agent-c...>

Search for: Do notary publics make good money?

How much does it cost to become a notary public in California? ▾

What is a notary public salary? ▾

How do you become a notary public in California? ▾

What is the average salary for a notary public? ▾

What are the charges for notary? ▾

22 Ways To Make Money As A Notary | NNA
<https://www.nationalnotary.org/notary-bulletin/.../22-ways-make-money-as-notary>

- A little bit further down on that page, there is link to quora.com, ‘How much can a California notary make? - Quora’. Click on that.



GUIDED PRACTICE (20-30 minutes):

[RSCCD Remote Access Po...](#)
[Final Lesson - Google Dri...](#)
[How much can a Californ...](#)

<https://www.quora.com/How-much-can-a-California-notary-make>

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Online business with Shopify. No hassle, just start selling.
 Shopify has all that you need. Trusted by over 500,000 businesses. Start your 14-day free trial today!
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8 Answers

Jerry Lucas, Colorado Springs Notary, Colorado Notary Training instructor
 Answered Sep 19, 2016 · Author has 1.7k answers and 628.7k answer views

California recently raised the maximum allowed notary fee from \$10 to \$15, effective Jan 1, 2017.

If you start a notary business, your income will depend on your marketing and networking skills, the size of your market, and the local competition. In other words, business volume and your captured market share of the total volume.

If you are an expert notary, but weak in marketing skills, you will not do as well as an average notary with expert marketing skills. To build a notary business, you need a good business plan and marketing plan. Since many people search for a notary on the internet, a good website and strong Search Engine Optimization (SEO) skills are important.

A good business model generates recurring revenue from repeat customers, and is scalable. So, money spent to acquire a new long-term customer is returned

Still have a question? Ask your own!
 [Ask](#)

Related Questions
[How difficult is the notary exam in California?](#)
[Can a felon become a notary in California?](#)
[What is a notary income?](#)
[How much does a Louisiana notary make?](#)
[How much do teachers make in California?](#)
[What does a mobile notary charge in California?](#)
[How much money can a teacher make in California?](#)
[How much does it cost to do a notarial power of attorney in Yokohama for a non-resident in Japan? Where can I find a notarial office in Yokoha...](#)
[Is it better to be a lawyer or a notary?](#)
[Is notary required?](#)
[+ Ask New Question](#)

GovernmentLawIntHigh... Edit Notes - Micro... Document1 - Micro... Intermediate High How much can a Ca... Tavantzis, Mara - O... 2:25 PM

After gathering all the information, review your findings with the class and cite the websites you used to compile all the information about notary publics.



COMMUNICATIVE PRACTICE (50-60 minutes):

- In this section, you will need to either have students use computers, laptops, iPads, their phone, etc. to do the research, or if none of that is available to you, they will need to do this outside of the classroom.
- Students will need to work in groups of 3-4 to do research on a chosen job or assigned job.
- If you choose, you can print out and cut out the document, Law Jobs, and put in an envelope or bag for students to pick.
- If you have a small group, each student can pick a job. For larger groups, you can put them in pairs or groups of three.
- Each group is going to search for:
 - Job description
 - Job duties
 - Training/Education needed, including prerequisites
 - Location of job
 - Salary



COMMUNICATIVE PRACTICE (50-60 minutes):

- They may want to delegate and each students would be responsible for a part of this research.
- Remind them to cite the sources from where they find their information.
- After finding all the information, students will get together and share their findings.
- Give the students the Speech Template and ask them to prepare for their presentation.
- Each group will decide which member is going to do each part of the presentation. If these are individual presentations, then each student will have to do all parts of the presentation by themselves.
- Encourage students to write the script of their speech and practice and time each other. Set a time limit per group so you won't have one group speaking for 20 minutes and another for 3. Typically, this speech should not take more than 4-5 minutes.
- Remind them that they should speak their speech and not read it, so encourage them not to use their scripts, but they can use note cards with only a few key words written to remind themselves of what they want to say.

Teacher Tip: If you are in a location that has a computer lab or library, try to make arrangements and take the students there to do their research. A librarian can also help the students find their information so they can also learn how to do research in a library.



APPLICATION (40-50 minutes, 1-2 minutes per student):

- Distribute the Peer Review Example copies to students and go over it with them. Make sure that they understand all the questions and what they need to do.
- Explain to them that they will need to fill out one of these for their assigned speaker.
- Assign one speaker to each student. Assign a speaker from a different group, so they can focus on their own tasks when they are giving their reports.
- Each group will stand in front of the class together and members will take turns to give their part of the speech.
- At the end of the speeches, collect these from the students and use them to evaluate their listening and analytical skills.

Teacher Tip: This is meant to be used as one of the evaluations for the students' listening and analytical skills. However, if you want, you can share them with the speakers to improve their speeches.



EVALUATION:

- Students are evaluated indirectly during the Communicative Practice. If they are able to find the information and cite the sources correctly, they have passed the research part.
- In addition, students are evaluated in two ways during the application. First, they are evaluated doing their presentation. Second, they are evaluated by filling out the peer evaluations while they are listening to their classmate's speech.
- You can compile these paragraphs and make a class set.



EXTENSION (60 minutes):

- If you have higher-level students, you can ask them to write a paragraph summarizing what they have learned from listening to their specific presenter. Later the two students (the presenter and listener) can get together and discuss their experiences (both making the presentation and listening to the presentation).
- Another extension for the higher-level students can be to ask students to write a short paragraph explaining what they have learned doing the research and presenting. Remind them to cite their sources.
- Another possibility would be to create a Newsletter listing the 14 professions and the answers to the research questions:
 - Job description
 - Job duties
 - Training/Education needed, including prerequisites
 - Location of job
 - Salary

CORE LESSON COMPONENTS:

BASIC COMMUNICATION:

- Practical exercise in expanding the use of oral language skills beyond survival needs.

COLLEGE/WORKFORCE PREP:

- Apply active listening techniques to take and organize lecture/presentation notes.
- Apply critical thinking, creative thinking and problem solving skills.

DIGITAL PREP:

- Compare digital resources to evaluate appropriateness for educational use.

21ST CENTURY SKILLS

- Critical Thinking Skills
- Collaboration & Leadership
- Agility & adaptability
- Initiative & entrepreneurship
- Oral communication
- Written Communication
- Access & analyze information
- Have & use curiosity & imagination
- Play, passion & purpose beyond the classroom

ONLINE RESOURCES:

- [10 Alternative Careers in the Legal Industry](#)
- [National Notary - California](#)
- [Quora - How Much Can a Notary Public Make?](#)
- [WriteCheck - Ways to Avoid Plagiarism](#)
- [What Is Plagiarism?](#)
- [10 Signs of Plagiarism Every Teacher should Know](#)

ADAPTATIONS:

Multi-level: Put higher-level and lower-level students together to do the search.

High Tech: Have students do the search in class. Students can also prepare slides or a ppt. presentation.

Low Tech: Assign the search to be done outside of classroom as homework.

TEACHER TIPS:

- At SAC, you can get in touch with Yolanda Garcia at the library (714) 564-6717. She is the librarian for the non-credit courses.
- At the SCC Library, you can get in touch with Barbara Sproat at (714) 628-5017.
- If you have students who may need an extra push to participate or stay engaged, try to pair them with their friends or classmates with whom they can get along. This may motivate them to participate more. You can also assign them specific tasks and let students know that their classmates are depending on them. Ultimately, students have to want to learn; however, making the environment comfortable and inviting will help them move in the right direction.