Practice Activity: 
Reading Comprehension Obstacles

Directions: Read the passage about the concurrence principle on Part 1-Slide #2 of the multimedia presentation. After reading, answer the comprehension questions written below the passage. As you read, think about what obstacles, if any, you encounter related to comprehension, and why you might be encountering these difficulties.

The concurrence principle implies more than the temporal concurrence of the mens rea and actus reus. The relationship between the two parts of the crime must be deeper: the impelling force or motivation behind the act that causes the social harm must have been the mens rea of the offense and not some other thought process such as the mental state of preparing to commit the offense (Dressler, J., 1987, p. 172)

Comprehension Questions

(1) Why is it important that both motivational concurrence and temporal concurrence exist?

(2) Why is motivational concurrence not found simply by looking at the act itself?