

Reader Reaction – Emily Gives Liam a Reader Reaction to His Motion Brief

[Setting: Student Lounge]

- Frame 1: Liam and Emily are seated. Their client letters are sitting on the table between them. Liam, speaking to the audience, says: “Emily and I exchanged motion briefs we’d written for a civil procedure class and read each other’s as though we were the judge who would hear the oral argument. I gave Emily my feedback and now she is about to give me feedback.”
- Frame 2: Emily picks up Liam’s motion brief, points to a section and states: “I knew from the opening paragraph that you wanted an extension of time to file a claim. And it was clear that your client’s excuse for not filing on time is her former lawyer’s negligence.”
- Frame 3: Emily, leaning forward in her chair, shows Liam the motion brief and continues: “What I wasn’t sure about was why she waited so long before hiring another lawyer. Particularly because the precedents you cite all involved plaintiffs who immediately hired new lawyers. So I wondered if there are facts you are avoiding.”
- Frame 4: Emily further elaborates on the motion brief: “Your language was persuasive and balanced – what I mean is you didn’t succumb to the temptation to exaggerate the first lawyer’s negligence.”
- Frame 5: Emily concludes her feedback: “You let the facts speak for themselves and then draw good parallels with the precedents’ facts.”