Things to KNOW About a Case
Before Even Mentioning it to Others:

1. Is this good caselaw?
2. When did the court come out with this decision?
3. What jurisdiction and, within that, what court is this decision from?
4. What is the procedural posture of the case?
5. Who were the parties?
6. What was the outcome of the case? Did the court rule for or against the outcome we want in our case?
7. Is the language you want from the case part of the holding or dicta?
8. Was the issue you want from the case decided on the basis of facts or law?
9. What was the relevant universe of sources to find authorities? / Where did you look?
10. Basic facts of case
Case Checklist

Case:___________________________________________________________

Date:_____________________

Jurisdiction:____________________    Court:________________________

Key Points:  _______________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________

Procedural Posture:_______________________________________________

Parties: ________________________________

1. ____________________________________________

2. ____________________________________________

Outcome:______________________________________________

Relation of Outcome in Case to Desired Outcome: _______________________

Is the Key Part Holding or Dicta: ________________________________

Is the Key Part Judged on Basis of Facts or as Matter of Law:____________

Relevant Universe of Sources: ________________________________

Where did I look: ______________________________________________

Basic Facts: ____________________________________________

________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________