Writing a Note: The suggestions below are given in the acceptable font and spacing format for this competition (Courier New 12 pt; double spacing; not justified).
See the official competition rules for Font/Spacing details

[TITLE] This, like all the headings in the Note (except for the Introduction and Conclusion), should be creative, catchy, and help guide the reader.

Introduction

Be very brief, and do not be afraid to be a bit creative to grab the reader's attention. For instance, you could start with a quote or an anecdote. You should include a roadmap paragraph at the end of your introduction, which lays out exactly what you will discuss in the three main sections of your Note. The roadmap tells the reader exactly where you are going and what you will argue (i.e. "Part I of this Note examines . . .").

Incidentally, in keeping with the prohibition on outside research, if you decide to use an introductory quote, it must be from one of the UWC sources.

Part I: [Background]

This section provides the necessary background for the reader to understand your Note (i.e. key terms & definitions, the area of law involved, etc.). Any information you will need for your analysis in Part II should appear in Part I. Use ONLY the competition materials provided for the UWC. This section should be written in a neutral fashion.

Part II: [Conflict]

In this section, you should describe, explain, and analyze the specific conflict that your Note seeks to resolve. Using only the competition materials, you will fully describe all sides to the issue. Do not assume your reader is already familiar with the conflict. This section should also be written in a neutral manner. Only the main issues and arguments should be in the text, everything else should be in the endnotes.

Part III: [Resolution]

This section presents your argument, and should either take a side discussed in Part II or propose a resolution of your own invention. No new material should be presented in this section; rather, you should refer back to previous discussions in formulating arguments. Do not be afraid to be creative, but always back up your arguments with competition sources.

Conclusion

This section is optional, and its inclusion may well depend on the page limit. If you include it, be very brief. Tell the reader why your solution is the best one out there, and why its adoption would be important for society.

Other Things to Consider

First, you may consider using subheadings in Parts I-III. They help to organize your Note and show the reader where you're going. Second, you may consider providing very brief roadmap paragraphs or transition sentences at the beginnings and ends of each of your separate parts. "This part discusses…" "The next part provides an analysis of…" While this will be somewhat repetitive of your roadmap paragraph in the Introduction and at the ends or beginnings of the various parts, it guides the reader and shows that you know where you are going with your argument.

Endnotes

Feel free to add information in endnotes that you do not put in the text. The endnotes can act as an extra source of information (in law journal articles, footnotes are often longer than the main text). The endnotes should conform to the 19th edition of the Bluebook. Make sure you check your Bluebooking!

Because you will know nothing about the topic, it will be difficult for Parts I & II of your Note to contain a sentence without an endnote. While Part III could conceivably feature some original thought, if you are taking a side discussed in Part II, this will not be the case. Because you present little or no new information in Part III, your endnotes will contain many "See supra" and "See id." sentences.

All of your peripheral issues should appear in the endnotes. **You should anticipate about 70-80 endnotes.** Make sure you do your endnotes as you go along, because you will not have time to fill in the citations when you are finished writing your Note.

Be Prepared

You are encouraged to look at Student Notes before the competition begins. Reading previously written Notes will help you to familiarize yourself with the Note form and structure, as well as the quality of writing and citations expected of competitors. Past issues of the Fordham journals are located on the second floor of the law library. You may also pick up copies outside any of the journal offices. You should examine more than one Note to get a general sense of structure, style, and citation form.

A Few Final Words

Remember that clarity and concision are your primary virtues. Try to vary your style and phrases. You should be careful not to over-quote from the sources. Rather, you should write in a way that demonstrates to the reader a nuanced understanding of the conflict. Even when paraphrasing from a particular source, try to present that argument using your own language and voice.

Good luck!