Reading Assignment: In addition to the reading for January 22, read pages 83-89 (but not the Lawyering Exercise on page 89). After completing discussion of the assignment for January 22, we will discuss the following questions:

1. The court in *Popov v. Hayashi* adopts Prof. Gray’s definition of possession, saying that “The first person to pick up a loose ball and secure it becomes its possessor.” Would or should this statement apply in the following contexts?

   a. You are attending a basketball game, sitting in the second row, and a poorly advised pass by the point guard lands in your lap. Can you keep the ball? How should a court apply (or refuse to apply) Prof. Gray’s definition in this situation?

   b. You are attending a golf tournament, and you find a golf ball in deep grass just off the 10th fairway. Can you keep it? How should a court apply (or refuse to apply) Prof. Gray’s definition in this situation?

   c. You are attending a football game. After one of the players for the home team scores a spectacular touchdown, he throws the ball into the stands in celebration. You catch the ball. Can you keep it? How should a court apply (or refuse to apply) Prof. Gray’s definition in this situation?

2. If the applicable law is that the ball belongs to the “first” person to “possess” it, do you think that the judge gets the result in *Popov v. Hayashi* correct? Why or why not?

3. What is the basis of the court’s conclusion that the claims of Popov and Hayashi are of “equal dignity” (p. 87)? Are you persuaded? Why or why not?