

The Orujo Trial

(Seley)

Grammar review: Use of gerund or infinitive, verb tenses and active or passive

Role-play: Reenactment of a judicial trial.

News Flash!!! Yesterday the trial of the State vs. Rufo Escoba _____

(begin). As you undoubtedly know, Rufo _____ (accuse) of

_____ (kill) his in-laws the Count and Countess of Orujo. An

estimated 1 million spectators _____ (enjoy /watch) the

trial on TV and _____ (look forward) to _____ (see) the

second day's proceedings.

The first witness for the prosecution was the housekeeper. She

_____ (claim/

remember/ hear) a heated argument between the defendant and his late

father-in-law. According to her testimony, Rufo _____ (insist) on

_____ (participate) in the family businesses and deeply

_____ (resent) _____ (exclude) by his in-laws.

She _____ (claim) _____ (have) trouble _____

(sleep) and to clearly _____ (recall/hear) Rufo leave

his room repeatedly during the night.

The second witness was the valet. He _____ (declare) that Rufo and the

Count never _____ (stop/ fight) and that Rufo once

_____ (threaten/ kill) his father-in-law. He _____ (tell) the

Court that the evening of the crime, Rufo _____

(pretend/ clean) his gun but actually he _____ (load) it. I

_____ (think) about _____ (inform) the Count of Rufo's suspicious behavior, but I later _____ (forget / mention) anything about what I _____ (see.) "I wish I _____ (prevent) Rufo from _____ (commit) this hideous act," he _____ (declare) emotionally.

However, the most sensational witness was Rufo's ex-wife. She _____ (admit) to _____ (have) a lover at the time of the murder and _____ (spend) the entire night away from the home. She says she _____ (decide/ already) _____

(divorce) Rufo because she _____ (can-neg.) stand _____ (live) with him any longer but she _____ (keep) _____ (put off/ inform) Rufo of her decision. She _____ (tell) the jury that although Rufo _____ (appear/ be) laid-back and easy-going, he had an extremely explosive temper, so she was afraid of _____ (excite) him. However, she _____ (think-neg.) he was capable of _____ (commit) murder.

Rufo briefly _____ (take) the stand _____ (deny / kill) his in-laws. Yet, on cross examination, he _____ (refuse/ answer) 69 of the D.A.'s questions. He _____ (testify) to _____ (leave) his bedroom only once on the night of the crime at around mid-night because suddenly _____ (realize) that he _____ (forget / feed) his hunting dogs. He _____ (claim/ love / hunt) but _____ (detest/ see) human blood.

We _____ (continue/learn) more about this fascinating case in the days ahead.