Reading Guidance for:
Action and Embodiment Within Situated Human Interaction by Charles Goodwin

Why read this paper?

This paper seeks to answer the important questions: How shall we account for the organization of behavior? In what ways is behavior organized? What can explain the observed organization?

Traditionally, cognitive scientists might have looked for answers to these questions inside the brains of behaving people, but that is not where Goodwin looks. He looks instead at what he calls the public deployment of multiple semiotic fields that mutually elaborate each other. That's some highfalutin language. What does it mean?

A word to look up:
Deontic. Goodwin refers to the "deontic force" of an utterance. What does that mean?

Questions to keep in mind while reading:

_Hopscotch:_
What are the semiotic fields discussed by Goodwin?
Find and describe an example of the mutual elaboration of two semiotic fields in the hopscotch example.
What is a participation framework? How do people in interaction construct and demonstrate their roles in a participation framework?
Who controls the participation framework?
What does Goodwin mean by "contextual configuration"? How are contextual configurations changed?

_Archeology_
Goodwin says of a page in the Munsell color book:
“It is simultaneously a material object and a conceptual tool. It relies upon the specific properties of material media to build cognitive structure that could not exist within the confines of the skull, for example the arrangement of possibilities for color classification into an ordered grid that can be repeatedly scanned, the production of actual reference samples that can be visually compared both with each other and with the material being classified, the preservation of the reference samples across time and space, etc.”
(Goodwin: pg 35)

Consider in turn each of the three cognitive structure that are offered in the list of examples above. For each one ask:
Why could this structure not exist in the brain?
What cognitive functions do archeologists accomplish in interaction with this structure?