

# Two Historical Trials

## English Effective Communication

### PROCEDURE

Divide the class into pairs. Give each student a copy of either the A or B reading sheets. The students read the short articles silently by themselves and use a dictionary or consult the teacher if they don't understand a word or phrase. After the students have read and understood the articles, the teacher takes the articles away. Then student A will communicate what was in A's article to student B, and student B will communicate what was in B's article to A. Then all of the students take a test to see how much information they were able to communicate.

## The Monkey Trial

Have you ever heard of the 'Monkey Trial'? It was a very famous trial between a science teacher and the State of Tennessee.

In 1925, the State of Tennessee passed a law that banned teachers from teaching about evolution in schools. Evolution is a theory where humans and monkeys 'evolved' from common ancestors. Some people were unhappy about this law because they thought it limited free speech.

Tennessee banned teachers from teaching evolution

## The Trial of Galileo

When people think of the debate between religion and science, many people think of the trial of Galileo.

Galileo was a scientist in the 17<sup>th</sup> century who wrote a book about astronomy. Galileo discovered the moons of Jupiter. And he discovered sunspots using a new invention, the telescope. Based on these discoveries, Galileo wrote his new book.

In his book, he defended Copernicus's theories that the earth revolved around the sun. At the time, most scholars

because they believed that god created people. The theory that god created people is called creationism.

In the summer of 1925, a science teacher, John Scopes, decided to challenge this law. He taught evolution in his class and he was arrested. He had to pay a fine.

Some lawyers took the state of Tennessee to court. They claimed that the law limited free speech.

The court ruled in favor of the state of Tennessee. The court said that the government, not teachers, has the right to decide what is taught in schools.

thought that the earth was the center of the universe. But Galileo agreed with Copernicus that the earth revolved around the sun.

In 1633, Pope Urban read Galileo's book and he didn't like it. Galileo was arrested. Galileo was forced to say that what he wrote was not true. As a punishment, he was never allowed to leave his house again.

Galileo's book was banned by the church after that. The ban lasted for about two hundred years. The ban was finally lifted in 1835.

### The Monkey Trial

What was the Scopes trial called?

Who was the trial between?

When did it happen?

What is evolution?

What law did Tennessee pass?

Why were people unhappy?

What is the theory called where God created people?

What did John Scopes do?

### The Trial of Galileo

When did Galileo do his scientific work?

What did he write a book about?

What did Galileo discover?

(1)

(2)

What did he use to make his discoveries?

What did Galileo do based on his discoveries?

Who did Galileo defend in his

Why was he arrested?

What was his penalty?

Who did the court rule in favor of?

Who did the court rule in favor of?

Who did the court say has the right to decide what is taught in school?

book?

What did church scholars believe?

Who didn't like the book?

What happened to Galileo?

What was Galileo forced to do?

What was Galileo's punishment?

What happened to Galileo's book?

When was the ban lifted?