*Flexible Agenda for Any Court Shorts Video*

**Court Shorts Videos and Discussion-Starter Questions**

**Distance Learning Generic Agenda**

Use this proposed agenda as it is or modify it for a 50-minute class period.

The facilitator is a teacher or a federal judge. For purposes of this template, the assumption is that the facilitator is a federal judge and the program is in the distance-learning environment. However, this program also is effective in person. The session starts with the judge introducing himself/herself: Why I chose the law and what I find challenging and rewarding about being a judge.

After showing one of the Court Shorts videos, the judge selects one of the Discussion-Starter Questions to open up a conversation that stimulates critical thinking in the students, teachers, or adult learners who are the participants.

The judge uses the discussion starter questions to encourage participants to share their thoughts and opinions. Their responses are a springboard for the judge to listen and respond to the issues and questions raised by the participants. The judge identifies teachable moments in the comments and develops those concepts.

At the end of the session, the teacher can assign a discussion starter question as a writing assignment after the class.

**Proposed Format for 50-Minute Distance-Learning Program**

*(5 min.)* The judge introduces himself/herself, talks about the court, and sets the stage for the video and discussion.

*(5 min.)*  Shows the Court Shorts video.

*(10 min.)* Participants work together in small groups organized by the teacher to develop a list of questions arising from the video.

*(15 min.)* Judge opens the floor by asking a discussion-starter question.

When a student responds, the judge builds on the comment to teach about the point or topic raised by that student.

*(10 min.)* Judge opens the floor to any question, topic, issue.

*(5 min.)* Teacher wraps up.