

Cinderella on Trial

YOU BE THE JUDGE!

This activity will take approximately two 60 minute classes!

Here's how it works!

1. First, click on and print out the [Cinderella on Trial activity sheets](#) below.

If your class has:	print out:
16 students	4 copies of each sheet
20 students	5 copies of each sheet
24 students	6 copies of each sheet
28 students	7 copies of each sheet
32 students	8 copies of each sheet
36 students	9 copies of each sheet

2. Arrange your class into groups of four. Give each group a copy of each character question sheet. Everyone will also need a pencil. In each group, each student should choose a different number (1, 2, 3, or 4).

3. From the number you chose, you will assume the role listed as follows:

Student 1 is Prince Charming,
Student 2 is Cinderella,
Student 3 is an Ugly Stepsister,
Student 4 is the Fairy Godmother.

4. Now take your character's question sheet.

5. All students should now regroup into expert groups. (all Cinderellas in one group, Prince Charmings in another group, etc.)

6. Read aloud "At the King's Court" to your class.

7. Give the following information to your students"

- In the expert groups, answer the questions on your particular character sheet. You must all agree on and write the same answer to each one of the questions.
- After all of the questions have been answered by all groups, return to your home groups. In your home groups all students take turns at being the prosecuting lawyer.

Whoever is playing the role of Prince Charming will read out loud the questions from the Ugly Stepsister's sheet and the group will listen to and take notes on the answers the Ugly Stepsister gave.

Next the Ugly Stepsister reads the questions for the Fairy Godmother to answer. The Fairy Godmother reads the questions for Cinderella to answer. Finally, Cinderella reads the questions for Prince Charming to answer.

8. Your group now decides from the evidence assembled if Prince Charming and Cinderella are mature enough to get married and if they will regret their decision later on. Discuss your decision and select **one** member of your group to present your group's opinion to the entire class.

After all groups have presented their opinion, have everyone in the class vote to reach a final verdict. Does the class think Prince Charming and Cinderella are mature enough to get married? Yes or no?

AT THE KING'S COURT

Your Majesty the King, your Majesty the Queen and Cinderella's parents!

We are gathered here today to decide if your children are mature enough to marry each other and if they will regret their decision later on in life.

We will discuss the matter in our expert groups and then return to our home groups where we will again consider all the evidence and deliver our verdict.

We will listen to the testimony of four people:

1. *Prince Charming* who is madly in love with Cinderella and is perhaps a little blinded by this passion.
2. *Cinderella* who has just woken from a wonderful dream where she has accepted marriage based on a pair of glass slippers.
3. *The Ugly Stepsisters* who are interested in securing an easy life in the court.
4. *The Fairy Godmother* who meddled in the uncomplicated life of an innocent girl.

PRINCE CHARMING

1. Where did you see Cinderella for the first time?
2. What kind of impression did she make on you at that moment?
3. What was she wearing?
4. Does she know how to speak the language of the court?
5. Is it true that you taught her how to dance during the ball?
6. People have noticed that Cinderella is in the habit of disappearing at midnight. They have no idea where she goes. Do you think that a good hostess should abandon her guests in such a manner?
7. Does Cinderella know the usages and customs of the court? If not will she one day?
8. Cinderella's socio-economic background is so different from yours. Do you think that this marriage will be successful?
9. What do the ladies of the court think about your relationship?
10. Have you the consent of your father the king and your mother the queen to this marriage? How do they feel?

CINDERELLA

1. How old are you?
2. Did you receive a good education? Please explain.
3. What did you do at the house? Were you satisfied?
4. Do you have dreams? Are they realistic?
5. We have been told that you suffer from an hallucination where pumpkins are transformed into carriages and mice into coachmen. You have just returned from Vienna where even the great Sigmund Freud was unable to provide a satisfactory solution to this dilemma. Do you have any remarks?
6. After arriving at the ball what attracted you to the prince?
7. What did you talk about when you were together?
8. What are his qualities?
9. How are you going to end the jealousy which you have aroused among the ladies of the court?
10. One day the prince will be king and you will be the queen of the people from whom you have come. What effect will all this power have upon you??

THE UGLY SISTERS

1. Your step sister Cinderella is more beautiful than you. Did this beauty influence your behavior towards her?
2. Did she ever suggest plastic surgery to you? What did you think of such a suggestion?
3. Why did you never allow her to leave the house?
4. What were her duties at the house?
5. Despite this imprisonment, was she still in charge of her mental faculties?
6. Could you tell us about her failings?
7. Does she have good qualities? Please explain.
8. How come you didn't recognize Cinderella at the ball?
9. Do you think that the prince will have regrets if he marries Cinderella? Can you explain why?
10. People are saying that Cinderella intends to find husbands for you at the court. Do you have suspicions about her intentions? Why?

THE FAIRY GODMOTHER

1. Where were you the first time you saw Cinderella?
2. What was she doing?
3. Did she cry a lot? Did she like to feel sorry for herself?
4. She was always thinking about having a good time. Do you think she was selfish?
5. Why did you have recourse to magic to make her feel good? Didn't you realize that this magic could have had serious consequences as far as Cinderella was concerned?
6. Did Cinderella herself know what the results would be?
7. How did she react to the beautiful dress, the carriage and the coachmen?
8. How will she cope surrounded by her new incredible wealth?
9. Was the prince in love with the idea of the glass slippers or with Cinderella?
10. Will Cinderella find a goal in life? Please explain.