

Figures from Chapter Eleven (Narrative Sensemaking) of
Working with Stories in Your Community or Organization: Participatory Narrative Inquiry
(Third Edition)
by Cynthia F. Kurtz

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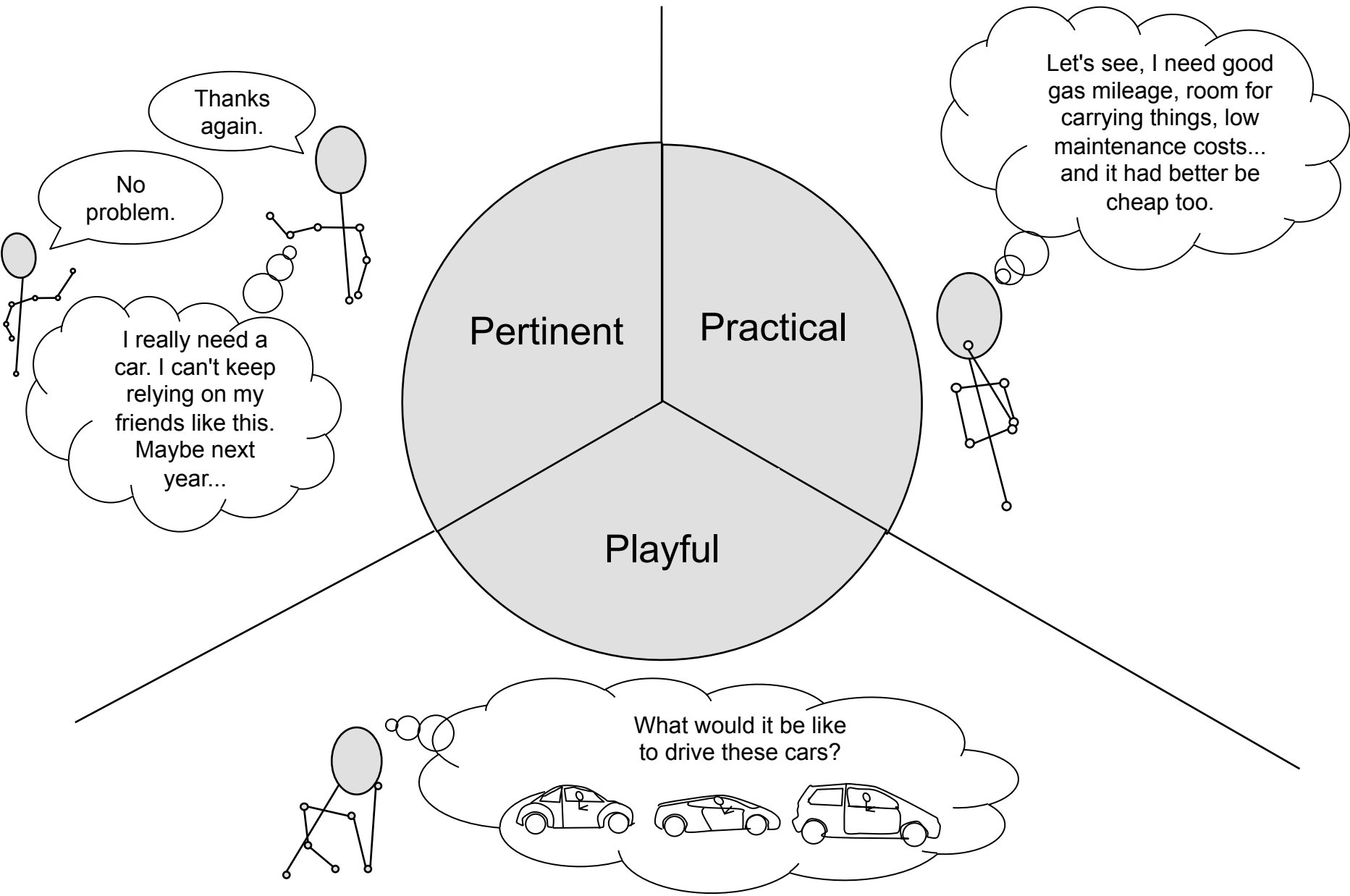
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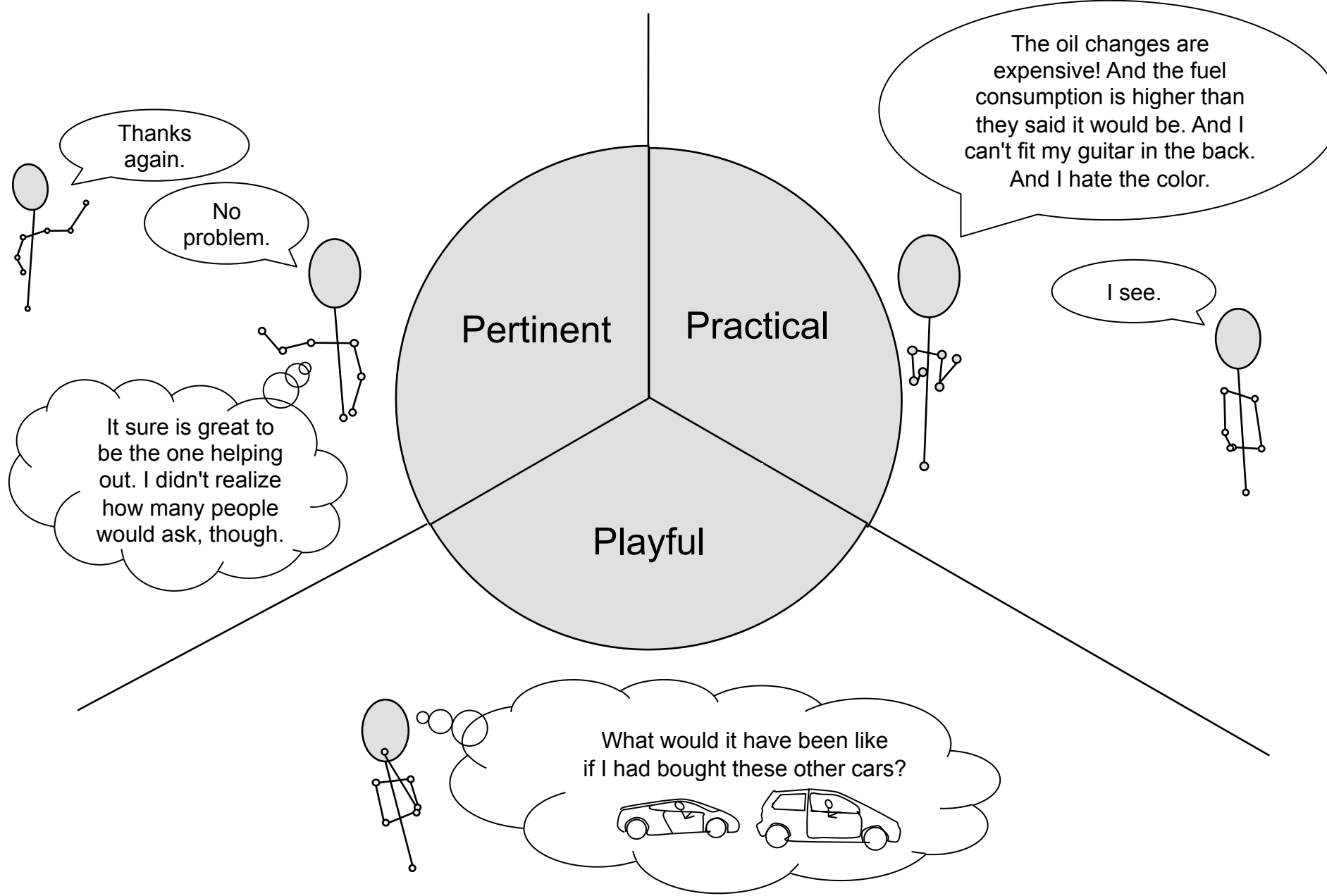
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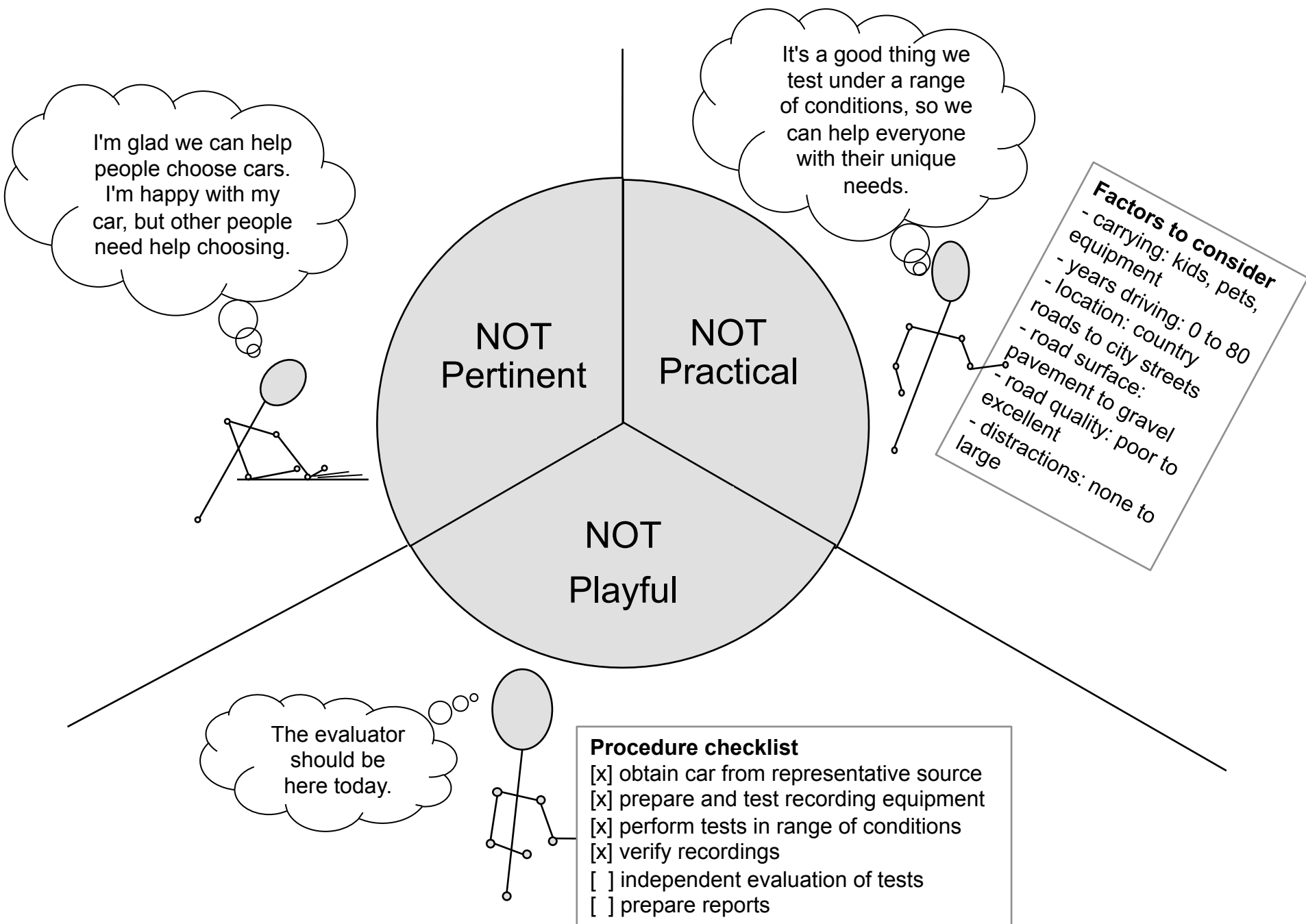
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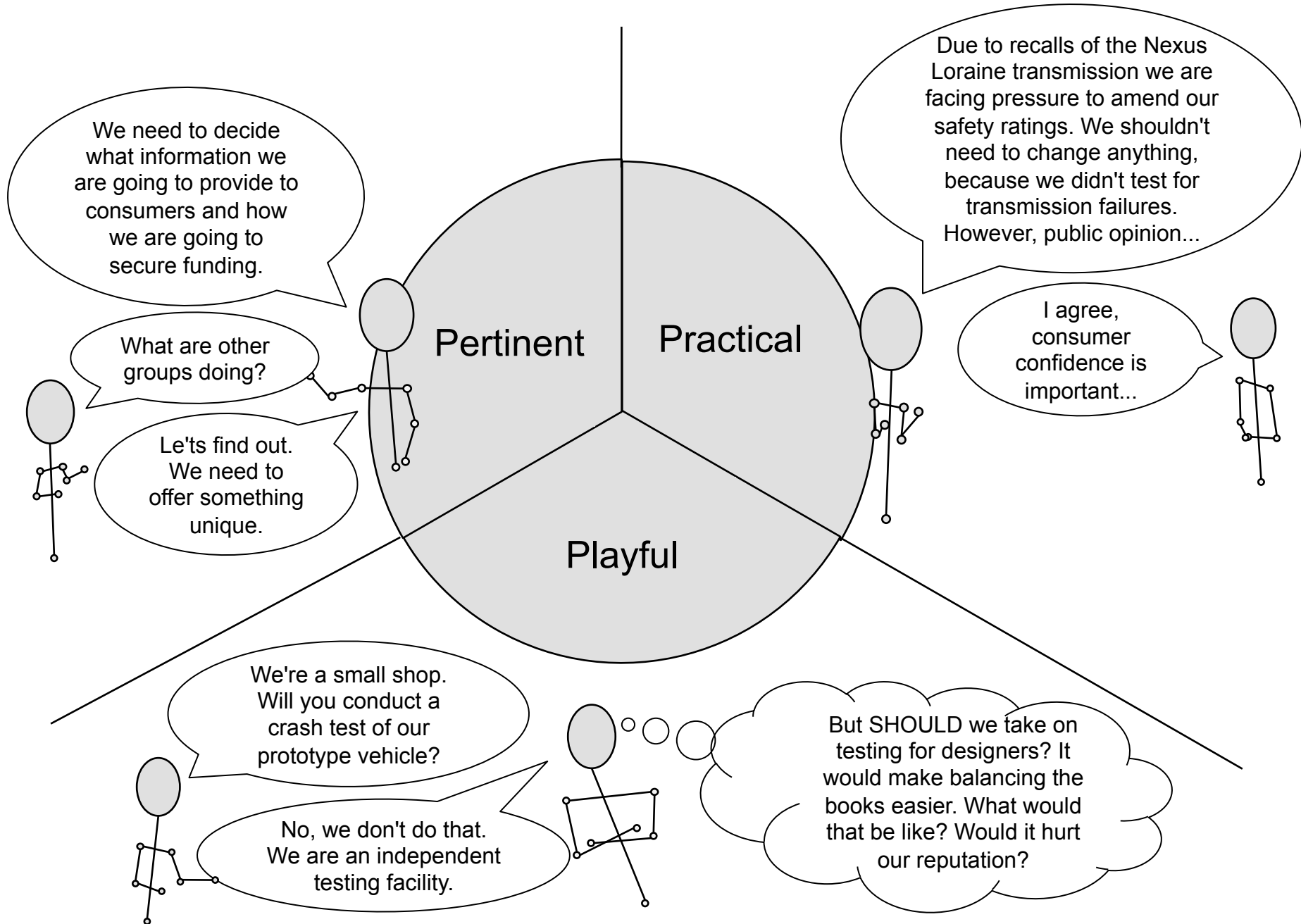
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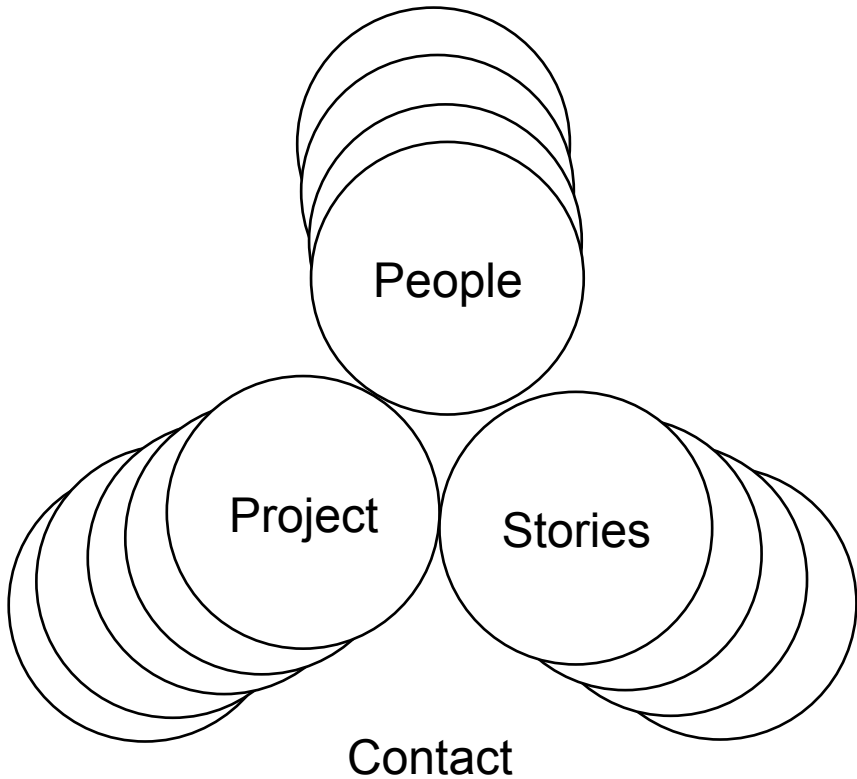
Figure from *Working with Stories in Your Community or Organization: Participatory Narrative Inquiry* (Third Edition) by Cynthia F. Kurtz. Use granted under the Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike 3.0 Unported License.











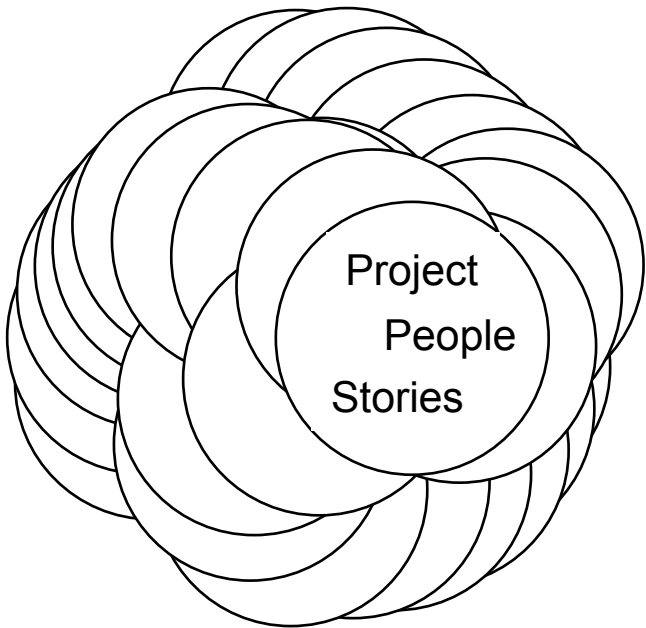


Project

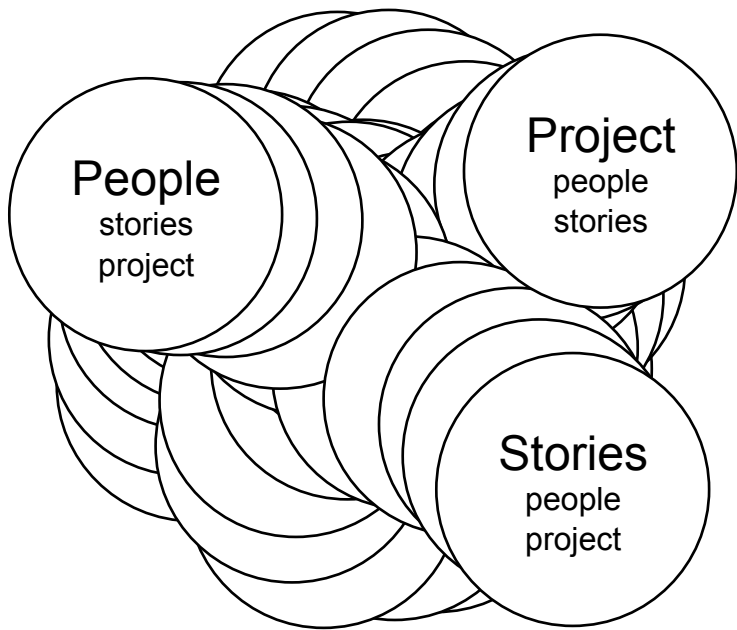
People

Stories

Churning



Convergence

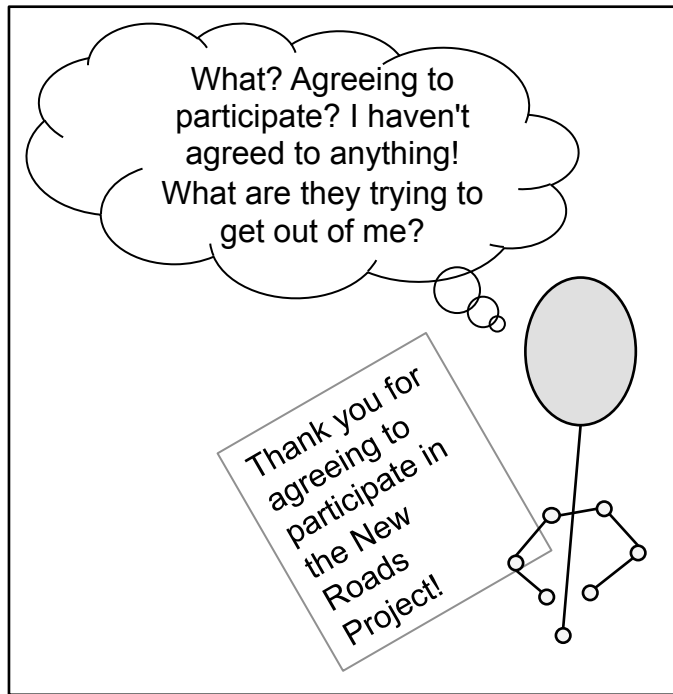
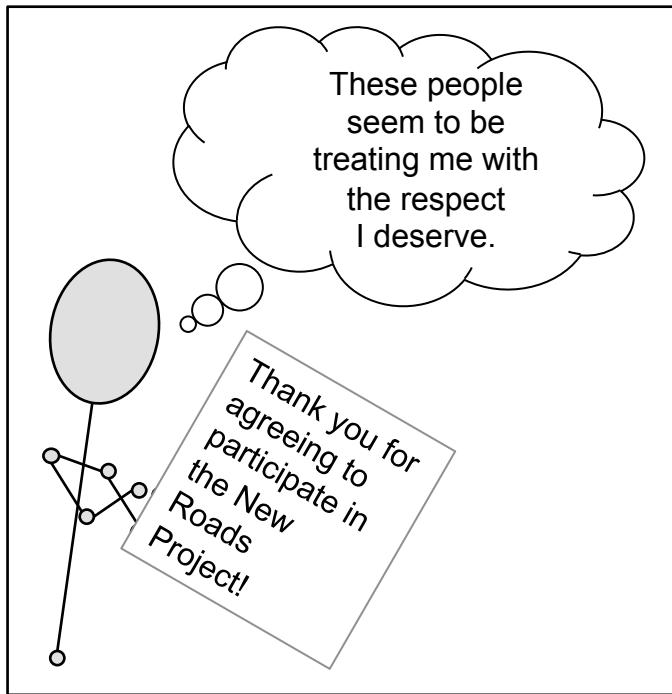


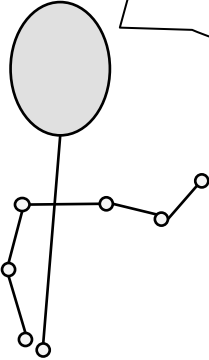
People
stories
project

Project
people
stories

Stories
people
project

Change

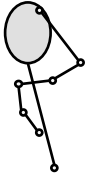




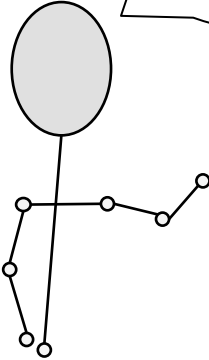
Please come to a
participatory narrative
sensemaking session
designed to engender
effective decision
support.



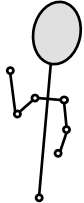
Nera
what?



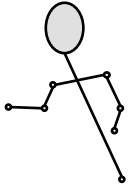
Sounds
fishy.



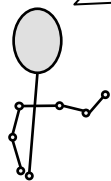
We're going to look at
stories together and
talk about new ideas.
Please come.



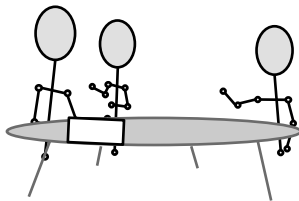
Count
me in!



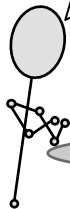
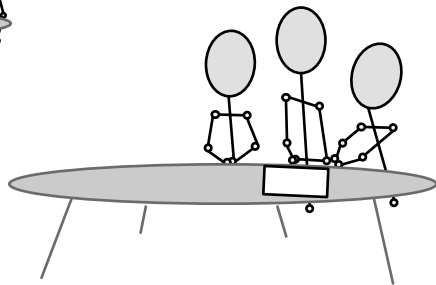
Sounds
cool!



This paper will
help you get
started.



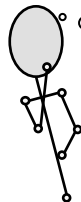
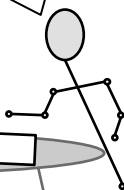
Um, excuse
me?



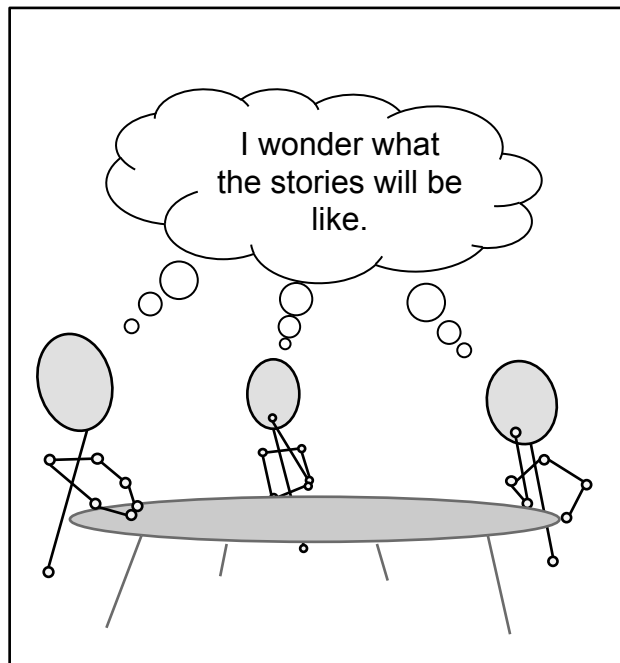
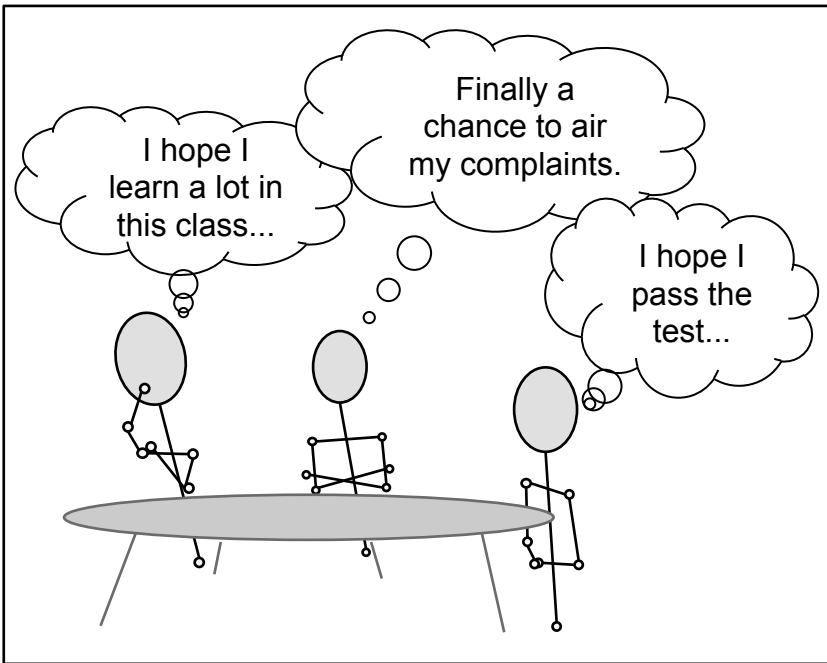
Can we
see
that?

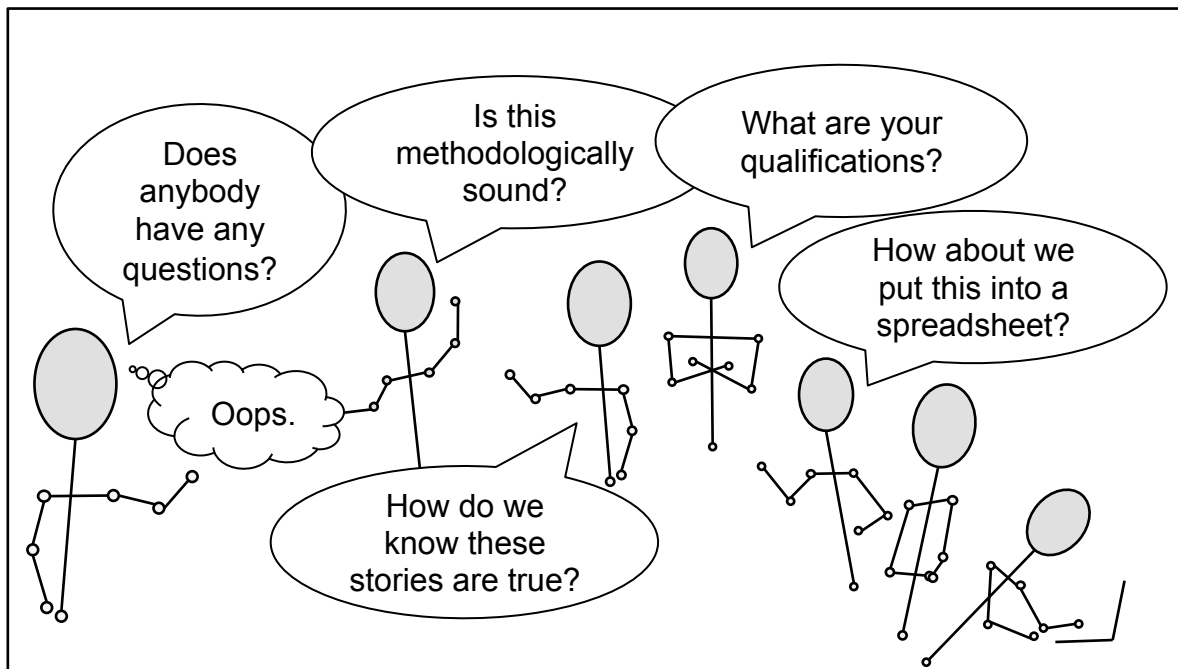


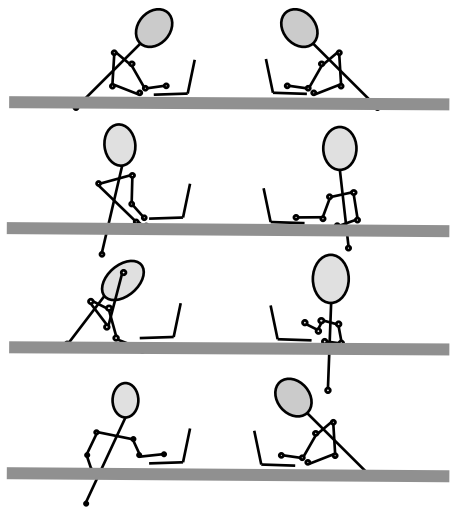
Get
your
own.



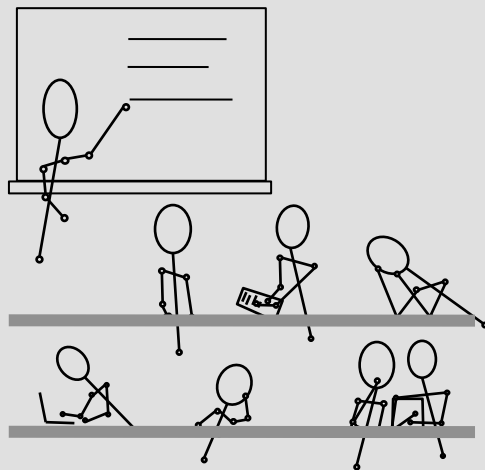
I see....



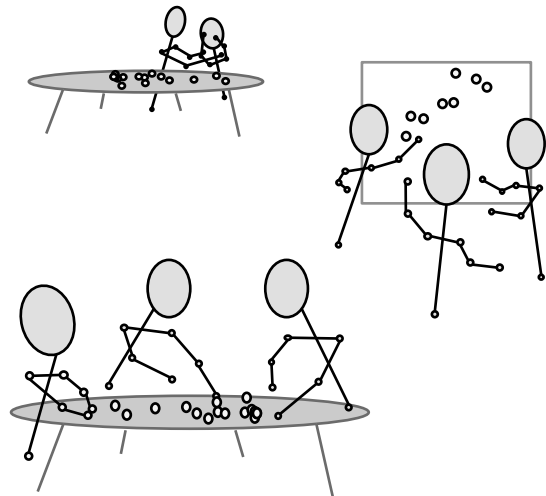




These people are working with stories.

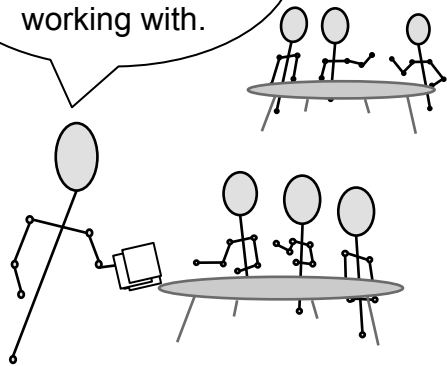


These people are working with stories.



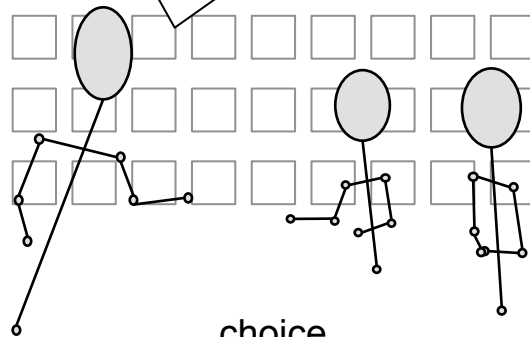
These people are working with stories.

Group A, these
are the stories
you will be
working with.



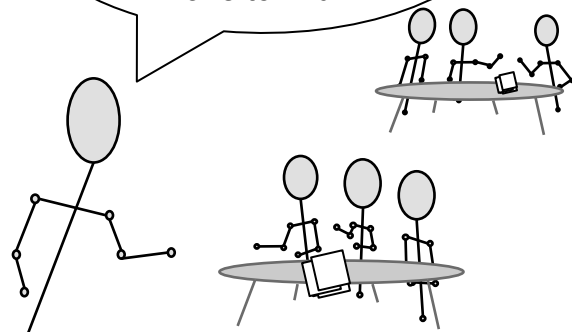
assignment

Each group should
choose twenty
stories from this wall
to consider in depth.



choice

Okay, now all the
groups have the
same pack of stories.
Here's the game. You
have to find...



game or rule

You have
five minutes
to read.



reading alone

Make sure everyone in
your group has had a
chance to read at least
two stories out loud.



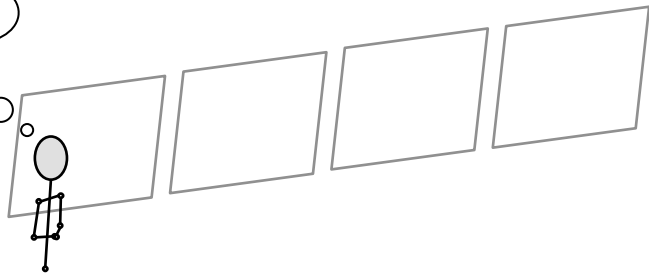
reading together

Place your stories in
order on your table
from least to most
memorable.

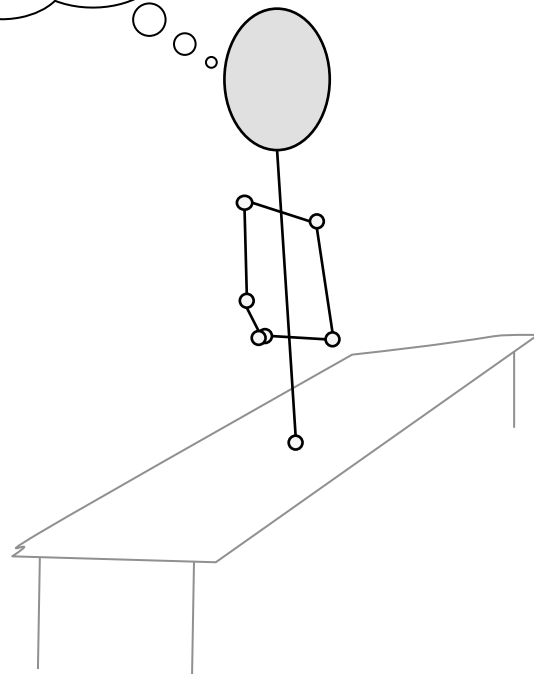


completing a task

How can she
see the painting
from back
there?



How can she
see the painting
from up there?



Title:
Working its way down

Text:
It's not a pretty story. The people who made the mistake would not own up to the mistake. It worked its way down. The person who ultimately got stuck with it had nothing to do with it. They were just the most defenseless. It's just the way we do things here. Nobody talks about it. It's impossible.

Questions about story:
Where did this story come from? first-hand
How do feel about the story? angry
How did it end? sad to happy: 9
How long will you remember it? trivial to memorable: 48
How much trust do you see in it? absent to abundant: 12

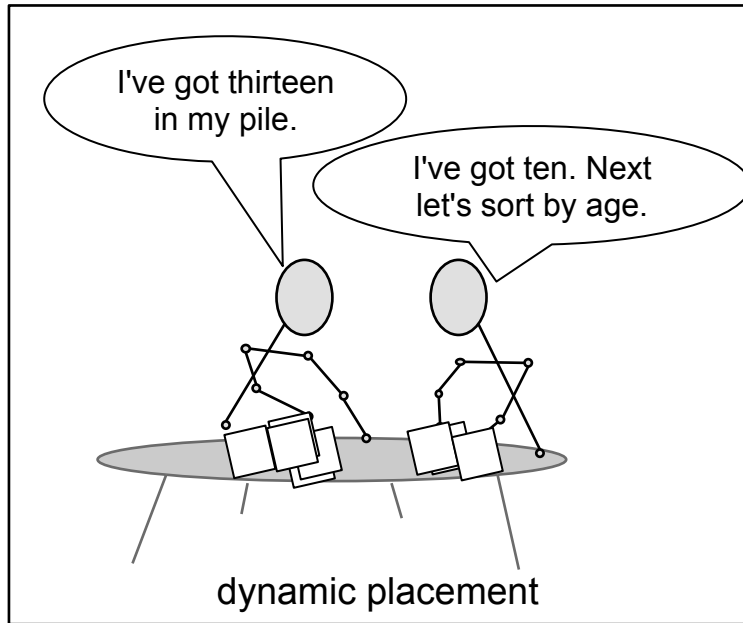
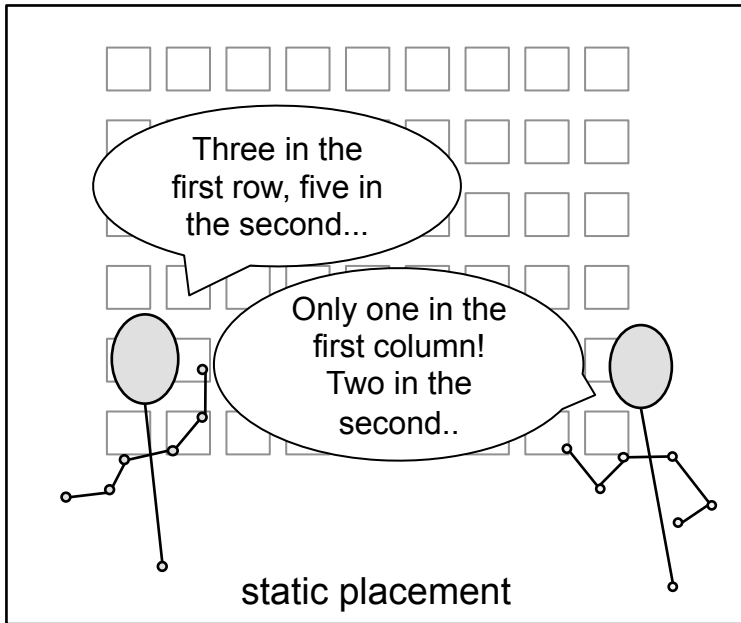
Questions about participant:
What is your position? manager
What is your age group? 41-60

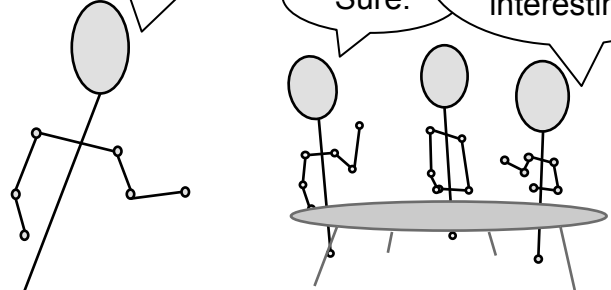
Working its way down

It's not a pretty story. The people who made the **mistake** would not own up to the mistake. It worked its way down. The person who ultimately got **stuck** with it had nothing to do with it. They were just the most **defenseless**. It's just the way we do things here. Nobody talks about it. It's impossible.

Remember	trivial	_____		_____	memorable
Ending	sad	_____		_____	happy
Trust	absent	_____		_____	abundant

Source: **first-hand** second-hand rumor unsure
Feel: happy sad **angry** relieved enthused indifferent n.a.
Position: worker **manager** executive other
Age: <21 21-40 **41-60** 61+ declined

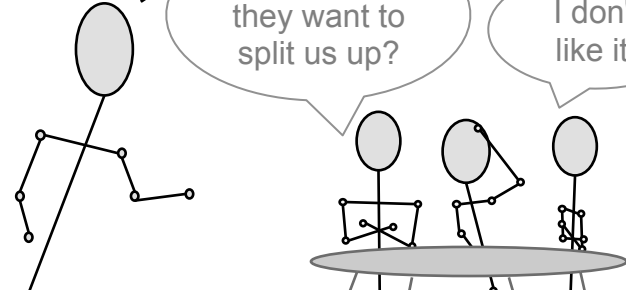




Okay, now I'd like you to leave your groups and form new groups.

Sure.

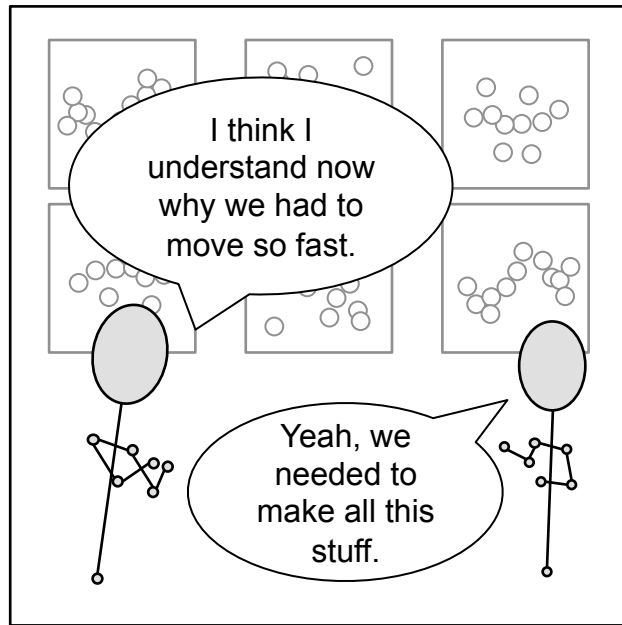
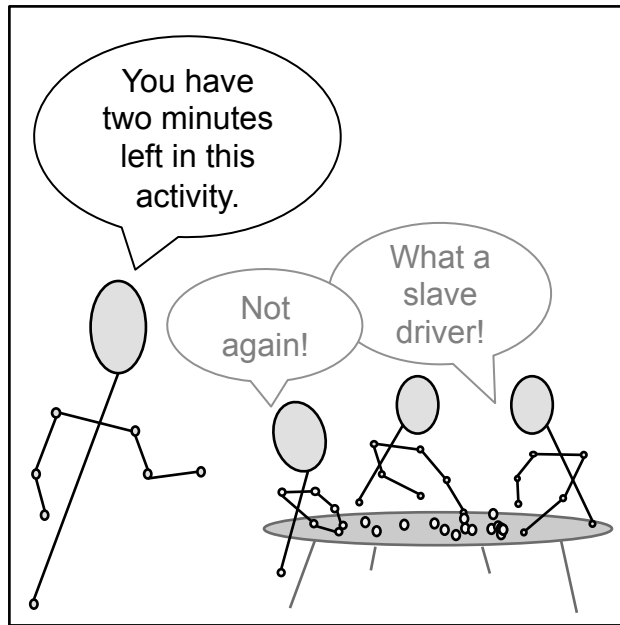
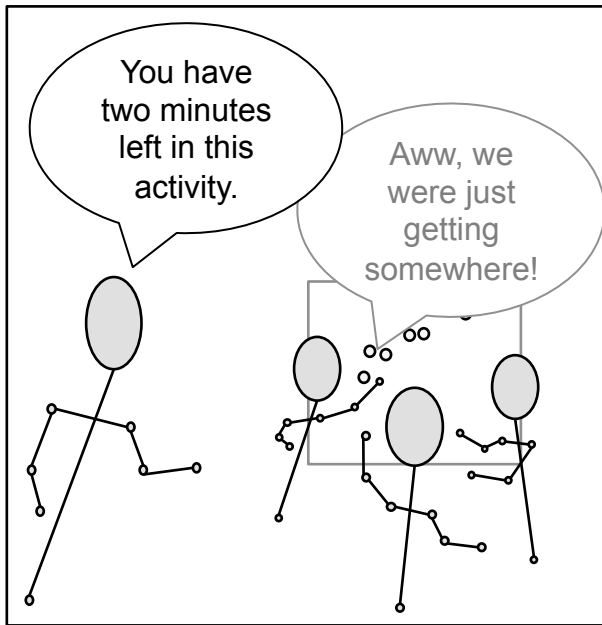
That sounds interesting.

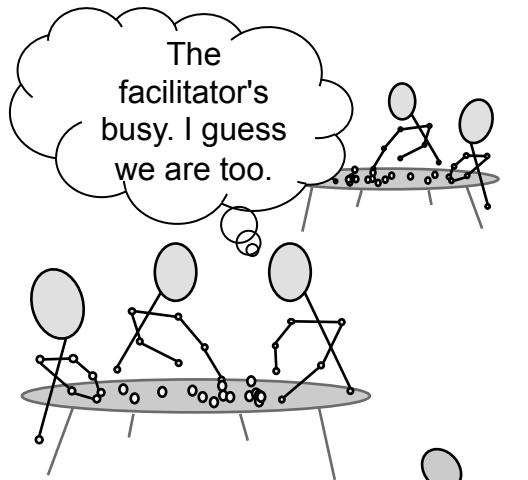


Okay, now I'd like you to leave your groups and form new groups.

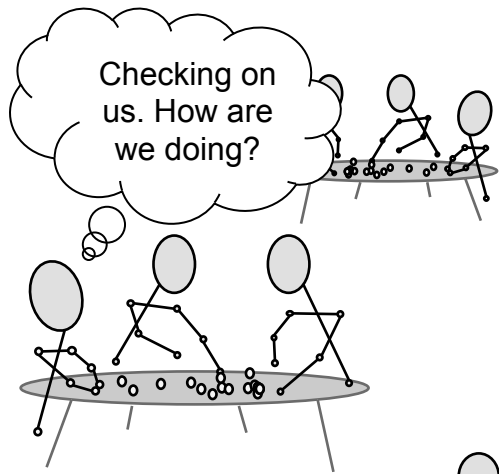
Why do they want to split us up?

I don't like it.

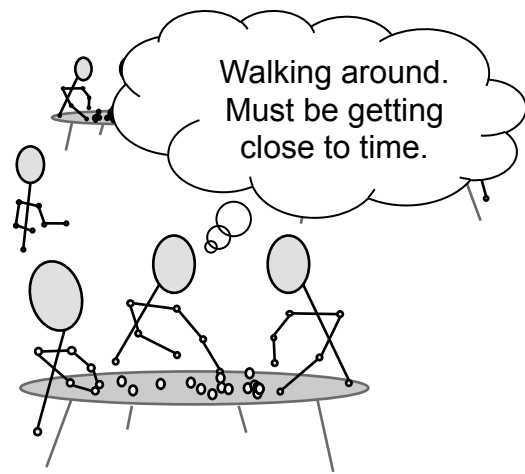




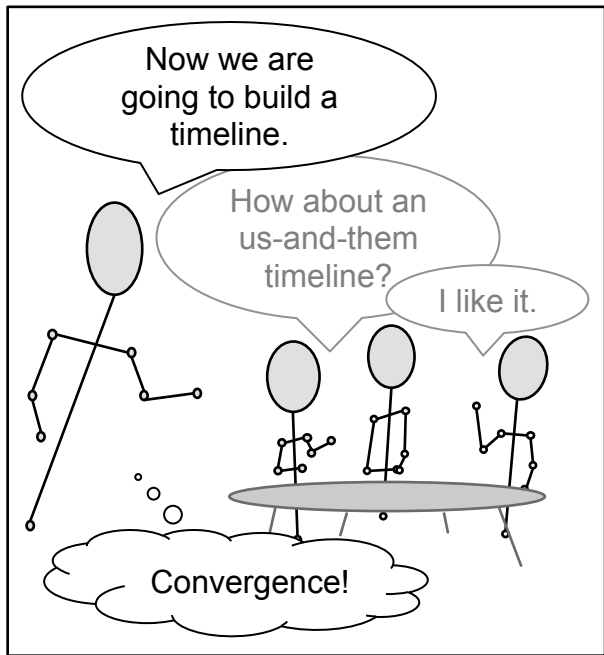
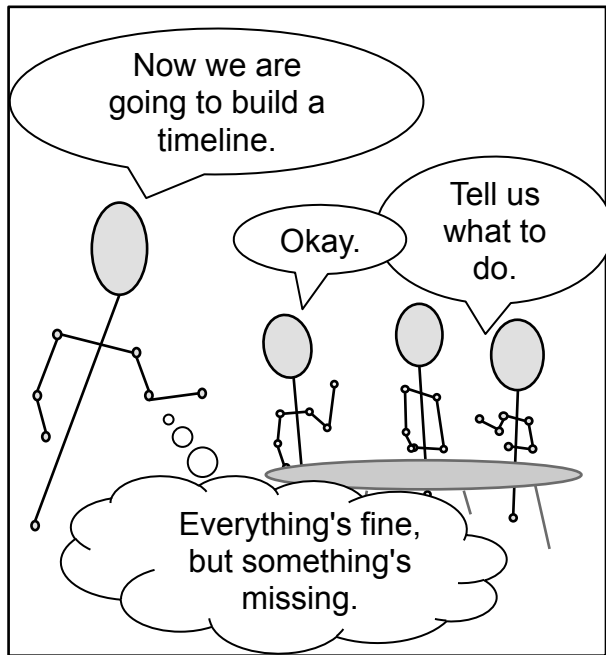
first 15 minutes

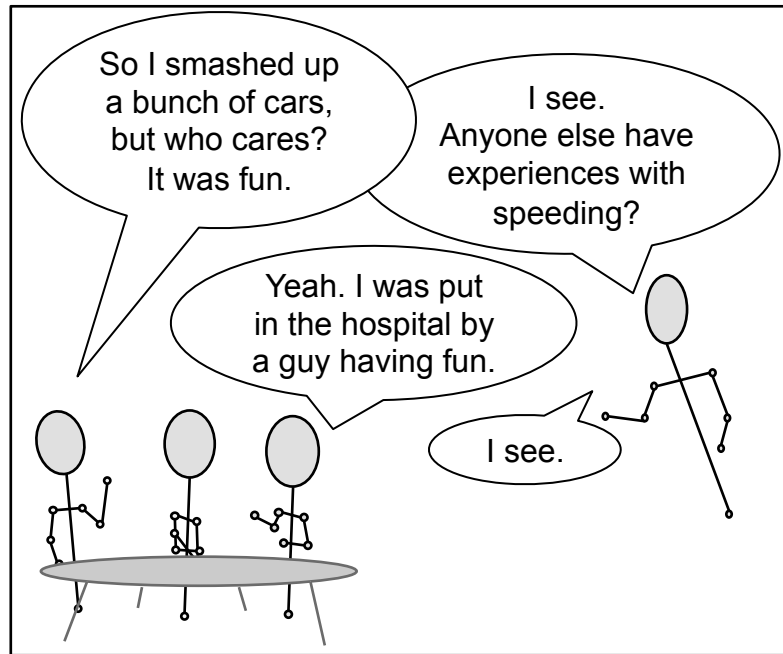
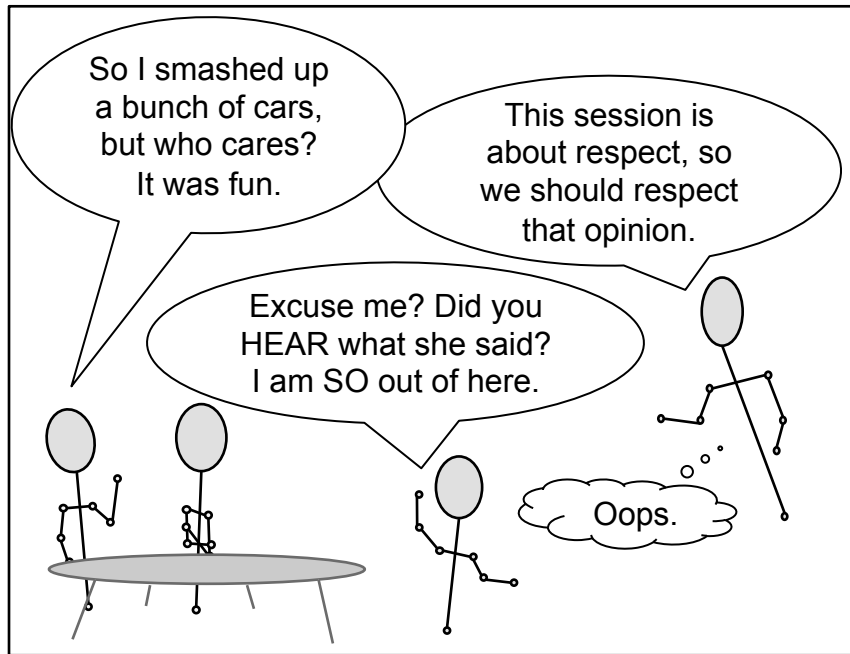


15-25 minutes



last 5 minutes

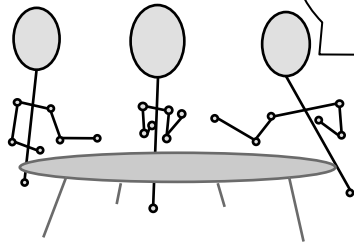




Did everybody
read this thing
about the
questions?

I think so. How
about we go
for situations
AND themes?

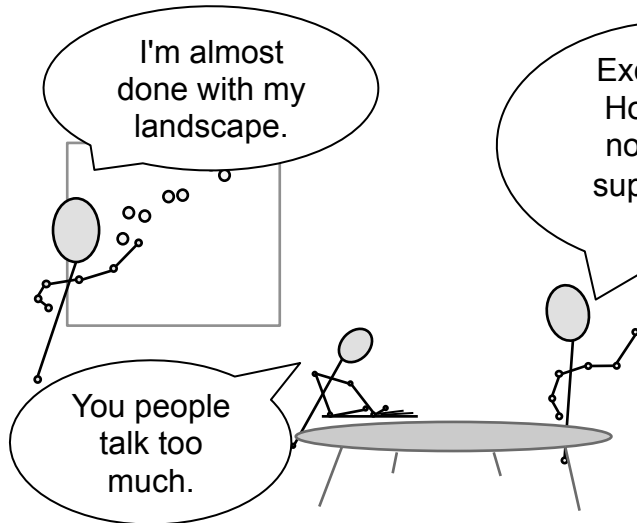
Sounds good.
We're the
imaginative
team, aren't
we?

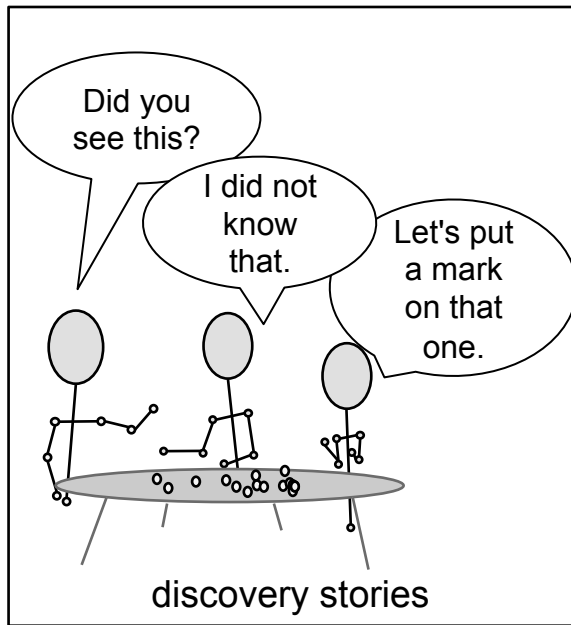
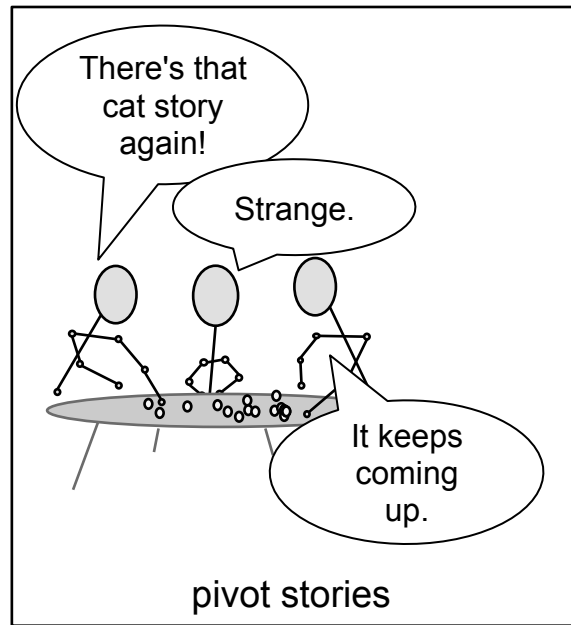


I'm almost
done with my
landscape.

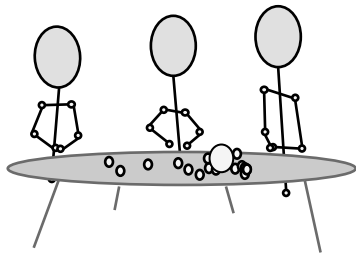
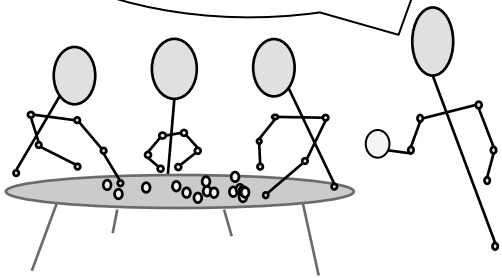
You people
talk too
much.

Excuse me!
How many
notes am I
supposed to
write?





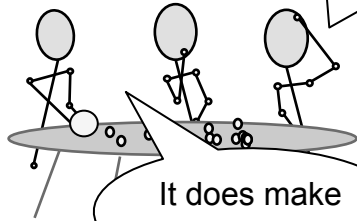
These blue sticky notes
are for marking stories or
patterns you want to
remember as you work.
Sorry, I forgot to give
them to you before.



We're supposed
to be marking
things?

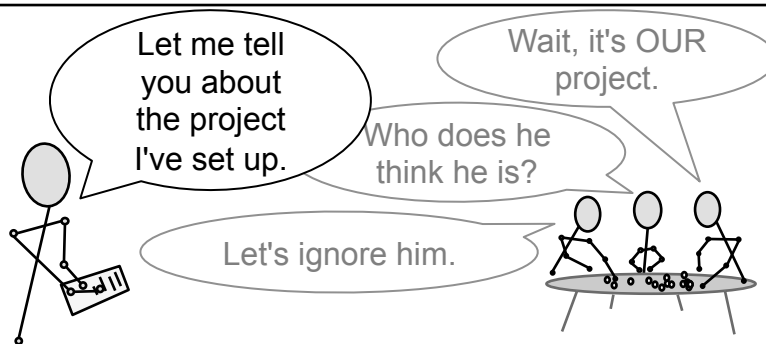
I guess so.

It does make
sense.

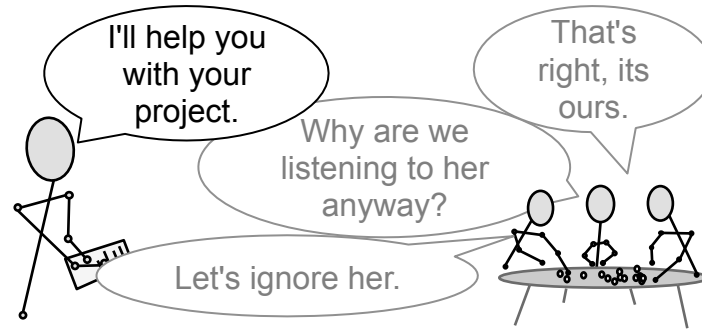


Facilitator is too assertive

Participants are too assertive

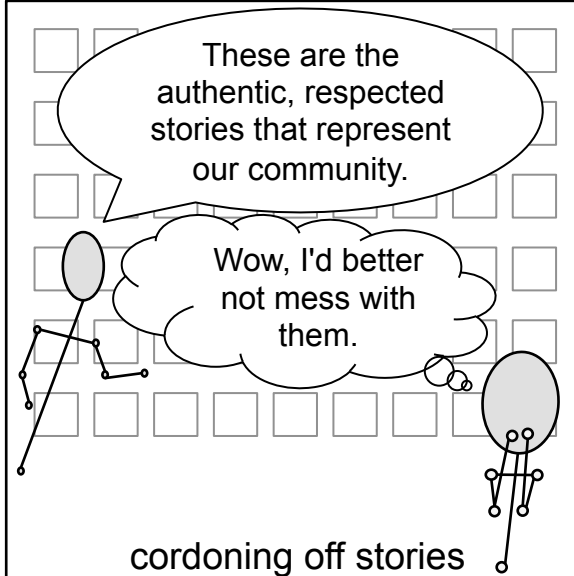


Facilitator is too timid



Participants are too timid

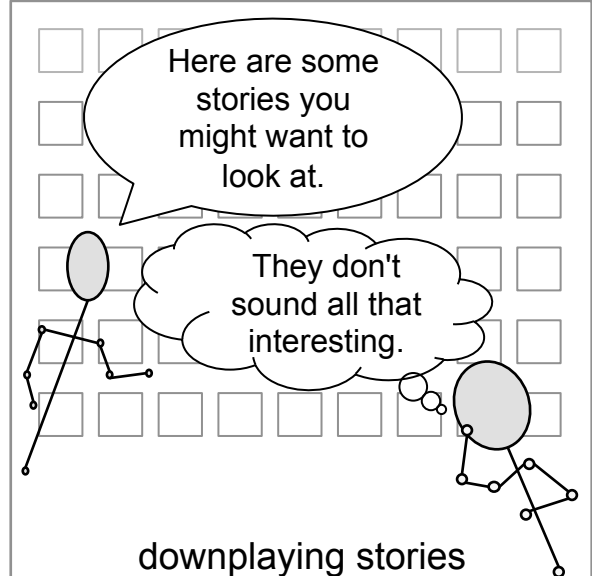




These are the authentic, respected stories that represent our community.

Wow, I'd better not mess with them.

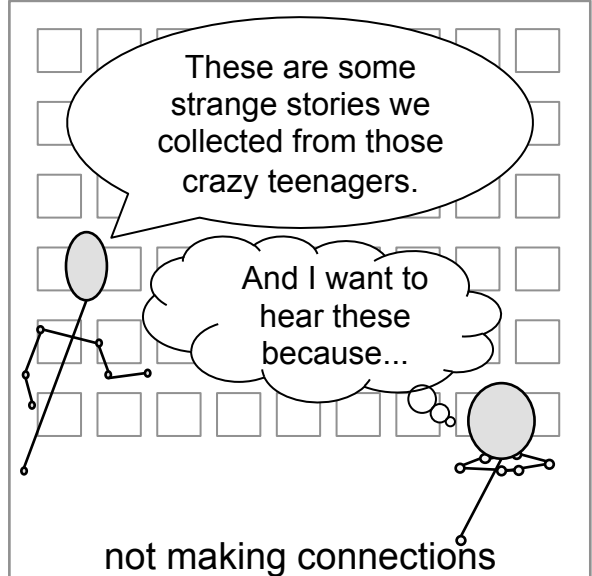
cordoning off stories



Here are some stories you might want to look at.

They don't sound all that interesting.

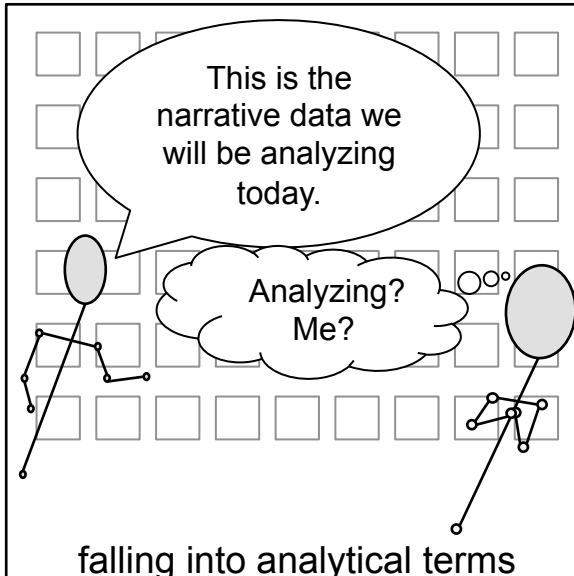
downplaying stories



These are some strange stories we collected from those crazy teenagers.

And I want to hear these because...

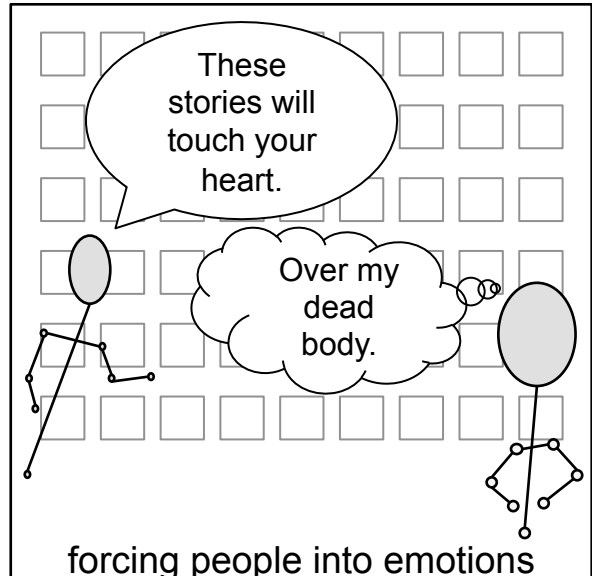
not making connections



This is the narrative data we will be analyzing today.

Analyzing? Me?

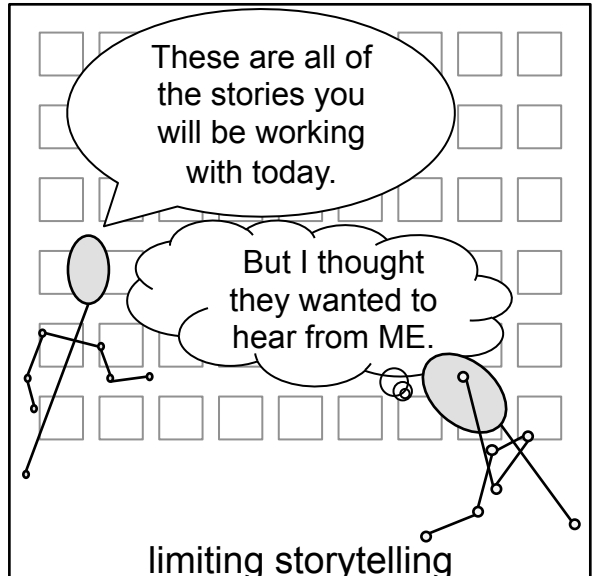
falling into analytical terms



These stories will touch your heart.

Over my dead body.

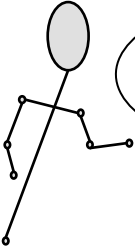
forcing people into emotions



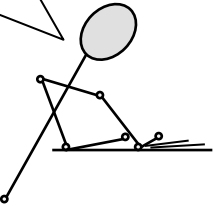
These are all of the stories you will be working with today.

But I thought they wanted to hear from ME.


limiting storytelling




Please come to
a sensemaking
session.




I'm pretty
busy. Talk to
my secretary.



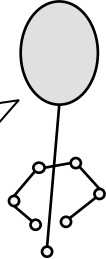
Please come to
a sensemaking
session.



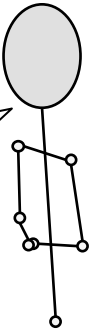
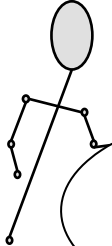
OMIGOD I can't
believe this is
happening! I've
been invited to play
an important part in
the community!
I thought this day
would never come!



Please come to
a sensemaking
session.

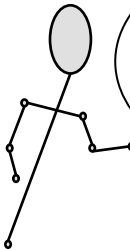


What? Why have
you singled ME
out? What are you
trying to get out of
me? Is this some
kind of trick?

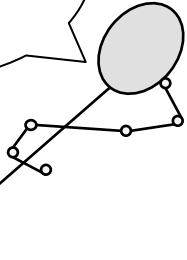


Please come to
a sensemaking
session.


What are your
credentials for
undertaking this
work?



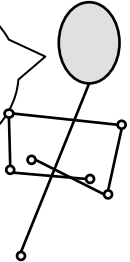
Please come to
a sensemaking
session.



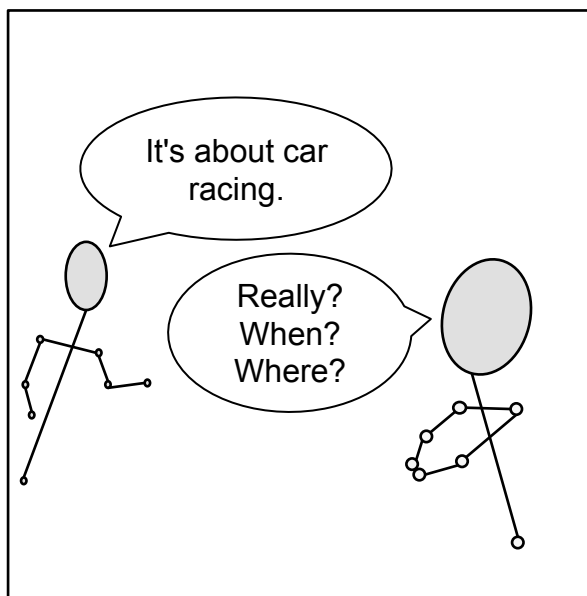
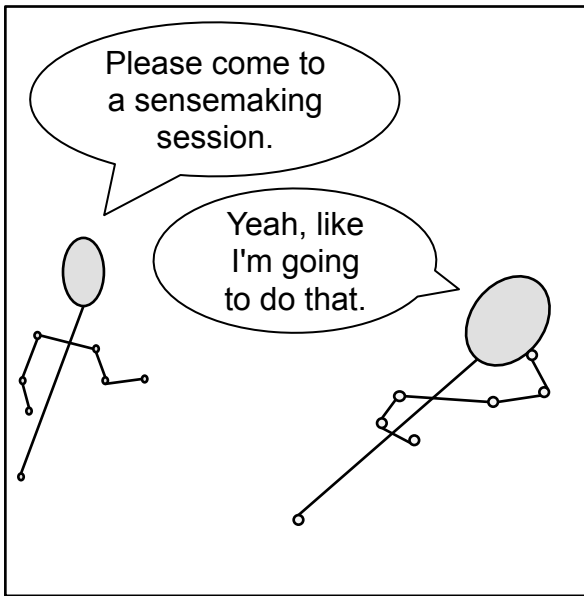
And conform
to your rigid
expectations?
No thanks.

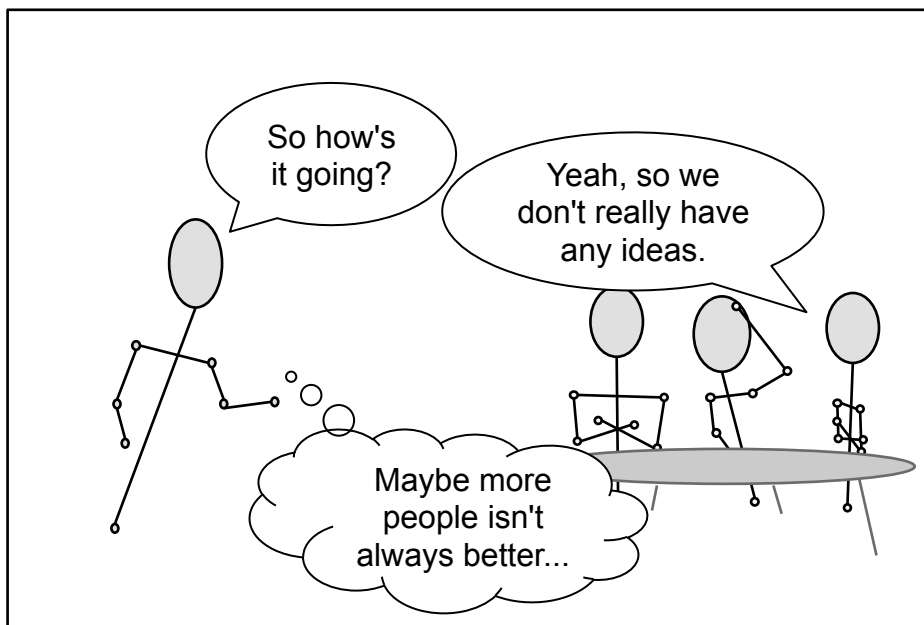
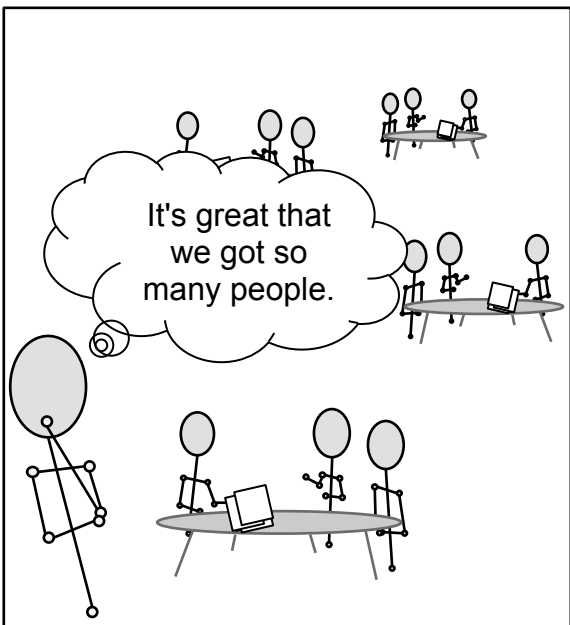


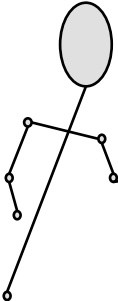
Please come to
a sensemaking
session.



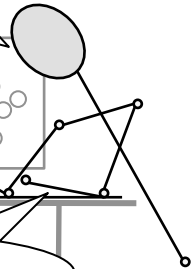
You young
people think
you know
everything.



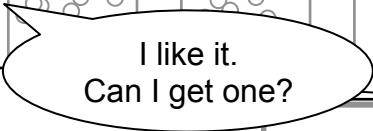




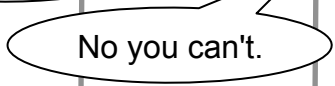
Hey, where'd you
get this picture?



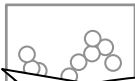
We made it in the
project I was in last
year.

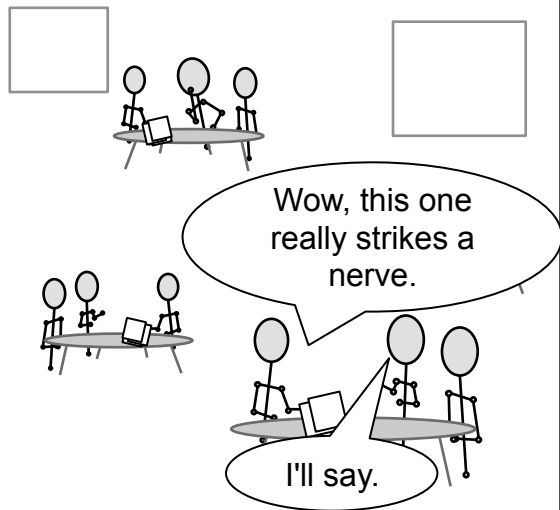


I like it.
Can I get one?

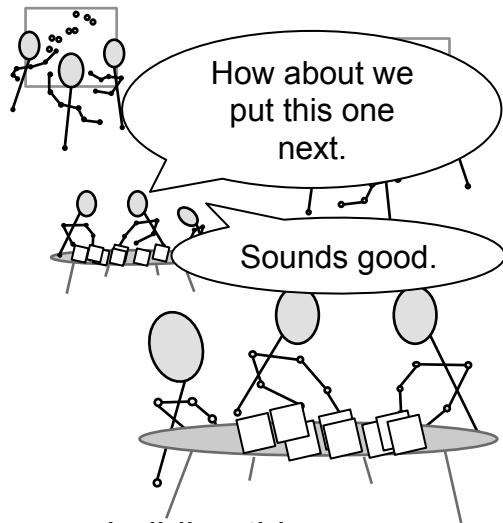


No you can't.

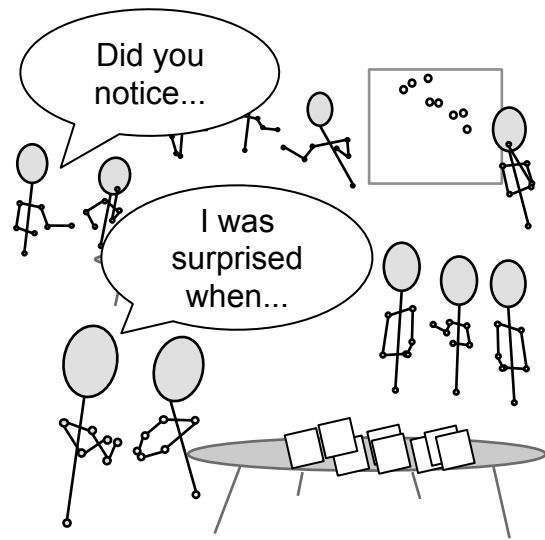




encountering stories



building things



the after-party

