Test Bank for Criminal Investigation The Art and the Science 8th Lyman

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Criminal Investigation: The Art and the Science, 8e **(Lyman)**
Chapter 2 The Crime Scene: Identification and Collection of Evidence

2.1 Multiple Choice Questions

1) Which of the following statement(s) regarding trace evidence is/are correct?
I. It usually is in plain view of investigators.
II. It plays a greater role today with the aid of modern forensic analysis.
III. Criminals seek to destroy it before leaving the crime scene.
A) I, II, III
B) II, III
C) II only
D) I, III
Answer: C
Page Ref: 30
Objective: Identify special cases in evidence handling.
Level: Basic

2) In general, officers are permitted to conduct a protective search or sweep of the premises when they have reasonable grounds to believe that a person within the premises is in immediate need of assistance or _____.
A) An unusual odor surrounding the crime scene is present
B) A perpetrator is present
C) The premises is privately owned
D) A search of the premises may result in a felony arrest
Answer: B
Page Ref: 33
Objective: Understand the first officer's responsibilities.
Level: Basic

3) For which purpose will an officer most likely broadcast a flash description?
A) To enable other officers to quickly apprehend a suspect still in the vicinity
B) To alert medical emergency personnel of an injured person
C) To warn passersby to avoid a recent crime scene
D) To record the names and addresses of potential witnesses to a crime
Answer: A
Page Ref: 34
Objective: Describe the preliminary investigation.
Level: Basic

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4) Why should entries into crime scenes be conducted only when necessary?
A) To avoid causing inconvenience to bystanders
B) To minimize the work of responding officers who note and record any alterations that may have occurred
C) To provide defense attorneys with a basis for discrediting the investigators
D) To avoid the destruction or contamination of important evidence
Answer: D
Page Ref: 33
Objective: Describe the preliminary investigation.
Level: Basic

5) Evidence established by law that at face value proves a fact in dispute is known as _____.
A) Testimonial evidence
B) Prima facie evidence
C) Trace evidence
D) Demonstrative evidence
Answer: B
Page Ref: 30
Objective: Describe the preliminary investigation.
Level: Basic

6) Which of the following sources of evidence is most fragile and should be collected first?
A) Testimonies
B) Hair
C) Blood
D) Fingerprints
Answer: D
Page Ref: 38
Objective: Identify special cases in evidence handling.
Level: Basic

7) Which is the best method of seizing a handgun as evidence?
A) Using two fingers to hold the grip
B) Inserting a ball-point pen into the barrel
C) Picking it up with a cloth handkerchief
D) Sticking a pencil through the trigger guard
Answer: A
Page Ref: 37
Objective: Identify special cases in evidence handling.
Level: Basic

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8) Which of the following is NOT a task required of the follow-up investigator?
A) Analyzing reports of officers conducting the preliminary phases of the investigation
B) Organizing police actions, such as neighborhood canvassing, raids, and search warrants
C) Conducting a body cavity search on the suspect
D) Checking police intelligence files to develop potential suspects
Answer: C
Page Ref: 52
Objective: Perform the follow-up investigation.
Level: Basic

9) Which of the following is NOT one of the phases in the search of the crime scene?
A) Examining the victim's background
B) Searching for fingerprints
C) Documenting through sketches and photographs
D) Surveying the crime scene
Answer: A
Page Ref: 55
Objective: Describe the crime scene "walkthrough."
Level: Basic

10) Generally, the term _____ is defined as an initial inquiry by officers to establish facts and circumstances of a suspected crime and to preserve any evidence related to that crime.
A) Suspect interrogation
B) Witness interview
C) Crime scene search
D) Preliminary investigation
Answer: D
Page Ref: 28
Objective: Describe the preliminary investigation.
Level: Basic

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11) Investigators are called to a scene where a kidnapping of a 12-year-old girl was reported. Witnesses consistently state the girl was forced into a blue mini-van. The witnesses include several of her friends and two adults. The investigation has resulted in the identification of a van registered to Roger P. Anderson of 1594 Maple Drive, and this matches the description of the vehicle used in the abduction. How many crime scenes should the police be immediately concerned with?
A) One crime scene — the park is the main crime scene. All efforts should be used to secure and search the original crime scene.
B) Two crime scenes — the park and the mini-van are the crime scenes that should be secured and searched.
C) Three crime scenes — the park, the mini-van, and the residence at 1594 Maple Drive should be secured and searched with proper search warrants.
D) Four crime scenes — the park, the mini-van, the residence of Mr. Anderson, and Mr. Anderson's place of business.
Answer: C
Page Ref: 29
Objective: Describe the preliminary investigation.
Level: Intermediate

12) In the evidence-collection process, contamination of evidence occurs most commonly when evidence is not properly secured, is wrongfully mixed with other types of evidence, or is altered significantly from its original condition at the crime scene. What are the legal consequences if evidence is not handled properly?
A) When this occurs, the evidence is usually rendered inadmissible or "incompetent" by the court.
B) The evidence is usually admissible, but the officer may be impeached by defense counsel in the handling of the evidence.
C) The evidence may be admissible if officer can show that in "good faith" the errors were based on poor training or poor information at the time of collection.
D) The evidence is not admissible, but officers and prosecution may still use the information to convict the suspect.
Answer: A
Page Ref: 29
Objective: Describe the preliminary investigation.
Level: Intermediate

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13) The _____ states that whenever the perpetrator of a crime comes into contact with the scene, he or she will both *bring something into the scene* and *leave with something from the scene*. In other words, this principle asserts that every contact leaves minimally, a trace of evidence.
A) Best evidence rule
B) Prima facie evidence rule
C) Exigent circumstance principle
D) Locard's principle
Answer: D
Page Ref: 29
Objective: Know the significance of securing the scene.
Level: Basic

14) Evidence such as fingerprints, footprints, bloodstains, and fibers are examples of _____.
A) Proof beyond a reasonable doubt evidence
B) Associative evidence
C) Latent evidence
D) Demonstrative evidence
Answer: B
Page Ref: 30
Objective: Identify special cases in evidence handling.
Level: Basic

15) *Prima facie evidence* is evidence established by law that at face value proves a fact in dispute. Which of the following is an example of prima facie evidence?
A) Wisconsin state law states that anyone with a blood alcohol content over .08 is operating illegally on Wisconsin highways.
B) John is found with the murder weapon in the trunk of his car during a routine traffic stop.
C) Four witnesses all describe the same suspect, Michael Peterson, as the person who left the bar with the victim earlier in the evening.
D) The estranged husband confessed that he shot his wife during an argument.
Answer: A
Page Ref: 30
Objective: Identify special cases in evidence handling.
Level: Intermediate

16) A police officer learns that Julie and George Hammerstone are growing and selling marijuana out of their home on Stewart Avenue. What constitutional limit governs the officer's actions in regards to searching this home for evidence?
A) The First Amendment
B) The Second Amendment
C) The Fourth Amendment
D) The Sixth Amendment
Answer: C
Page Ref: 30
Objective: Identify special cases in evidence handling.

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Level: Intermediate

17) A police officer has arrested a man in front of his house for felony theft. Subsequent to the arrest, what can the officer search?
A) The officer may only conduct a "pat down" or a "frisk" of the suspect for weapons.
B) The officer may thoroughly search the man but may not conduct a strip search.
C) The officer may search the man and the man's home.
D) The officer may search the man, the man's home, and the man's vehicle if the vehicle is within the man's reach, lunge, or grasp.
Answer: B
Page Ref: 30-31
Objective: Identify special cases in evidence handling.
Level: Difficult

18) A police officer has information that a man is selling drugs out his home. The officer goes to the home and knocks on the door. The man's wife answers the door and gives the police officer consent to search the house. The officer searches the entire home and finds drugs, a digital scale, cash, drug packaging material, and drug ledgers. What statement below regarding the discovered evidence is true?
A) All of the evidence is admissible and may be used in court.
B) Since the wife is not a suspect, none of the evidence is admissible.
C) The drugs are admissible since they are contraband. The rest of the "evidence" is legal to possess and is therefore inadmissible in court.
D) Since the husband was not at home during the search, none of the evidence is admissible.
Answer: A
Page Ref: 30
Objective: Identify special cases in evidence handling.
Level: Difficult

19) A police officer is dispatched to a domestic disturbance called in by a woman who told the dispatcher that her boyfriend was trying to beat her up with a baseball bat. The victim said that she had locked herself into the bathroom and was trapped. The officer who arrived at the scene cautiously approached the home and heard loud crashing, banging and screaming by both a man and a woman. What should the officer do?
A) Call the local prosecutor and obtain a search warrant to enter the home.
B) Knock on the door and announce "police" but wait for someone to answer the door.
C) Have dispatch call the woman back on the phone and ask for permission to enter the home without a warrant.
D) Enter the home without a warrant.
Answer: D
Page Ref: 31
Objective: Identify special cases in evidence handling.
Level: Difficult

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20) What is the purpose of the crime scene "walk-through?"
A) It provides an overview of the entire scene.
B) It identifies any threats to scene integrity.
C) It ensures protection of physical evidence.
D) All of the above are valid reasons to conduct a "walk-through."
Answer: D
Page Ref: 41
Objective: Describe the crime scene "walkthrough."
Level: Basic

21) Two police officers are investigating a child abuse and neglect case and during the walk-through, it was evident that significant evidence is located in the child's bedroom. What search method should the officers use to most effectively search the child's room?
A) The spiral search method
B) The grid search method
C) The strip or line search method
D) The quadrant or zone search method
Answer: D
Page Ref: 42
Objective: Identify special cases in evidence handling.
Level: Intermediate

22) An investigator needs fingerprints from a knife recovered from a crime scene. The investigator intends to send the knife to the FBI crime lab by placing the knife into a cardboard box after it is secured to a rigid board. The invoice, transmittal form, and property receipt are also secured **inside** the box. The box is sealed and then sent to the crime lab. What can be said about the process that was used to ship the evidence to the crime lab?
A) The process used was proper.
B) The process used was improper because the invoice should have been affixed to the outside of the box.
C) The process used was improper because the knife should have been placed in a plastic bag first to ensure that DNA was preserved.
D) The box used should have been sprayed with a stencil indicating "FRAGILE" but otherwise the process was correct.
Answer: B
Page Ref: 44
Objective: Identify special cases in evidence handling.
Level: Intermediate

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23) A police officer is at a crime scene and locates a footprint in a flowerbed near an open window. The window is examined closely and pry marks are discovered on the lower window sash and the window sill indicating forced entry. The police officer pointed out the evidence to the investigator who photographed the evidence and collected the footwear impression using a liquid footwear casting system. Who is required to testify in court to get the evidence admitted during the trial?
A) The investigator who collected the evidence
B) The police officer who discovered the evidence
C) Both the police officer who discovered the evidence and the investigator who collected the evidence are usually required to testify.
D) Everyone at the crime scene is required to testify.
Answer: C
Page Ref: 44
Objective: Identify special cases in evidence handling.
Level: Intermediate

24) During the collection of evidence, when should evidence be marked?
A) All evidence must be marked immediately upon seizure.
B) Evidence should be marked when the evidence is stored in long-term storage facilities.
C) Evidence should NOT be marked. All notations should be made in the investigator's notebook and on evidence *packaging*.
D) Evidence should only be marked when the evidence is used in court.
Answer: A
Page Ref: 44
Objective: Identify special cases in evidence handling.
Level: Basic

2.2 True/False Questions

1) The information furnished to the responding units by the dispatcher or by other officers will normally not provide sufficient "reasonable suspicion" to justify the detention of persons or vehicles.
Answer: TRUE
Page Ref: 32
Objective: Describe the preliminary investigation.
Level: Basic

2) A BOLO is closely associated with the practice of issuing a flash description.
Answer: TRUE
Page Ref: 34
Objective: Understand the first officer's responsibilities.
Level: Basic

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3) Even if the perpetrator is at the scene and probable cause for arrest exists, the responding officers should avoid contaminating the crime scene by waiting until the perpetrator leaves the crime scene in order to make an arrest.
Answer: FALSE
Page Ref: 33
Objective: Understand the first officer's responsibilities.
Level: Basic

4) Officers arriving at a crime scene must attend to any injured party unless a life-threatening situation or other exigent circumstance exists.
Answer: TRUE
Page Ref: 33
Objective: Understand the first officer's responsibilities.
Level: Basic

5) The CYMBL rule applies to guidelines that officers should follow in securing a crime scene.
Answer: FALSE
Page Ref: 34
Objective: Understand the first officer's responsibilities.
Level: Intermediate

6) The term *corpus delicti* simply refers to evidence which establishes that a crime has been committed.
Answer: TRUE
Page Ref: 30
Objective: Describe the preliminary investigation.
Level: Basic

7) An officer finding a body at a crime scene must make a precursory determination of the cause of death or injury.
Answer: TRUE
Page Ref: 36
Objective: Explain how to assess the crime scene.
Level: Basic

8) With a hanging victim, police should cut the body down at the knot in the rope.
Answer: FALSE
Page Ref: 36
Objective: Explain how to assess the crime scene.
Level: Basic

9) If it appears that evidence will be altered, lost, or destroyed, the evidence should be collected by responding officers.
Answer: TRUE
Page Ref: 29
Objective: Describe the preliminary investigation.
Level: Basic

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10) The first officer to arrive at a death scene has the duty of determining the official cause of death.
Answer: FALSE
Page Ref: 36
Objective: Understand the first officer's responsibilities.
Level: Basic

11) Electronic surveillance is similar to DNA and fingerprints because it isn't readily visible to the human eye under normal conditions.
Answer: TRUE
Page Ref: 38
Objective: Identify special cases in evidence handling.
Level: Basic

12) Assessing the crime scene includes evaluating the measures and steps that have been taken to include safety procedures.
Answer: TRUE
Page Ref: 40
Objective: Explain how to assess the crime scene.
Level: Basic

13) Investigators should begin examining the scene of a crime without any knowledge of the crime so they are not biased.
Answer: FALSE
Page Ref: 40
Objective: Describe the crime scene "walkthrough."
Level: Intermediate

14) Beginning the search of a crime scene, the first step is documenting the scene through sketches and photographs.
Answer: FALSE
Page Ref: 41
Objective: Explain how to assess the crime scene.
Level: Intermediate

15) It is generally recommended that at least two officers search an indoor crime scene.
Answer: TRUE
Page Ref: 41
Objective: Identify special cases in evidence handling.
Level: Basic

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16) Photographs of evidence should take place in a crime lab so they best lighting and equipment can be used.
Answer: FALSE
Page Ref: 43
Objective: Identify special cases in evidence handling.
Level: Basic

17) All evidence must be marked immediately upon seizure to ensure proper identification later.
Answer: TRUE
Page Ref: 44
Objective: Identify special cases in evidence handling.
Level: Basic

18) As often showed on television crime show, guns should be picked up by inserting a pen in the barrel so as to not contaminate the fingerprints on the handle.
Answer: FALSE
Page Ref: 45
Objective: Identify special cases in evidence handling.
Level: Basic

19) Bloodstains found at a crime scene may belong to the suspect.
Answer: TRUE
Page Ref: 46
Objective: Identify special cases in evidence handling.
Level: Basic

20) Neighborhood canvassing may be done during the early phases of an investigation.
Answer: TRUE
Page Ref: 51
Objective: Know how to interview witnesses.
Level: Basic

2.3 Fill in the Blank Questions

1) The _____ investigation demonstrates that officers are conscientious enough to follow up on leads even after the preliminary investigations have concluded.
Answer: Follow-up
Page Ref: 52
Objective: Perform the follow-up investigation.
Level: Basic

2) A(n) _____ canvass can have significant impact on the outcome of an investigation and should be taken seriously and not performed haphazardly.
Answer: Neighborhood
Page Ref: 52
Objective: Know how to interview witnesses.
Level: Basic

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3) The determination regarding the death of the victim and circumstances surrounding the death are typically made by the _____ examiner.
Answer: Medical
Page Ref: 51
Objective: Perform the follow-up investigation.
Level: Basic

4) Studies have revealed that _____ abuse is the greatest contributor to the commission of crime.
Answer: Drug
Page Ref: 49
Objective: Identify special cases in evidence handling.
Level: Intermediate

5) Forensic _____ involves looking at plant life to gain information regarding possible crimes.
Answer: Botany
Page Ref: 49
Objective: Identify special cases in evidence handling.
Level: Basic

6) Tools, tires, feet, and teeth can all make _____.
Answer: Impressions
Page Ref: 48
Objective: Identify special cases in evidence handling.
Level: Intermediate

7) _____ results when an object swung in an arc flings blood onto nearby surfaces.
Answer: Castoff
Page Ref: 47
Objective: Identify special cases in evidence handling.
Level: Intermediate

8) _____ can be stored in vehicle trunks, strongboxes, property rooms, locked file cabinets, evidence lockers or vaults.
Answer: Evidence
Page Ref: 44
Objective: Identify special cases in evidence handling.
Level: Basic

9) The examination of the scene typically begins with a crime scene _____ of the area along the "trail" of the crime.
Answer: Walkthrough
Page Ref: 41
Objective: Describe the crime scene "walkthrough."
Level: Intermediate

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10) The _____ exchange principle also known as transfer of evidence theory, states that when two items touch, there will be an exchange.
Answer: Locard
Page Ref: 29
Objective: Explain how to assess the crime scene.
Level: Basic

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2.4 Matching Questions

Match up the step or action in the left column to either assessing the crime scene, canvassing the neighborhood, or if the step or action can be applied to both in the right column. Answers will be used more than once.

A) Canvassing the neighborhood
B) Assessing the crime scene
C) Can be applied to both

1) Interview everyone separately.
Page Ref: 40
Objective: Explain how to assess the crime scene.
Level: Intermediate

2) Cooperate with crime scene technicians, and develop a collection plan for evidence.
Page Ref: 40
Objective: Explain how to assess the crime scene.
Level: Intermediate

3) Take advantage of permission to search areas outside of the crime scene.
Page Ref: 40
Objective: Explain how to assess the crime scene.
Level: Intermediate

4) Identify protective equipment and clothing that are required to safely process the crime scene.
Page Ref: 40
Objective: Explain how to assess the crime scene.
Level: Intermediate

5) Document every canvass interview and attempt.
Page Ref: 40
Objective: Explain how to assess the crime scene.
Level: Intermediate

6) Ask for and get proof of the names of everyone.
Page Ref: 40
Objective: Explain how to assess the crime scene.
Level: Intermediate

7) Determine the evidence search method to be used and the point(s) at which the search will begin.
Page Ref: 40
Objective: Explain how to assess the crime scene.
Level: Intermediate

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8) Interview person who say they weren't present at crime scene.
Page Ref: 40
Objective: Explain how to assess the crime scene.
Level: Intermediate

9) Determine the need for a search warrant before collection of evidence.
Page Ref: 40
Objective: Explain how to assess the crime scene.
Level: Intermediate

10) Evaluates measures and steps that have been taken to include safety procedures, perimeter security and assess control of the adequacy of resources.
Page Ref: 40
Objective: Explain how to assess the crime scene.
Level: Intermediate

Answers: 1) C 2) B 3) A 4) B 5) A 6) C 7) B 8) A 9) B 10) B

2.5 Essay Questions

1) The first responding officer plays a key role in the criminal investigation of a case. What should the officer do immediately upon receiving the call to respond to a crime?
Answer: The first responding officer's role does not begin at the arrival at the scene, but en route to the scene. Several clues, pieces of evidence, or possibly the sighting or arrest of the suspect can be obtained en route.
Page Ref: 32
Objective: Understand the first officer's responsibilities.
Level: Basic

2) Several different types of evidence were discussed in the textbook. Briefly describe the evidence types and provide an example of each type. Be sure to include a rationale as to why the example fits into that type of evidence.
Answer: Circumstantial evidence merely tends to incriminate a person without offering conclusive proof. Testimonial evidence consists of a verbal statement offered by a witness while under oath or affirmation. It may also be evidence offered by way of a sworn pretrial deposition. Although many people define testimony in the same way as evidence, they are clearly distinct. Testimony is evidence offered in an oral manner and is used most commonly to explain some form of physical evidence. Trace evidence consists of extremely small items of evidence, such as hair or clothing fibers. With the aid of modern forensic analysis, trace evidence plays a greater role today than ever before in solving capital cases. Demonstrative evidence is evidence used to demonstrate or clarify an issue rather than to prove something. Physical evidence could be considered as a classification of its own. Physical evidence is self-explanatory in nature and generally speaks for itself in a court of law. Direct or prima facie evidence is evidence established by law that at face value proves a fact in dispute. Examples will vary.
Page Ref: 30
Objective: Identify special cases in evidence handling.
Level: Basic

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3) Before processing the crime scene, it is important to have a plan of how to proceed in order to have success. Outline the ten steps involved in assessing the crime scene.
Answer:
1. Evaluate measures and steps that have been taken to include safety procedures, perimeter security and access control, the adequacy of investigative resources, whether witnesses and suspects have been identified, and the degree to which preliminary documentation of the crime scene has been made.
2. Conduct a crime scene walkthrough in cooperation with the first responder and individuals responsible for processing the crime scene to identify any threats to crime scene integrity and begin an initial identification of evidence.
3. Determine the need for a search warrant before collection of evidence.
4. Assess the overall crime scene before evidence collection to develop a plan for working within the crime scene without unnecessarily destroying or contaminating evidence.
5. Identify evidence collection and document team members, including specialists such as odontologists, bomb technicians, arson investigators, entomologists, and fingerprint technicians.
6. Identify protective equipment and clothing that are required to safely process the crime scene.
7. Identify a separate area, if necessary, for equipment and personnel staging and for gathering and sanitizing tools, equipment, and personal protective gear between evidence collections.
8. Assign one officer whose primary responsibility is recording and collecting items of evidence. This will increase efficiency, establish the chain of custody, help prevent loss, and reduce the number of officers who must appear in court.
9. Determine the evidence search method to be used and the point(s) at which the search will begin and establish a working route around the scene to minimize disruption and contamination.
10. Develop, in cooperation with crime scene technician(s) or other trained personnel, a collection plan for identified items of evidence detailing the process and the order of collection.
Page Ref: 40
Objective: Explain how to assess the crime scene.
Level: Basic

2.6 Critical Thinking

1) Five steps are outlined in the chapter regarding securing the crime scene. Refer to the opening case story of O.J. Simpson, and apply these five steps to this case. How would you, acting as a first responder, secure the crime scene? Some information necessary needed for the five steps may need to be created, or additional research on the case should be gathered.
Answer:
1. Define the crime scene area, which includes any portion of the premises that may reasonably be anticipated to contain useful evidence.
2. Request backup to help restrict access to crime scene and control onlookers.
3. Clear the interior of crime scene area of all persons other than law enforcement officers that are actively engaged in crime scene duties.
4. Record actions previously taken at the scene.
5. Restrict access to the scene to only those authorized as directly involved in the investigation.
Page Ref: 27
Objective: Know the significance of securing the scene.

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Level: Difficult

2) Read the "Criminal Investigation in Practice" box regarding The O.J. Simpson Case-What "Not to Do at a Crime Scene" on pages 53 and 54 of the textbook. The article points out the many mistakes made, but it doesn't really explain how this case was different, what the repercussions were from this case, and how this case changed criminal investigation. Discuss some of these points.
Answer: The O.J case was one of the most publicized cases today. Some called it the "perfect storm". You had a famous football player, a blend of racial tension, a "dream team" defense team, an infamous chase scene, and a double homicide. It was a long trial that was televised which led to the mistakes made law enforcement and prosecution being seen on a daily basis. It peaked interest in criminal investigation and promoted the furtherance of the "CSI Effect". Some say it showed how flawed our system is, and others feel the system worked the way it should. It brought ethical questions to the forefront. It addressed media responsibility. It showed flaws in evidence collection, and this allowed for the creation of better policies and procedures regarding evidence collection. Racial tensions were brought to the forefront. So much information is available on this topic, that answers will vary, but should have several of the above mentioned key points.
Page Ref: 53-54
Objective: Perform the follow-up investigation.
Level: Difficult

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