

The Defense

You are Louis Napoleon, Emperor Napoleon III, and his two advisors or lawyers. The prosecution will be making some serious accusations about your reign as emperor, so you should be prepared to defend yourself with the following achievements.

1. You have provided social services for the poor and the unemployed and greatly improved the situation of the disadvantaged in France.
2. You have improved the overall economy of the country and have allowed the middle class to grow in size and prosper.
3. You won early military campaigns and restored the prestige and glory of France by restoring the French Empire.
4. You have been instrumental in the industrialization of France and have helped France become a modern nation.
5. You have restored peace, law, and order after the chaos of the Republican Period.
6. You allied France with Britain and Turkey to prevent Russia from invading Turkey and assured Turkey's freedom in the Crimean War.
7. You were the central figure at the Congress of Paris in 1856 where you were instrumental in writing a peace treaty that settled the Crimean War.
8. You helped other countries gain their independence (Rumania for one) by providing a role model and encouragement for them.
9. You liberalized the Empire in the 1860s and allowed more freedom for the people.
10. You had France build the Suez Canal, which was a great engineering feat and improved worldwide trade from the East (Asia) with Western Europe.

Use the following space to prepare your own notes. Use the biography of Napoleon III and the above points to make your case. You will answer the accusations made by the prosecution, and then you will be given a final opportunity to defend yourself in the closing arguments, in which you will go last. This gives you the opportunity to leave the last impression on the jury.