

Slip or Trip?

At 5'6" and 110 pounds, Queenie Volupides was a sight to behold and to clasp. When she tore out of the house after a tiff with her husband, Arthur, she went to the country club where there was a party going on.

She left the club shortly before one in the morning and invited a few friends to follow her home and have one more drink. They got to the Volupides house about ten minutes after Queenie, who met them at the door and said, "Something terrible happened. Arthur slipped and fell on the stairs. He was coming down for another drink – he still had the glass in his hand – and I think he's dead. What shall I do?"



The police concluded that Arthur died from a wound on the head and confirmed the fact that he'd been drunk.

Can we believe what Queenie says? Is what you see in the picture consistent with her story? Use the chart to make your case.

Evidence = what you know from the story and picture

Rule = why the evidence is significant

Conclusion = logical inference you make based on the evidence and the rule

Evidence

Rule (Warrant)

Conclusion

(Materials adapted from: Treat, Lawrence. *Crime and Puzzlement 2*. Boston: David R. Godine, Publisher, 1982.)