Review – Evidence, Crime Scenes and Eyewitnesses

We started this unit with a discussion of observations, inferences, and class and individual characteristics.

1. Look at the image to the right. List one qualitative observation, one quantitative observation and one inference.

    Qualitative:

    Quantitative:

    Inference:

2. Class and Individual Characteristics -- Identify a class characteristic and an individual characteristic for each piece of evidence.

Evidence	Class Characteristic (group)	Individual Characteristic (unique)
a piece of glass		
a torn piece of fabric		
hair		
paint		
footprint		

We then worked with the units of a crime lab and the types of evidence each would process . . .

3. For each of the following specialties, give a description of what they do and an example of a crime involved

specialty	what they do	example of crime
forensic anthropology		
forensic entomology		
forensic odontology		
forensic pathology		
forensic psychiatry		
forensic engineering		

Continuing with evidence, we looked at evidence collection and Locard's exchange principle . . .

4. Locard's Exchange Principle
   a. What is it?

   b. How does it affect what a CSI collects as evidence?

   c. How does it affect the interpretation of evidence collected?

   d. How is the chain of custody important?

   e. How are reference samples from the CSIs important?

5. What evidence collection method would you use for:

   a. hair?

   b. lint?

   c. soil/sand?

   d. blood?

   e. twigs and/or leaves?

   f. glass fragments?

Our next topic was processing the crime scene.
   6. List the 7 steps in processing the crime scene. List them in order and briefly describe each.

7. What kind of physical evidence would you expect to find with a

   a. rape?

   b. hit and run?

   c. kidnapping?

   d. breaking and entering?

Finally we looked at eyewitness testimony and the potential problems associated with it.

8. Physical evidence and eyewitness testimony

   a. Which is more important in determining guilt or innocence? Why?

   b. Which is more likely to be given attention by a jury? Why?

   c. What can be done to make eyewitness testimony stronger?