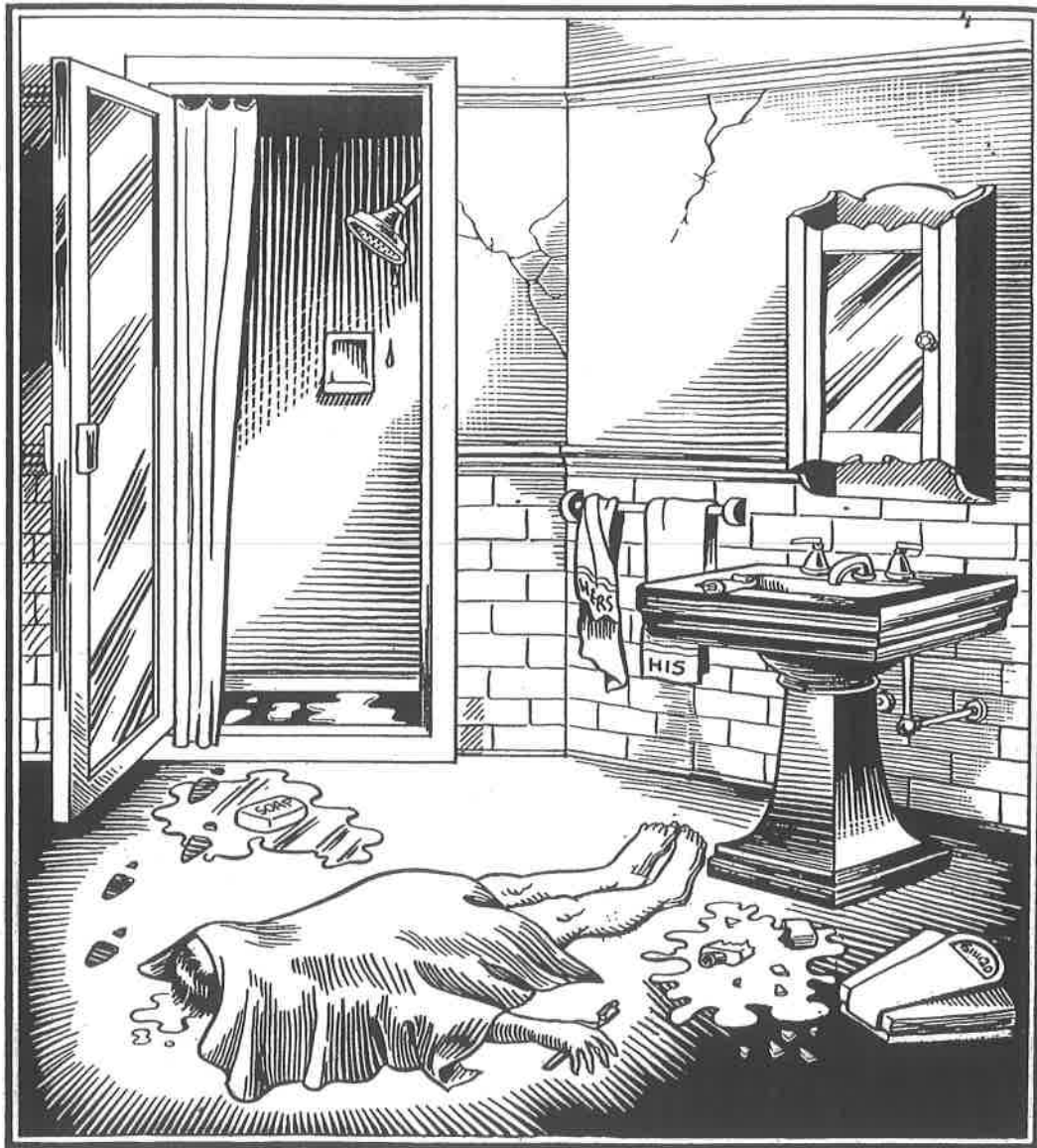


TRAGEDY IN THE BATHROOM



Minnie Verbermockle called the doctor and said, "My husband had a fall and he's lying unconscious on the bathroom floor. I think he must have been taking a shower and slipped on a cake of soap. I did not move him. I threw a blanket over him and called you immediately."

When the doctor arrived, he saw the scene as depicted and pronounced Horace Verbermockle dead as the result of a fracture at the rear of his skull. Can you tell what happened?

Investigation Questions	Yes	No
Had Horace finished brushing his teeth?		
Had the shower been running?		
Had Horace just taken a shower?		
Had Minnie been in the shower?		
Did Horace slip on the soap?		
Had the soap fallen out of the soap holder?		
Did the soap puddle come from either the dripping shower or the washstand?		
Had the bottle been knocked over before Horace allegedly fell?		
Is there a possible murder weapon in the bathroom?		
Has evidence been planted to give a false impression of what happened?		

Solve the Mystery!

Your group is an investigative team that must determine what may have happened to Mr. Verbermockle. You can either agree or disagree with Minnie Verbermockle's account of what happened. With your group, discuss the following:

1. Do you think Mrs. Verbermockle is telling the truth?
2. Find all the evidence that indicates whether or not Mrs. Verbermockle is telling the truth. Make a list of the evidence. Evidence includes concrete, observable information, personal testimony, written documents, and material objects and their condition or appearance.
3. Next, explain how each piece of evidence supports your claim that Mrs. Verbermockle is or is not telling the truth. Each explanation will be a generally accepted rule, which may begin with a phrase such as, "As a rule. . . ." and should be written in third person. If another member of the group disagrees with you, find evidence that will convince him or her.
4. Write the counterclaim to your argument
5. Provide a final statement that discredits the counterclaim.

Claim:	
Evidence	Reasoning
Counterclaim:	
Rebuttal:	