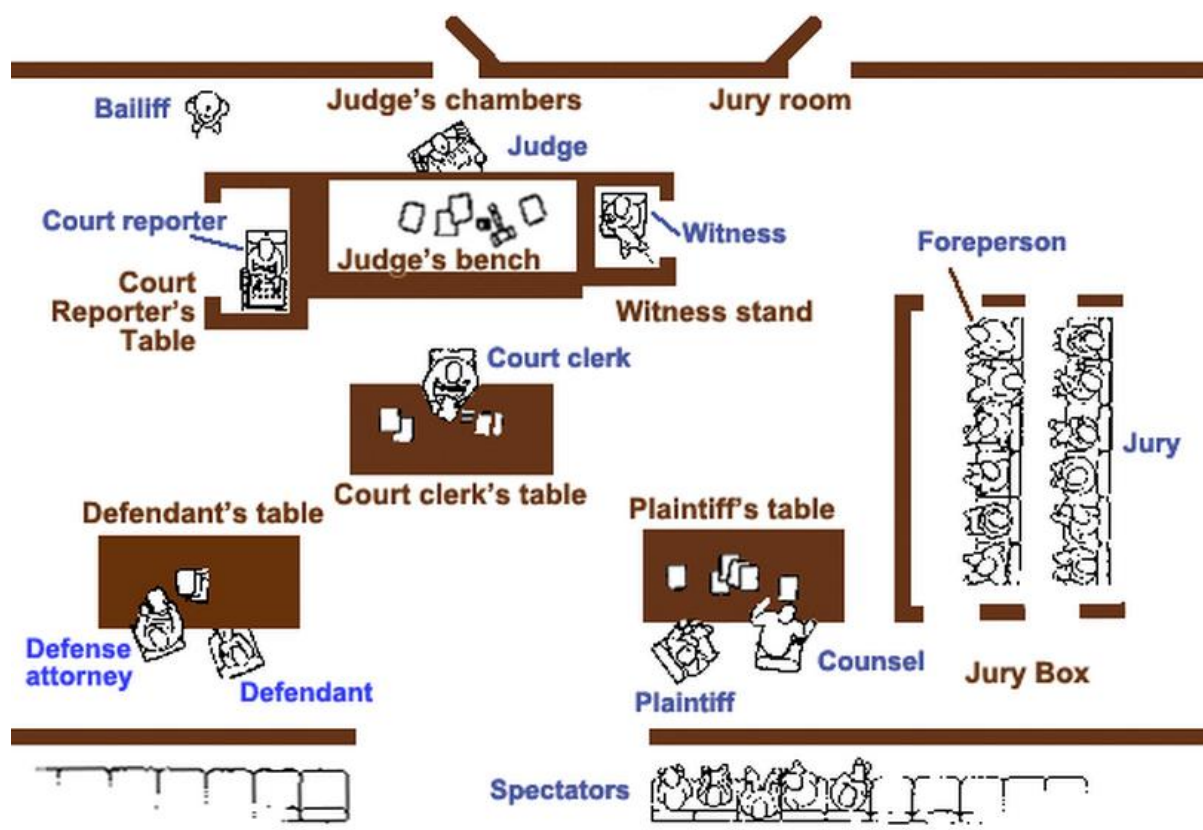


In the Courtroom



Vocabulary

- **bailiff** = person who watches prisoners and keeps law and order in a courtroom
- **capital punishment** = the death penalty
- **closing statement** = last speech that a lawyer makes in front of a jury
- **convict** = to find a defendant guilty of a crime
- **counsel** = lawyer
- **court clerk** = officer appointed to see that documents are kept in order
- **court reporter** = person who writes down what is said in the courtroom, word by word
- **cross examination** = to question a witness of the other side
- **defendant** = person who is accused of a crime
- **district attorney** = lawyer who works for the government and is responsible for bringing people to court
- **evidence** = information that is gathered and used in the case
- **foreperson** = speaker of the jury
- **judge** = government official with the power to decide trials
- **jury selection** = the process of picking the right jury out of a jury pool
- **mistrial** = a trial that has legal mistakes and must be carried out again
- **objection** = when a lawyer interrupts the questioning of a witness because they think the question should not be allowed
- **opening statement** = first speech that a lawyer makes in front of a jury
- **overruled** = the judge disagrees with the objection and allows the question
- **plaintiff** = someone who brings legal action against another person in court; this can be a private person or the state or government
- **plea** = when the defendant says that he/she is guilty or not guilty at the beginning of a trial
- **prosecutor** = a lawyer in court who tries to prove that someone is guilty
- **public defender** = represents defendants who do not have the money for a lawyer
- **sentence** = the punishment ordered by a court
- **sustained** = the judge agrees with an objection and does not allow the question
- **trial** = hearing that takes place in a courtroom
- **verdict** = the decision of a court case that comes from a jury or the judge