

## An individual speaking and listening assignment

You are going to imagine you are a lawyer (barrister) for or against George in court. He is on trial for murdering Lennie. You are going to prepare, and present, a speech to the jury in which you either argue that George is or is not guilty of murder for what he did.

In the next few lessons we are going to revise different techniques for presenting a speech and we will read, watch and listen to some famous speeches.

You may not use a PowerPoint presentation or the IWB – remember you are a lawyer in court.

To start you off, decide whether you think George did the right thing or not in shooting Lennie. Write down a list of reasons why you think he did, or did not, behave in a 'good' way. You can not just say, 'Well he's guilty of murder because he pulled the trigger'; think about George's motives for killing Lennie. Use the book for your evidence – don't just make up a story. You can not, for example, say, 'Ten witnesses saw George shoot Lennie' because this is not true.

If you want to create a challenge for yourself decide which of the statements you believe:

George is guilty of the murder of Lennie.

George is not guilty of the murder of Lennie.

Then, once you have decided, take the opposing view and argue that to the jury!

You are being assessed on your ability to *explain* what happened, in your opinion, in the moments before Lennie's death and *imagine* and *explore* why George took the action he did. You will also need to *persuade* the jury that you are right. Remember that you will need to stay in role as George's lawyer. You can not say, 'In the book it says ...,' you will need to say something like, 'According to my client ...'