Test Bank for Forensic Science From the Crime Scene to the Crime Lab 3rd Saferstein

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CHAPTER 2

Securing and Searching the Crime Scene

Chapter 2 Multiple Choice

1. After providing medical assistance for the injured and arresting any suspects on the scene, the first officer should immediately:
    a. search the scene.
    b. secure the scene.
    c. photograph the scene.
    d. make a rough sketch of the scene.
Answer: b
Objective: Discuss the responsibilities of the first police officer who arrives at the crime scene.
Page number: 34
Level: Intermediate

2. The center of the crime scene, which is always included within the crime scene's boundary, is the area where:
    a. the first responder entered the scene.
    b. the witnesses were located.
    c. the command center will be located.
    d. the crime occurred.
Answer: d
Objective: Describe the conditions of the crime scene that should be given particular notice.
Page number: 37
Level: Basic

3. The conditions at a crime scene can be compromised by all of the following actions *except*:
    a. taking photographs at the crime scene.
    b. eating food at the crime scene.
    c. turning on a faucet on the crime scene.
    d. smoking at the crime scene.
Answer: a
Objective: Describe the conditions of the crime scene that should be given particular notice.
Page number: 35
Level: Difficult

4. What is the initial survey of the crime scene that is carried out by the lead investigator called?
    a. Spiral search
    b. Initial survey
    c. Walk-through
    d. Crime-scene search
Answer: c
Objective: Comprehend the role of the lead investigator in coordinating the crime-scene search.

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Level: Basic

5. Which of the following may give clues about the timing of an incident?
    a. Presence or absence of a television
    b. Position of the day's newspaper inside or outside the house
    c. Position of the victim's vehicle
    d. Whether a door is locked or unlocked
Answer: b
Objective: Appreciate the necessity of documenting all initial observations and evidence collected.
Page number: 36
Level: Basic

6. The size and location of the crime scene as well as the events that occurred there will determine:
    a. The kind of evidence that will be missing.
    b. The time at which the crime scene is searched.
    c. The kind of search pattern that will be used to located evidence.
    d. The number of personnel who will process the evidence at the crime laboratory.
Answer: c
Objective: Understand the various search patterns investigators can use to systematically search the crime scene for evidence.
Page numbers: 38-39
Level: Difficult

7. Which crime-scene search pattern does not require more than one investigator?
    a. Wheel
    b. Line
    c. Grid
    d. Zone
Answer: b
Objective: Understand the various search patterns investigators can use to systematically search the crime scene for evidence.
Page number: 38
Level: Intermediate

8. Which search pattern would be best for a crime scene where many investigators are available to search a large area?
    a. Spiral
    b. Grid
    c. Line
    d. Zone
Answer: d
Objective: Understand the various search patterns investigators can use to systematically search the crime scene for evidence.

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Level: Intermediate

9. The types of evidence commonly found during a vehicle search include all of the following *except* which?
    a. Questioned documents
    b. Fibers
    c. Paint evidence
    d. Broken glass
Answer: a
Objective: Understand the various search patterns investigators can use to systematically search the crime scene for evidence.
Page number: 39
Level: Difficult

10. The purpose of the crime-scene search is to locate what?
    a. DNA evidence
    b. Physical evidence
    c. Fingerprint evidence
    d. Bloodstain evidence
Answer: b
Objective: Understand the various search patterns investigators can use to systematically search the crime scene for evidence.
Page number: 39
Level: Basic

11. Once the lead investigator determines that all pertinent evidence at the crime scene has been located, the investigators must perform what?
    a. The walk-through
    b. The initial survey
    c. The final survey
    d. The crime-scene search
Answer: c
Objective: Comprehend the role of the lead investigator in coordinating the crime-scene search.
Page number: 39
Level: Basic

12. To formulate a successful strategy for recovering relevant physical evidence at crime scenes, on what must the investigator ultimately rely?
    a. Reference material
    b. Experience
    c. Training
    d. The lead investigator
Answer: b
Objective: Understand the various search patterns investigators can use to systematically search the crime scene for evidence.

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Level: Intermediate

13. What is the name of the search pattern in which one or two investigators start at the boundary at one end of the scene and walk straight across to the other side?
    a. Line
    b. Grid
    c. Quadrant
    d. Wheel
Answer: a
Objective: Understand the various search patterns investigators can use to systematically search the crime scene for evidence.
Page number: 37
Level: Intermediate

14. What search pattern employs two people performing line searches that originate from adjacent corners?
    a. Line
    b. Grid
    c. Spiral
    d. Wheel
Answer: b
Objective: Understand the various search patterns investigators can use to systematically search the crime scene for evidence.
Page number: 38
Level: Intermediate

15. Which of the following is a disadvantage of the spiral search pattern?
    a. Evidence could be missed.
    b. It requires several investigators.
    c. It does not work for outdoor scenes.
    d. It is dependent on the boundaries of the scene.
Answer: a
Objective: Understand the various search patterns investigators can use to systematically search the crime scene for evidence.
Page number: 38
Level: Difficult

16. Which search pattern employs several people moving from the boundary straight toward the center of the scene (inward) or from the center straight to the boundary (outward)?
    a. Quadrant
    b. Grid
    c. Spiral
    d. Wheel
Answer: d

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Objective: Understand the various search patterns investigators can use to systematically search the crime scene for evidence.
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Level: Intermediate

17. Which of the following acts is permissible for officers at the scene?
    a. Eat
    b. Drink
    c. Smoke
    d. None of the above
Answer: d
Objective: Describe the conditions at the crime scene that should be given particular notice.
Page number: 35
Level: Basic

18. Which search pattern is most reliant on the boundaries established?
    a. Line
    b. Spiral
    c. Wheel
    d. Quadrant
Answer: a
Objective: Understand the various search patterns investigators can use to systematically search the crime scene for evidence.
Page number: 38
Level: Difficult

19. Officers should attempt to locate tool marks at the point of entry during the investigation of what type of crime?
    a. Homicide
    b. Burglary
    c. Hit and run
    d. Assault
Answer: b
Objective: Understand the various search patterns investigators can use to systematically search the crime scene for evidence.
Page number: 39
Level: Basic

20. The first responding officer at the crime scene must make attempts to detain and question whom?
    a. Witnesses
    b. Unauthorized personnel
    c. Suspects
    d. Both a and c
Answer: d
Objective: Discuss the responsibilities of the first police officer who arrives at a crime scene.

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Level: Basic

21. Police barricades and the strategic positioning of guards are used to prohibit access to the crime scene by whom?
a. Civilians only
b. Civilians and media personnel
c. All law enforcement personnel
d. All unauthorized personnel

Answer: d
Objective: Describe the conditions at the crime scene that should be given particular notice.
Page number: 34
Level: Basic

Chapter 2 True-False

1. Evidence can be found on the walls and ceiling as well as on the floor at a crime scene.

Answer: True
Objective: Describe the conditions at the crime scene that should be given particular notice.
Page number: 36
Level: Basic

2. The first responding officer at the crime scene should not make attempts to detain and question unauthorized personnel.

Answer: False
Objective: Discuss the responsibilities of the first police officer who arrives at the crime scene.
Page number: 36
Level: Difficult

3. Failure to protect a crime scene properly may result in the destruction or altering of evidence.

Answer: True
Objective: Discuss the responsibilities of the first police officer who arrives at the crime scene.
Page number: 33
Level: Basic

4. The first priority of the first officer responding to a crime scene is securing the crime scene.

Answer: False
Objective: Discuss the responsibilities of the first police officer who arrives at the crime scene.
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Level: Difficult

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5. The boundaries of an indoor crime scene are usually more difficult to determine than an outdoor crime scene.

Answer: False
Objective: Discuss the responsibilities of the first police officer who arrives at the crime scene.
Page number: 34
Level: Intermediate

6. When possible, an outdoor scene that occurs at night should be taped off and left undisturbed and guarded until daylight.

Answer: True
Objective: Discuss the responsibilities of the first police officer who arrives at the crime scene.
Page number: 39
Level: Basic

7. Unauthorized personnel include friends and family of the victim.

Answer: True
Objective: Discuss the responsibilities of the first police officer who arrives at the crime scene.
Page number: 34
Level: Intermediate

8. Tool marks are not usually significant when found in vehicle searches.

Answer: False
Objective: Understand the various search patterns investigators can use to systematically search the crime scene for evidence.
Page number: 39
Level: Intermediate

9. Investigators should take an inventory of all evidence collected so nothing is lost or left behind.

Answer: True
Objective: Appreciate the necessity of documenting all initial observations and evidence collected.
Page number: 39
Level: Basic

10. Statements made by the victim on the way to hospital cannot be recorded and included in notes.

Answer: False
Objective: Appreciate the necessity of documenting all initial observations and evidence collected.

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Level: Difficult

11. The officer charged with protecting the scene has the authority to exclude fellow officers.

Answer: True
Objective: Discuss the responsibilities of the first police officer who arrives at the crime scene.
Page number: 34
Level: Difficult

12. It is permitted for officers at the scene to alter temperature conditions by changing the position of windows or doors or adjusting the heat or air-conditioning.

Answer: False
Objective: Describe the conditions at the crime scene that should be given particular notice.
Page number: 35
Level: Intermediate

13. The investigators should follow a direct path to the center of the scene.

Answer: False
Objective: Comprehend the role of the lead investigator in coordinating the crime-scene search.
Page number: 36
Level: Difficult

14. The command center must be located outside the taped-off boundary of the scene.

Answer: True
Objective: Comprehend the role of the lead investigator in coordinating the crime-scene search.
Page number: 37
Level: Basic

15. When possible, it is advisable to have two people supervising and coordinating the collection of evidence.

Answer: False
Objective: Comprehend the role of the lead investigator in coordinating the crime-scene search.
Page number: 37
Level: Intermediate

16. The obligation to maintain the integrity of evidence belongs to the first police officer at the scene only.

Answer: False
Objective: Discuss the responsibilities of the first police officer who arrives at a crime scene.

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Level: Intermediate

17. The line and spiral search patterns can be performed effectively by one person.

Answer: True
Objective: Understand the various search patterns investigators can use to systematically search the crime scene for evidence.
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Level: Intermediate

18. The first critical step in crime-scene investigation is securing and isolating the crime scene.

Answer: True
Objective: Discuss the responsibilities of the first police officer who arrives at a crime scene.
Page number: 34
Level: Basic

19. The areas searched by crime-scene investigators must include all probable points of entry and exit used by the criminal.

Answer: True
Objective: Understand the various search patterns investigators can use to systematically search the crime scene for evidence.
Page number: 37
Level: Basic

Chapter 2 Fill in the Blank

1. _____ _____ and the strategic positioning of guards will prohibit unauthorized access to the crime scene.

Answer: Police barricades
Objective: Discuss the responsibilities of the first police officer who arrives at the crime scene.
Page number: 34
Level: Difficult

2. The _____ scene is the one at which the original incident occurred.

Answer: primary
Objective: Comprehend the role of the lead investigator in coordinating the crime-scene search.
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Level: Basic

3. Members of the investigative team will receive their assignments, store their equipment, and meet to discuss aspects of the case at the _____ _____.

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Answer: command center
Objective: Comprehend the role of the lead investigator in coordinating the crime-scene search.
Page number: 37
Level: Intermediate

4. Medical workers should approach the body by a(n) _____ route to minimize the possibility of disturbing evidence.

Answer: indirect
Objective: Discuss the responsibilities of the first police officer who arrives at the crime scene.
Page number: 34
Level: Difficult

5. An accurate _____ of everyone who enters or leaves the scene should be kept.

Answer: log
Objective: Appreciate the necessity of documenting all initial observations and evidence collected.
Page number: 34
Level: Basic

6. The first step in a _____ is to establish the perpetrator's path of entry and exit.

Answer: walk-through
Objective: Comprehend the role of the lead investigator in coordinating the crime-scene search.
Page number: 36
Level: Intermediate

7. The _____ scene is a location that became part of the crime by activities after the initial incident.

Answer: secondary
Objective: Comprehend the role of the lead investigator in coordinating the crime-scene search.
Page number: 37
Level: Basic

8. When searching a vehicle, an investigator must avoid touching surfaces that may contain _____.

Answer: fingerprints
Objective: Understand the various search patterns investigators can use to systematically search the crime scene for evidence.
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Level: Intermediate

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9. In the case of homicide, the investigator's search will be centered on the _____ as well as any type of evidence left as a result of contact between the victim and the assailant.

Answer: weapon
Objective: Understand the various search patterns investigators can use to systematically search the crime scene for evidence.
Page number: 38
Level: Difficult

10. The officer should initially denote the _____ of the scene using crime-scene tape, ropes, or traffic cones.

Answer: boundaries
Objective: Discuss the responsibilities of the first police officer who arrives at the crime scene.
Page number: 34
Level: Basic

Chapter 2 Matching

Match the word in the first column to its definition in the second column. Each answer can be used only once.

1. Command center	a. The crime scene at which the original criminal act was perpetrated
2. Grid search	b. A search method employed by several people moving from around the boundary straight toward the center of the scene (inward) or from the center straight to the boundary (outward)
3. Line/strip search	c. A search method employed by two or more people overlapping separate line searches to form a grid
4. Primary scene	d. A secure site outside the boundaries of a crime scene where equipment is stored, tasks are assigned, and communications are made
5. Quadrant/zone search	e. The initial survey of the crime scene carried out by the lead investigator during which he or she gains an overview of the scene in order to formulate a plan for processing the scene
6. Secondary scene	f. A crime scene separate from the primary scene that became part of the crime by its involvement in activities after the initial criminal act was perpetrated
7. Spiral search	g. A search method in which the investigator(s) move in an inward spiral from the boundary to the center of the scene or in an outward spiral from the center to the boundary of a scene
8. Walk-through	h. A search method in which one or two investigators walk in straight lines across the crime scene
9. Wheel/ray search	i. A search method in which the crime scene is divided into smaller sections and team members are assigned to search each section. Each of these sections can be subdivided into smaller sections for smaller teams to search thoroughly

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1. d (page 37)
2. c (page 38)
3. h (page 38)
4. a (page 37)
5. i (page 39)
6. f (page 37)
7. g (page 38)
8. e (page 36)
9. b (page 39)

Level: Basic

Chapter 2 Essay

1. Describe the basic functions of a command center. What kind of equipment must a command center contain?

Answer should include points such as the following:
- A command center is the place where members of the investigative team receive their assignments, store their equipment, and meet to discuss aspects of the case.
- The command center can be a center for communication between investigators at multiple crime scenes.
- The command center must contain the basic equipment needed to photograph, sketch, process, and collect evidence.

Objective: Comprehend the role of the lead investigator in coordinating the crime-scene search.
Page number: 37
Level: Basic

2. Describe the steps the crime-scene investigation team takes during its final survey of a crime scene.

Answer should include points such as the following:
- The team makes a visual overview of all parts of the scene, takes an inventory of all evidence collected so nothing is lost or left behind, retrieves all equipment, and verifies that any threats to health or safety at the scene have been or will be dealt with properly.

Objective: Comprehend the role of the lead investigator in coordinating the crime-scene search.
Page number: 39
Level: Difficult

3. List two possible consequences of failure to protect a crime scene properly.

Answer should include points such as the following:
- Evidence may be destroyed or altered.
- The search for the perpetrator may be hindered because investigators are misled about the true facts of the incident.

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Objective: Discuss the responsibilities of the first police officer who arrives at the crime scene.
Page number: 33
Level: Intermediate

Chapter 2 Critical Thinking

1. State which crime-scene search pattern(s) would be best utilized in each of the following situations.

a. One investigator must search a small classroom at a community college.
b. Five investigators must search a large cornfield.
c. Two investigators must search a walled-in Little League baseball field.
d. One investigator must search a small muddy backyard, looking specifically for footprint evidence.

Answers:

a. Line
b. Quadrant/zone
c. Grid
d. Spiral

Objective: Understand the various search patterns investigators can use to systematically search the crime scene for evidence.
Page numbers: 38-39
Level: Basic

2. Discuss what information, specifically about timing, can be gleaned from the state of the following searched crime scenes.

a. A young woman is found dead near the front door of her home. She had not reported to work at 8 a.m. The morning newspaper is on the kitchen table next to a clean, empty plate. The decedent is found wearing pajamas and messy hair. Burned toast is found in the toaster.

b. A backpack and empty lunchbox belonging to a missing child is found on a couch in a mobile home owned by a 47-year-old single man with no family in the area. The backpack contains blank homework assigned to the child that day in school. The search reveals action movie posters, three video-game systems, twenty-five video games, and drawers filled with candy bars.

Answer should include points such as the following:

a. The state of the scene suggests the young woman was killed in the morning hours before 8 a.m. while she was preparing for work. This is suggested by the pajamas, the day's paper having been brought in, and breakfast (or a portion of it) having been prepared.

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b. The contents of the backpack and the *empty* lunchbox suggest the objects were placed there after the child left school, because the lunch within the lunchbox had been eaten and homework was present but not yet worked on. The presence of objects which would appeal to children are out of place in the man's mobile home and should lead to further investigation.

Objective: Describe the conditions at the crime scene that should be given particular notice.
Page numbers: 34-41
Level: Intermediate

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