

27 RECTO

This play also pertains to the breaking of the thrust, the second play before me. After beating the opponent's sword to the ground, I immediately press my right foot over his blade, and as I do so, I strike him in the head as shown.

This is another play of breaking the thrust. If, after I break his thrust, the opponent lifts his sword to parry, I immediately put my hilt within his right arm, near his right hand, and quickly grasp my blade near the point with my left hand, wounding him in the head. If I wanted, I could also place my sword to his neck to slit his throat.

After beating the opponent's point or crossing his sword, I place my hand behind his right elbow and lean strongly, causing him to turn and offer an opening. As he does so, I can strike him.

The student before me was right. He was able to make you turn so that I could sever your head. Even before you could come back to the parry, I could poke a good gash in your back.