Test Bank for Criminalistics An Introduction to Forensic Science 12th Saferstein

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Criminalistics: An Introduction to Forensic Science, 12e **(Saferstein)**
Chapter 2 The Crime Scene

2.1 Multiple Choice Questions

1) After providing or obtaining medical assistance for the injured and effecting an arrest of suspects (if possible), the first officer arriving at a crime scene should immediately:
A) Search for evidence.
B) Secure the scene.
C) Make a rough sketch of the scene.
D) Take notes.
Answer: B
Page Ref: 32
Objective: Describe the various measures taken while securing, recording, and searching the crime scene.
Level: Basic

2) The first responding officer must make attempts at the crime scene to detain and question:
A) Witnesses.
B) Unauthorized personnel.
C) Suspects.
D) Both A and C
Answer: D
Page Ref: 32
Objective: Describe the various measures taken while securing, recording, and searching the crime scene.
Level: Basic

3) Police barricades, and the strategic positioning of guards, will prohibit access to the crime scene for:
A) Civilians only.
B) Civilians and media personnel.
C) All law enforcement personnel.
D) All unauthorized personnel.
Answer: D
Page Ref: 32
Objective: Describe the various measures taken while securing, recording, and searching the crime scene.
Level: Basic

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4) The conditions at a crime scene can be compromised by all of the following actions EXCEPT:
A) Taking photographs at the crime scene
B) Adjusting the temperature of the crime scene
C) Eating food at the crime scene
D) Turning a faucet on at the crime scene
Answer: A
Page Ref: 32
Objective: Describe the various measures taken while securing, recording, and searching the crime scene.
Level: Basic

5) 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 kind of search pattern that is used to locate evidence.
C) The amount of care that must be taken during the crime scene search.
D) The time at which the crime scene is searched.
Answer: B
Page Ref: 39
Objective: Describe the various measures taken while securing, recording, and searching the crime scene.
Level: Intermediate

6) Which search pattern would be best suited for a crime scene where many investigators are available to search a large area?
A) Spiral
B) Grid
C) Line
D) Zone
Answer: D
Page Ref: 42
Objective: Describe the various measures taken while securing, recording, and searching the crime scene.
Level: Intermediate

7) The purpose of the crime scene search is to locate:
A) DNA-containing evidence.
B) All physical evidence.
C) Fingerprint evidence.
D) Bloodstain patterns.
Answer: B
Page Ref: 42
Objective: Describe the various measures taken while securing, recording, and searching the crime scene.
Level: Basic

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8) The most basic methods of crime scene recording do NOT include:
A) Note-taking.
B) Photographs.
C) Narrated videotapes.
D) Infrared analysis.
Answer: D
Page Ref: 34
Objective: Describe the various measures taken while securing, recording, and searching the crime scene.
Level: Basic

9) If the crime scene includes a dead body, the photographer should:
A) Determine the time of death.
B) Attempt to identify the victim.
C) Document all forensic personnel at crime scene.
D) Depict injuries and weapons at scene.
Answer: D
Page Ref: 37
Objective: Describe the various measures taken while securing, recording, and searching the crime scene.
Level: Intermediate

10) A rough sketch need NOT include a:
A) Sketch of the suspect(s).
B) Compass heading designating north.
C) Date, location, and time of the incident.
D) Location of all recovered physical evidence.
Answer: A
Page Ref: 37-38
Objective: Describe the various measures taken while securing, recording, and searching the crime scene.
Level: Intermediate

11) CAD programs enhance the ability to:
A) Take complete notes.
B) Develop photographs.
C) Edit video tape.
D) Produce a finished crime scene sketch.
Answer: D
Page Ref: 38
Objective: Describe the various measures taken while securing, recording, and searching the crime scene.
Level: Intermediate

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12) Which statement about note-taking is NOT true?
A) The individual who packaged and marked items of evidence should be recorded.
B) Note-taking is done after all crime scene processing has been completed.
C) Notes should include location of physical evidence recovered.
D) Disposition of items after collection must be included.
Answer: B
Page Ref: 34
Objective: Describe the various measures taken while securing, recording, and searching the crime scene.
Level: Intermediate

13) Which crime scene search pattern would absolutely require more than one investigator?
A) Spiral
B) Line
C) Grid
D) Zone
Answer: D
Page Ref: 42
Objective: Describe the various measures taken while securing, recording, and searching the crime scene.
Level: Intermediate

14) Physical evidence at a hit-and-run scene could include:
A) Fiber and tissue.
B) Glass fragments.
C) Fabric impressions.
D) All of the above
Answer: D
Page Ref: 42
Objective: Describe proper techniques for packaging common types of physical evidence.
Level: Basic

15) The crime scene notes must accurately record:
A) The tasks assigned each investigator.
B) Personnel arrivals and departures from the scene.
C) Descriptions of evidence present at the crime scene.
D) All of the above
Answer: D
Page Ref: 34
Objective: Describe the various measures taken while securing, recording, and searching the crime scene.
Level: Basic

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16) The advantages of tape-recording crime scene notes on an audio tape include all of the following EXCEPT:
A) The notes can be recorded at the crime laboratory instead of at the crime scene.
B) The investigator's hands are free to carry out other tasks while recording the notes.
C) Audio tapes have the added security feature of preventing erasure or taping over if the security tab on the tape.
D) The notes are recording as the observations are made.
Answer: A
Page Ref: 34
Objective: Describe the various measures taken while securing, recording, and searching the crime scene.
Level: Intermediate

17) In digital photography, light is recorded as a specific charge on millions of tiny:
A) Silver halide grains.
B) Charge coupled devices.
C) Semi-conductors.
D) Pixels.
Answer: D
Page Ref: 35
Objective: Describe the various measures taken while securing, recording, and searching the crime scene.
Level: Intermediate

18) Digital crime scene photographs require special measures to assure their admissibility in court due to:
A) Their poor quality.
B) The inability to manipulate the images.
C) The ability to manipulate the images.
D) All of the above
Answer: C
Page Ref: 35
Objective: Describe the various measures taken while securing, recording, and searching the crime scene.
Level: Intermediate

19) Videotapes of the crime scene:
A) Can be used in place of notes and photographs.
B) Must be complemented by a hard copy of notes and separate still photographs.
C) Are required in all jurisdictions.
D) Are not admissible in court due to the poor image quality.
Answer: B
Page Ref: 37
Objective: Describe the various measures taken while securing, recording, and searching the crime scene.
Level: Intermediate

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20) Crime scene sketches serve a unique purpose in permanently documenting the location of evidence:
A) Processed at the crime scene.
B) Containing drug evidence.
C) Not documented in photographs.
D) Collected and removed from the crime scene.
Answer: D
Page Ref: 37
Objective: Describe the various measures taken while securing, recording, and searching the crime scene.
Level: Intermediate

21) From the choices below, select the one correct physical evidence collection procedure.
A) Bloodstained garments should be packaged separately in paper bags.
B) Items recovered from scene of a murder should be sent along with the body to the Medical Examiner.
C) All items collected from the same grid area should be packaged together.
D) The victim's clothing should be obtained at the crime scene and vacuumed to obtain trace evidence.
Answer: A
Page Ref: 42-44
Objective: Describe proper techniques for packaging common types of physical evidence.
Level: Intermediate

22) Investigators should collect possible carriers of trace evidence which may include:
A) Vacuum sweepings.
B) Clothing.
C) Fingernail scrapings.
D) All of the above
Answer: D
Page Ref: 44
Objective: Describe proper techniques for packaging common types of physical evidence.
Level: Basic

23) Changes to evidence, such as contamination, can be prevented by handling evidence with:
A) Latex gloves.
B) Dry, bare hands.
C) Disposable forceps.
D) Both A and C
Answer: D
Page Ref: 45
Objective: Describe proper techniques for packaging common types of physical evidence.
Level: Basic

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24) Charred debris from an arson scene should be:
A) Placed together with similar items in a paper bag.
B) Placed in Ziploc® bags.
C) Packaged in airtight glass jars.
D) Aired out before packing in plastic wrap.
Answer: C
Page Ref: 44
Objective: Describe proper techniques for packaging common types of physical evidence.
Level: Intermediate

25) A victim's fingernail scrapings would be correctly packaged in:
A) A druggist fold.
B) A plastic Ziploc® bag.
C) Sealed, airtight containers.
D) Both B and C
Answer: A
Page Ref: 44
Objective: Describe proper techniques for packaging common types of physical evidence.
Level: Intermediate

26) The successful outcome of a criminal investigation is almost always directly related to:
A) The manner in which the evidence is collected and preserved.
B) The number of people employed in the crime lab.
C) The volume of the physical evidence collected.
D) Whether the crime is considered high-profile.
Answer: A
Page Ref: 32
Objective: Describe the various measures taken while securing, recording, and searching the crime scene.
Level: Intermediate

27) A properly maintained chain of custody is NOT the responsibility of the:
A) Crime scene processor.
B) Evidence clerk.
C) Forensic technician.
D) Trial judge.
Answer: D
Page Ref: 47-48
Objective: Understand the concept of chain of custody.
Level: Basic

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28) Success in the recognition and collection of physical evidence is determined primarily by the:
A) Notoriety of the case.
B) Time available to the evidence collectors.
C) Skill of personnel processing the crime scene.
D) Type of evidence involved.
Answer: C
Page Ref: 48
Objective: Describe proper techniques for packaging common types of physical evidence.
Level: Intermediate

29) The collection of standard reference samples at the crime scene is important because they:
A) Permit comparisons to be made with the evidence.
B) Are obtained only from suspects in cases of violent assault.
C) Serve as a source of extra test material if required in the crime lab.
D) All of the above
Answer: A
Page Ref: 48
Objective: Describe proper techniques for packaging common types of physical evidence.
Level: Intermediate

30) The presence of blood and semen at crime scenes exposes investigators to:
A) Hepatitis B.
B) AIDS.
C) Both A and B
D) Neither A nor B
Answer: C
Page Ref: 49
Objective: Relate what steps are typically required to maintain appropriate health and safety standards at the crime scene.
Level: Intermediate

31) The removal of any evidence from a person or from the scene of a crime must be done in conformity with the privileges of which amendment to the Constitution?
A) Sixth
B) Fourth
C) Fifth
D) First
Answer: B
Page Ref: 50
Objective: Describe the various measures taken while securing, recording, and searching the crime scene.
Level: Intermediate

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32) The police are NOT required to obtain a search warrant if they are:
A) Unable to locate a judge to issue a warrant.
B) Certain their suspect is guilty.
C) In the process of a legal arrest.
D) Investigating the murder of a fellow officer.
Answer: C
Page Ref: 50
Objective: Describe the various measures taken while securing, recording, and searching the crime scene.
Level: Intermediate

33) Which of the following is U.S. Supreme Court decision which dealt with the impropriety of the warrantless collection of physical evidence at a homicide scene?
A) *Mapp v. U.S.*
B) *Frye v. U.S.*
C) *People v. Wilkens*
D) *Mincey v. Arizona*
Answer: D
Page Ref: 51
Objective: Understand the implications of relevant U.S. Supreme Court decisions in conducting a crime scene investigation.
Level: Intermediate

34) Which type of evidence must be packaged separately from other evidence?
A) Biological stain evidence
B) DNA-containing evidence
C) Arson evidence
D) All of the above
Answer: D
Page Ref: 43
Objective: Describe proper techniques for packaging common types of physical evidence.
Level: Basic

35) Which of the following items is likely to contain DNA evidence?
A) A self-adhesive mailing stamp
B) A bed sheet
C) A blue rug fiber
D) A glass fragment
Answer: B
Page Ref: 46
Objective: Describe proper techniques for packaging common types of physical evidence.
Level: Intermediate

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36) The evidence collector must take extraordinary care to avoid potential contamination by transferring DNA onto objects of evidential value by:
A) Reusing shoe covers.
B) Packaging items containing potential DNA evidence in airtight bags.
C) Wearing a face mask.
D) Using the same pair of forceps to collect all evidence at the crime scene.
Answer: C
Page Ref: 46
Objective: Describe proper techniques for packaging common types of physical evidence.
Level: Intermediate

37) The best way to guarantee that the evidence will withstand inquiries about what happened to it from the time of its finding to its presentation in court is to:
A) Properly record the crime scene.
B) Properly mark evidence for identification.
C) Properly complete evidence submission forms.
D) All of the above
Answer: D
Page Ref: 47
Objective: Understand the concept of chain of custody.
Level: Basic

38) When biological samples of unknown origin are discovered at a crime scene, investigators:
A) Should assume no pathogens are present and treat the samples as such.
B) Should allow only trained hazardous material teams to handle the evidence.
C) Should assume pathogens are present and treat the sample as such.
D) Should package them in plastic bags.
Answer: C
Page Ref: 49
Objective: Describe proper techniques for packaging common types of physical evidence.
Level: Intermediate

39) Special circumstances at a crime scene may require the use of the following for evidence collection, EXCEPT:
A) Particle masks.
B) Biohazard packages.
C) Coveralls.
D) All of the above may be required.
Answer: D
Page Ref: 50
Objective: Relate what steps are typically required to maintain appropriate health and safety standards at the crime scene.
Level: Basic

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40) "The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizure…" is provided for in the United States by the:
A) Frye standard.
B) Fourth Amendment.
C) Declaration of Independence.
D) Second Amendment.
Answer: B
Page Ref: 50
Objective: Describe the various measures taken while securing, recording, and searching the crime scene.
Level: Intermediate

41) Warrantless searches are permitted under law in all of the following situations EXCEPT:
A) The existence of emergency circumstances.
B) The injury or death of a police officer or law enforcement employee.
C) The consent of the parties involved.
D) The need to prevent the immediate loss of evidence.
Answer: B
Page Ref: 50
Objective: Describe the various measures taken while securing, recording, and searching the crime scene.
Level: Intermediate

42) The manner of collecting and preserving physical evidence at a crime scene is determined by:
A) The circumstances of the crime.
B) The importance of the case.
C) The number of evidence collectors present at the crime scene.
D) The nature of the evidence.
Answer: D
Page Ref: 42
Objective: Describe proper techniques for packaging common types of physical evidence.
Level: Intermediate

43) Physical evidence may be obtained from:
A) The crime scene.
B) The victim.
C) The suspect.
D) All of the above
Answer: D
Page Ref: 48
Objective: Describe the various measures taken while securing, recording, and searching the crime scene.
Level: Basic

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44) All of the following items may be placed in an airtight container EXCEPT:
A) Charred debris recovered from a fire.
B) Blood-stained clothing.
C) Glass.
D) Hairs and fibers.
Answer: B
Page Ref: 43-44
Objective: Describe proper techniques for packaging common types of physical evidence.
Level: Intermediate

45) The evidence collector is NOT concerned with:
A) Maintaining the chain of custody.
B) Utilizing the proper packaging material for evidence.
C) Labeling evidence.
D) Determining the natural variations that exist in physical evidence.
Answer: D
Page Ref: 47
Objective: Describe proper techniques for packaging common types of physical evidence.
Level: Intermediate

46) 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
Page Ref: 32-33
Objective: Describe proper techniques for packaging common types of physical evidence.
Level: Intermediate

47) The initial survey of the crime scene carried out by the lead investigator is called:
A) The spiral search.
B) The initial survey.
C) The walk-through.
D) The crime scene search.
Answer: C
Page Ref: 33
Objective: Describe the various measures taken while securing, recording, and searching the crime scene.
Level: Basic

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48) Which crime scene search pattern does NOT require more than one investigator?
A) Wheel
B) Line
C) Grid
D) Zone
Answer: B
Page Ref: 42
Objective: Describe the various measures taken while securing, recording, and searching the crime scene.
Level: Intermediate

49) What is a disadvantage to the spiral search pattern?
A) Evidence could be missed.
B) It requires several investigators.
C) It does not work for outdoors scenes.
D) It is dependent on the boundaries of the scene.
Answer: A
Page Ref: 42
Objective: Describe the various measures taken while securing, recording, and searching the crime scene.
Level: Intermediate

50) The center of the crime scene, which is always included within the crime scene's boundary, is:
A) The area where the first responder entered the scene.
B) The area where the witnesses were located.
C) The area where the command center will be located.
D) The area where the crime occurred.
Answer: D
Page Ref: 32
Objective: Describe the various measures taken while securing, recording, and searching the crime scene.
Level: Basic

51) Evidence commonly located during a vehicle search includes all of the following EXCEPT:
A) Questioned documents.
B) Fibers.
C) Paint evidence.
D) Broken glass.
Answer: A
Page Ref: 42
Objective: Describe the various measures taken while securing, recording, and searching the crime scene.
Level: Intermediate

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52) To formulate a successful strategy for recovering relevant physical evidence at crime scenes, the investigator must ultimately rely on:
A) Reference material.
B) Experience.
C) Training.
D) The lead investigator.
Answer: B
Page Ref: 42
Objective: Describe the various measures taken while securing, recording, and searching the crime scene.
Level: Intermediate

53) 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 is:
A) Line.
B) Grid.
C) Quadrant.
D) Wheel.
Answer: A
Page Ref: 42
Objective: Describe the various measures taken while securing, recording, and searching the crime scene.
Level: Intermediate

54) The search pattern that employs two people performing line searches that originate from adjacent corners is:
A) Line.
B) Grid.
C) Spiral.
D) Wheel.
Answer: B
Page Ref: 42
Objective: Describe the various measures taken while securing, recording, and searching the crime scene.
Level: Intermediate

55) 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
Page Ref: 42
Objective: Describe the various measures taken while securing, recording, and searching the crime scene.

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Level: Intermediate

56) It is permissible for officers at the scene to:
A) Eat.
B) Drink.
C) Smoke.
D) None of the above
Answer: D
Page Ref: 33
Objective: Describe the various measures taken while securing, recording, and searching the crime scene.
Level: Basic

57) Which search pattern is most reliant on the boundaries established?
A) Line
B) Spiral
C) Wheel
D) Quadrant
Answer: A
Page Ref: 42
Objective: Describe the various measures taken while securing, recording, and searching the crime scene.
Level: Intermediate

58) Officers should attempt to locate tool marks at the point of entry during the investigation of a:
A) Homicide.
B) Burglary.
C) Hit and run.
D) Assault.
Answer: B
Page Ref: 42
Objective: Describe the various measures taken while securing, recording, and searching the crime scene.
Level: Basic

59) The location of an item of evidence on a crime scene sketch is shown by its distance from points of reference that:
A) Are fixed or immovable.
B) Are within ten feet of the item.
C) Are located outside the boundaries of the crime scene.
D) Can be transported to the crime laboratory.
Answer: A
Page Ref: 38
Objective: Describe the various measures taken while securing, recording, and searching the crime scene.
Level: Intermediate

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60) At an arson scene, the collection of a substrate control would require the arson investigator to:
A) Collect a sample from the center of a potential accelerant stain.
B) Collect samples of surface material from areas far away from the fire's origin.
C) Collect a piece of the surface material near the fire's origin that he or she believes was not exposed to the accelerant.
D) Collect a sample of the vapors at the fire origin.
Answer: C
Page Ref: 48
Objective: Describe proper techniques for packaging common types of physical evidence.
Level: Intermediate

61) Success in the recognition and collection of physical evidence is determined primarily by the:
A) Notoriety of the case.
B) Time available to the evidence collectors.
C) Skill of personnel processing the crime scene.
D) Type of evidence involved.
Answer: C
Page Ref: 48
Objective: Describe proper techniques for packaging common types of physical evidence.
Level: Intermediate

2.2 True/False Questions

1) The obligation to maintain the integrity of evidence belongs to the first police officer at the scene only.
Answer: FALSE
Page Ref: 32
Objective: Describe the various measures taken while securing, recording, and searching the crime scene.
Level: Intermediate

2) The relative evidential value of laboratory test results is almost always dependent on the way the evidence is collected and presented for examination.
Answer: TRUE
Page Ref: 45
Objective: Describe proper techniques for packaging common types of physical evidence.
Level: Intermediate

3) Blood-stained clothing should not be placed in an airtight container.
Answer: TRUE
Page Ref: 47
Objective: Describe proper techniques for packaging common types of physical evidence.
Level: Intermediate

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4) The evidence collector is concerned with determining the natural variations that exist in physical evidence.
Answer: FALSE
Page Ref: 47
Objective: Describe proper techniques for packaging common types of physical evidence.
Level: Intermediate

5) The line and spiral search pattern methods can be performed effectively by one person.
Answer: TRUE
Page Ref: 42
Objective: Describe the various measures taken while securing, recording, and searching the crime scene.
Level: Intermediate

6) The first critical step in crime scene investigation is securing and isolating the crime scene.
Answer: TRUE
Page Ref: 32
Objective: Describe the various measures taken while securing, recording, and searching the crime scene.
Level: Basic

7) A rough sketch does not need to accurately depict the dimensions of the crime scene.
Answer: FALSE
Page Ref: 37
Objective: Describe the various measures taken while securing, recording, and searching the crime scene.
Level: Intermediate

8) The areas searched by crime scene investigators must include all probable points of entry and exit used by the criminal.
Answer: TRUE
Page Ref: 32
Objective: Describe the various measures taken while securing, recording, and searching the crime scene.
Level: Basic

9) The main objective in collecting and packaging physical evidence is to prevent any change in the evidence between the time it is removed from the crime scene and the time it is received by the crime laboratory.
Answer: TRUE
Page Ref: 47
Objective: Describe proper techniques for packaging common types of physical evidence.
Level: Basic

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10) It is not necessary to package evidence in separate containers.
Answer: FALSE
Page Ref: 43
Objective: Describe proper techniques for packaging common types of physical evidence.
Level: Basic

11) Ordinary mailing envelopes should not be used as evidence containers.
Answer: TRUE
Page Ref: 44
Objective: Describe proper techniques for packaging common types of physical evidence.
Level: Intermediate

12) Bloodstained materials should be packaged in wrapping paper, manila envelopes, or paper bags.
Answer: TRUE
Page Ref: 45
Objective: Describe proper techniques for packaging common types of physical evidence.
Level: Intermediate

13) The chain of custody does not usually play a vital role in a court of law.
Answer: FALSE
Page Ref: 47
Objective: Understand the concept of chain of custody.
Level: Basic

14) A substrate control allows the criminalist to connect evidence found at the scene of a crime to the suspect and/or victim.
Answer: FALSE
Page Ref: 48
Objective: Describe proper techniques for packaging common types of physical evidence.
Level: Intermediate

15) It is important to include a brief description of the case history on an evidence submission form.
Answer: TRUE
Page Ref: 48
Objective: Describe the various measures taken while securing, recording, and searching the crime scene.
Level: Basic

16) A substrate control ensures that the surface on which a sample has been deposited does not interfere with the interpretation of laboratory tests.
Answer: TRUE
Page Ref: 48
Objective: Describe proper techniques for packaging common types of physical evidence.
Level: Intermediate

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17) A warrantless search is never justified.
Answer: FALSE
Page Ref: 50-51
Objective: Describe the various measures taken while securing, recording, and searching the crime scene.
Level: Basic

18) The need to prevent the immediate loss or destruction of evidence is justification for a warrantless search.
Answer: TRUE
Page Ref: 50-51
Objective: Describe the various measures taken while securing, recording, and searching the crime scene.
Level: Intermediate

19) The victim's clothing and fingernail scrapings are common items of evidence that are sent to the forensic laboratory.
Answer: TRUE
Page Ref: 43
Objective: Describe proper techniques for packaging common types of physical evidence.
Level: Intermediate

20) The manner of collecting and preserving physical evidence at a crime scene is determined by the nature of the evidence.
Answer: TRUE
Page Ref: 43-44
Objective: Describe proper techniques for packaging common types of physical evidence.
Level: Intermediate

21) Failure to protect a crime scene properly may result in the destruction or altering of evidence.
Answer: TRUE
Page Ref: 33
Objective: Describe the various measures taken while securing, recording, and searching the crime scene.
Level: Basic

22) The first priority of the first officer responding to a crime scene is securing the crime scene.
Answer: FALSE
Page Ref: 32
Objective: Describe the various measures taken while securing, recording, and searching the crime scene.
Level: Intermediate

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23) Unauthorized personnel include friends and family of the victim.
Answer: TRUE
Page Ref: 32
Objective: Describe the various measures taken while securing, recording, and searching the crime scene.
Level: Intermediate

24) The officer charged with protecting the scene has the authority to exclude fellow officers.
Answer: TRUE
Page Ref: 32
Objective: Describe the various measures taken while securing, recording, and searching the crime scene.
Level: Intermediate

25) When possible, it is advisable to have two people supervising and coordinating the collection of evidence.
Answer: FALSE
Page Ref: 40
Objective: Describe proper techniques for packaging common types of physical evidence.
Level: Intermediate

26) The first responding officer should not make attempts at the crime scene to detain and question unauthorized personnel.
Answer: FALSE
Page Ref: 32
Objective: Describe the various measures taken while securing, recording, and searching the crime scene.
Level: Intermediate

27) It is permitted for officers at the scene to alter temperature conditions by adjusting windows, doors, or the heat or air-conditioning.
Answer: FALSE
Page Ref: 34
Objective: Describe the various measures taken while securing, recording, and searching the crime scene.
Level: Intermediate

28) The investigators should follow a direct path to the center of the scene.
Answer: FALSE
Page Ref: 32
Objective: Describe the various measures taken while securing, recording, and searching the crime scene.
Level: Intermediate

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29) The main disadvantage of digital photography for recording crime scenes is that digital photographs can be easily manipulated by using computer software.
Answer: TRUE
Page Ref: 35
Objective: Describe the various measures taken while securing, recording, and searching the crime scene.
Level: Intermediate

30) Sketching allows the investigator to combine notes and photography.
Answer: FALSE
Page Ref: 37-38
Objective: Describe the various measures taken while securing, recording, and searching the crime scene.
Level: Intermediate

31) Evidence may be moved only after investigators have documented its location and appearance in notes, sketches, and photographs.
Answer: TRUE
Page Ref: 34-38
Objective: Describe the various measures taken while securing, recording, and searching the crime scene.
Level: Basic

32) The investigator should not remove trace evidence from items at the crime scene, but instead he or she should send the entire object to the laboratory for processing.
Answer: TRUE
Page Ref: 43
Objective: Describe proper techniques for packaging common types of physical evidence.
Level: Intermediate

33) If evidence is adhering to an object in a precarious manner, the investigator should remove the evidence and package the item.
Answer: TRUE
Page Ref: 44
Objective: Describe proper techniques for packaging common types of physical evidence.
Level: Intermediate

34) Mobile crime laboratories are designed to carry out the functions of a chemical laboratory.
Answer: FALSE
Page Ref: 44
Objective: Describe the various measures taken while securing, recording, and searching the crime scene.
Level: Intermediate

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35) Evidence cannot be shipped through the mail.
Answer: FALSE
Page Ref: 48
Objective: Describe the proper techniques for packaging common types of physical evidence.
Level: Intermediate

2.3 Fill in the Blank Questions

1) _____ evidence is any object that can establish that a crime has been committed or can link a crime and its victim or a crime and its perpetrator.
Answer: Physical
Page Ref: 32
Objective: Describe the various measures taken while securing, recording, and searching the crime scene.
Level: Basic

2) The three methods of crime scene recording are photography, sketches, and _____.
Answer: Notes
Page Ref: 34
Objective: Describe the various measures taken while securing, recording, and searching the crime scene.
Level: Basic

3) The most important prerequisite for photographing a crime scene is for the scene to be in an _____ condition.
Answer: Unaltered
Page Ref: 34
Objective: Describe the various measures taken while securing, recording, and searching the crime scene.
Level: Difficult

4) A _____ sketch is a draft representation of all essential information and measurements at a crime scene.
Answer: Rough
Page Ref: 37-38
Objective: Describe the various measures taken while securing, recording, and searching the crime scene.
Level: Intermediate

5) The integrity of evidence is best maintained when the item is kept in its _____ condition as found at the crime scene.
Answer: Original
Page Ref: 43
Objective: Describe proper techniques for packaging common types of physical evidence.
Level: Difficult

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6) _____ materials should not be stored in airtight containers as this process could encourage the growth of mold.
Answer: Blood-stained
Page Ref: 45
Objective: Describe proper techniques for packaging common types of physical evidence.
Level: Intermediate

7) A(n) _____ control consists of uncontaminated surface material close to an area where physical evidence has been deposited.
Answer: Substrate
Page Ref: 48
Objective: Describe proper techniques for packaging common types of physical evidence.
Level: Intermediate

8) The spread of AIDS and _____ have sensitized the law enforcement community to the potential health hazards that can exist at crime scenes.
Answer: Hepatitis
Page Ref: 49
Objective: Relate what steps are typically required to maintain appropriate health and safety standards at the crime scene.
Level: Intermediate

9) Three basic types of protective clothing recommended for investigators are _____ gloves, shoe covers, and liquid-repellent coveralls.
Answer: Latex
Page Ref: 43
Objective: Relate what steps are typically required to maintain appropriate health and safety standards at the crime scene.
Level: Difficult

10) The existence of emergency circumstances may justify a(n) _____ search.
Answer: Warrantless
Page Ref: 50-51
Objective: Describe the various measures taken while securing, recording, and searching the crime scene.
Level: Basic

11) Crime scene _____ must include a detailed written description of the scene with the location of items of physical evidence recovered.
Answer: Notes
Page Ref: 34
Objective: Describe the various measures taken while securing, recording, and searching the crime scene.
Level: Basic

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12) Medical workers should approach the body by a(n) _____ route to minimize the possibility of disturbing evidence.
Answer: Indirect
Page Ref: 32
Objective: Describe the various measures taken while securing, recording, and searching the crime scene.
Level: Difficult

13) An accurate _____ of everyone who enters or leaves the scene should be kept.
Answer: Log
Page Ref: 32
Objective: Describe the various measures taken while securing, recording, and searching the crime scene.
Level: Basic

14) In the case of homicide, the investigator's search will be centered on the _____ and any type of evidence left as a result of contact between the victim and the assailant.
Answer: Weapon
Page Ref: 42
Objective: Describe the various measures taken while securing, recording, and searching the crime scene.
Level: Difficult

15) Police _____ and the strategic positioning of guards will prohibit unauthorized access to the crime scene.
Answer: Barricades
Page Ref: 32
Objective: Describe the various measures taken while securing, recording, and searching the crime scene.
Level: Difficult

16) A(n) _____ sketch is constructed with care and concern for aesthetic appearance and must be drawn to scale.
Answer: Finished
Page Ref: 38
Objective: Describe the various measures taken while securing, recording, and searching the crime scene.
Level: Basic

17) When a vehicle is involved in a crime, investigators should pay particular attention to signs of a(n) _____ of evidence between the car and the victim.
Answer: Cross-transfer
Page Ref: 42
Objective: Describe the various measures taken while securing, recording, and searching the crime scene.
Level: Difficult

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18) All items of evidence should be placed in _____ containers to prevent damage through contact and cross-contamination.
Answer: Separate
Page Ref: 45
Objective: Describe proper techniques for packaging common types of physical evidence.
Level: Basic

19) _____ can occur by introducing foreign DNA through coughing or sneezing onto evidence during the collection procedure.
Answer: Contamination
Page Ref: 46
Objective: Describe proper techniques for packaging common types of physical evidence.
Level: Basic

20) The _____ of DNA can occur when items of evidence are incorrectly placed in contact with each other during packaging.
Answer: Transfer
Page Ref: 46
Objective: Describe proper techniques for packaging common types of physical evidence.
Level: Intermediate

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2.4 Matching Questions

Match the word in Column 1 to its definition in Column 2. Each answer can only be used once.

A) A swab of the inner portion of the cheek
B) A draft representation of all essential information and measurements at a crime scene
C) 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.
D) Search method that employs two people performing line searches that originate from adjacent corners and form perpendicular lines
E) A search method in which the investigator moves 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
F) A search method employed by several people moving from the boundary straight toward the center of the scene (inward) or from the center straight to the boundary (outward)
G) A search method used by one or two investigators by walking in straight lines across the crime scene
H) A precise rendering of the crime scene, usually drawn to scale
I) A list of all people who came into possession of an item of evidence
J) Physical evidence whose origin is known, such as blood or hair from a suspect, that can be compared to crime scene evidence
K) The initial survey of the crime scene carried out by the lead investigator where he or she will gain an overview of the scene in order to formulate a plan for processing the scene
L) Any object that can establish that a crime has or has not been committed or can link a crime and its victim or its perpetrator
M) Uncontaminated surface material close to an area where physical evidence has been deposited

1) Physical evidence
Page Ref: 30-48
Level: Intermediate

2) Grid search
Page Ref: 30-48
Level: Intermediate

3) Line/strip search
Page Ref: 30-48
Level: Intermediate

4) Rough sketch
Page Ref: 30-48
Level: Intermediate

5) Quadrant/zone search
Page Ref: 30-48

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Level: Intermediate

6) Finished sketch
Page Ref: 30-48
Level: Intermediate

7) Spiral search
Page Ref: 30-48
Level: Intermediate

8) Walk-through
Page Ref: 30-48
Level: Intermediate

9) Wheel/ray search
Page Ref: 30-48
Level: Intermediate

10) Chain of custody
Page Ref: 30-48
Level: Intermediate

11) Standard/reference sample
Page Ref: 30-48
Level: Intermediate

12) Buccal swab
Page Ref: 30-48
Level: Intermediate

13) Substrate control
Page Ref: 30-48
Level: Intermediate

Answers: 1) L 2) D 3) G 4) B 5) C 6) H 7) E 8) K 9) F 10) I 11) J 12) A 13) M

2.5 Essay Questions

1) List and describe the roles of the evidence collector at a crime scene.
Answer: Answer (should include points such as):
1) Handling physical evidence in a way that minimizes damage or contamination
2) Determining and utilizing the proper packaging material for evidence
3) Maintaining the chain of custody by using proper labeling and documentation methods for collected evidence
4) Collecting substrate/reference control specimens at the crime scene
Page Ref: 44

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Objective: Describe proper techniques for packaging common types of physical evidence.
Level: Intermediate

2) In cooperation with the medical examiner or coroner, what type of evidence is to be retrieved from a deceased victim for examination in the crime laboratory?
Answer: Answer (should include points such as):
1) Clothing
2) Fingernail scrapings
3) Head and pubic hairs
4) Vaginal, anal, and oral swabs
5) Bullets
6) Hand swabs for gunshot residues
Page Ref: 43
Objective: Describe proper techniques for packaging common types of physical evidence.
Level: Basic

3) Why is it important to include a brief description of the case history on an evidence submission form?
Answer: Providing a case history allows the examiner to analyze specimens in a logical sequence and make the proper comparisons, and it also facilitates the search for trace quantities of evidence.
Page Ref: 48
Objective: Describe the various measures taken while securing, recording, and searching the crime scene.
Level: Difficult

4) Describe the basic functions of a command center. What kind of equipment must a command center contain?
Answer: Answer (should include points such as):
A command center serves as a place where members of the investigative team receive their assignments, store their equipment, and meet to talk discuss aspects of the case.
The command center can also 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.
Page Ref: 32
Objective: Describe the various measures taken while securing, recording, and searching the crime scene.
Level: Basic

5) Describe the steps the crime scene investigation team takes during its final survey of the crime scene.
Answer: 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.
Page Ref: 32-33
Objective: Describe the various measures taken while securing, recording, and searching the

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crime scene.
Level: Difficult

6) List two possible consequences of failure to protect a crime scene properly.
Answer: Answer (should include points such as):
Failure to protect a crime scene properly may result in the destruction or altering of evidence, or hinder the search for the perpetrator by misleading investigators about the true facts of the incident.
Page Ref: 32-33
Objective: Describe the various measures taken while securing, recording, and searching the crime scene.
Level: Intermediate

2.6 Critical Thinking Questions

1) State which crime scene search pattern(s) would be best utilized for the following crime scene areas.
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, specifically looking for footprint evidence.
Answer: a. Line
b. Quadrant/Zone
c. Grid
d. Spiral
Page Ref: 42
Objective: Describe the various measures taken while securing, recording, and searching the crime scene.
Level: Basic

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2) Discuss what information, specifically about timing, is provided by 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 am. 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: Answer (should include points such as):
a. The state of the scene suggests the young woman was killed in the morning hours before 8 am when the decedent 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.
b. The backpack and *empty* lunchbox suggest the objects were placed there after the child left school, as the lunch within the lunchbox had been eaten and homework was present but not 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.
Page Ref: 32-51
Objective: Describe the various measures taken while securing, recording, and searching the crime scene.
Level: Intermediate

3) What measurement technique(s) should be used to depict the location of evidence in sketches of the following scenes?
a. A well-lined football field
b. A single room in a cabin in the woods
c. A vehicle accident in the middle of an intersection
Answer: a. Baseline
b. Rectangular or triangulation
c. Baseline or polar coordinates
Page Ref: 37-38
Objective: Describe the various measures taken while securing, recording, and searching the crime scene.
Level: Intermediate

4) What issues could arise if an investigator did not fulfill his or her obligation to handle, collect, and package crime scene evidence in a way that prevents changing or contaminating these items?
Answer: Answer (should include points such as):
Incorrectly handling, collecting, and packaging evidence could cause pieces of the evidence to be lost, damaged, or contaminated. When the evidence is analyzed, it could be misinterpreted or be unable to analyze at all. This is particularly pertinent when handling and packaging evidence from suspects, victims, and the scene separately. Transferring any evidence between these items could lead to incorrect conclusions about the events surrounding the crime.
Page Ref: 50-51
Objective: Understand the concept of chain of custody.
Level: Difficult

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5) What evidence may be found in vacuum sweepings or fingernail scrapings that could assist in linking the victim, suspect, and any crime scenes?
Answer: Blood, tissue, skin cells, hairs, fibers, or drug/substance evidence may be found in vacuum sweepings or fingernail scrapings.
Page Ref: 42-43
Objective: Describe proper techniques for packaging common types of physical evidence.
Level: Basic

6) What is the proper way to package charred debris from the scene of a suspicious fire? Why is such packaging recommended?
Answer: Charred debris recovered from the scene of a suspicious fire must be sealed in an airtight container, such as a new paint can or a tightly-sealed jar, to prevent the evaporation of volatile petroleum residues. These residues can help identify the type of accelerant, if present, that was used to start a fire. This assists in preventing changes from occurring to the original state of the evidence.
Page Ref: 44-45
Objective: Understand collecting and packaging procedures for common types of physical evidence.
Level: Intermediate

7) What types of protective clothing and equipment should an investigator wear when handling potentially infectious material? Which method of infection does each protect against?
Answer: Answer (should include points such as):
Gloves (preferably doubled), shoe covers, goggles, and disposable or washable clothing protect against infection via absorption and, in some cases, injection. Face shields protect against infection via absorption and, in some cases, ingestion. Particle masks or respirators protect against infection via inhalation and, in some cases, ingestion.
Page Ref: 50
Objective: Relate what steps are typically required to maintain appropriate health and safety standards at the crime scene.
Level: Intermediate

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8) If no crime scene analysis is carried out with the death investigation, what types of evidence may never be located and recovered?
Answer: Answer (should include points such as):
a. Shoe and tire impressions
b. Blood stains from victim(s) and perpetrator(s)
c. Perimortem/postmortem body position
d. Firearms or weapons
e. Fingerprint evidence
f. Evidence of substance use or abuse
g. Temperature and atmosphere of crime scene
h. Sexual assault evidence
i. Hair and fiber evidence
Page Ref: 32-50
Objective: Describe the various measures taken while securing, recording, and searching the crime scene.
Level: Basic

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