Introductory Exercise
Ryunosuke Akutagawa’s “In a Grove”

Seven witness accounts relating to events in a bamboo grove constitute this short story. For analytical purposes, the accounts have been placed on separate sheets and numbered. Please do the following:

1. Shuffle the sheets in a random fashion so everyone does not read the accounts in the same order.

2. Read all the accounts. Mark up the pages if you wish.

3. As you read each account, cluster evidence in the appropriate slots on the large sheet distributed with the accounts. Use words and short phrases, not long quotes, followed by the account number in parentheses. For example,

   rapist wore blue silk kimono (5)

   could be entered in the column under “What happened/In.”

4. When you have clustered the evidence, highlight problematical (contradictory, suspect, etc.) evidence in the accounts.