

What the evidence shows

After watching, find the gap between what someone reports and what the jury concludes.

Name _____ Date _____

01 Give each statement a label

An **observation** is something seen or heard. A **claim** asks us to accept a statement; it may report someone's observation. An **inference** draws a conclusion using an assumption.

Circle **O** for an event we see in the jury room, **C** for a reported claim about the case, or **I** for an inference. These are paraphrases, not film dialogue.

- | | |
|--|-------|
| 1. The shopkeeper identified the weapon as matching the knife sold to the defendant. | O C I |
| 2. Therefore, the defendant must have used it in the murder. | O C I |
| 3. Juror 8 produces a similar knife in the jury room. | O C I |

Which word in statement 2 carries the biggest leap? Explain.

02 Start the knife argument

Starting claim — What was the knife meant to establish?

Hidden assumption — What has to be true for that claim to identify the user?

LOOK AGAIN

Point to the step where a connection becomes a conclusion. Be ready to explain the assumption.



What the challenge changes

02 The knife argument continued

Challenge — What does the second knife change?

Limit — What can this demonstration still not tell us?

PARTNER CHECK

Underline a conclusion in your partner's answer. Ask what you would have to assume for it to follow.



03 Trace the eyesight argument

Juror 9 remembers marks on a witness's nose. The jurors infer that she wears glasses and question whether she wore them in bed. Keep each step separate.

Reported observation — What does Juror 9 say he noticed?

Inference — What do the jurors infer about that night?

Missing information — What would help you test that inference?

A doubt can have a weak link

03 The eyesight argument continued

Another explanation — What else could fit the eyesight information? What support would this explanation need?

04 Is confidence doing the work

Choose a moment when prejudice, impatience or personal feeling affects the discussion. Identify the juror and describe an action or paraphrase a statement.

What does this moment contribute to the argument? What can it not establish about the defendant?

Exit ticket

In **40–60 words**, explain the difference between having a reason to doubt an account and proving a different account. Use a film example. End with one question the verdict leaves unanswered.

My example and conclusion

BEFORE YOU FINISH

An alternative explanation is another account that could fit the information. Check that you treat it as a possibility that still needs support.

