

Forensic Science
Pinehurst Academy
Ms. Mason

EXAM 1: DIRTY WORK

CRIME SCENES, TRACE EVIDENCE, AND FORENSIC CHEMISTRY

Instructions: You may work with one other CSI in the class. Here are your tasks as you process the crime scene described below:

- Describe what you do when you first arrive at the crime scene.
- Sketch the crime scene.
- Describe a search technique for the crime scene.
- Identify possible physical evidence.
- Describe how to collect, preserve, and transport potential evidence.
- Describe the techniques that forensic scientists use to analyze each piece of evidence in a professional lab and that you used in the classroom lab.

You may use resources but must include a Works Cited page for information that is not your own words or thoughts. *The game is afoot!*

The Crime Scene:

A young woman was robbed of her purse while walking back to her apartment through a nearby park at approximately 9:00 p.m. She had just finished her shift at a local restaurant. A man walking his dog heard her screams and saw three young men running away from the park.

The robbery occurred in an area of the park where the ground was damp from recent rain. Upon arriving at the scene, investigating officers notice that the soil is compressed in one area, as if one of the assailant's knees had gouged into a soft place in the earth. They also discover several shoe prints. The next day the woman identifies one of her assailants (Suspect 1) out of a police lineup. The officers search the accused man's apartment and find a pair of jeans with soil particles lodged in the fabric of the knee area. However, the police do not find shoes with mud on the soles in the man's closet. The soles of the shoes he is wearing also do not have mud on them, but what looks like yellow dust and small seeds are lodged in many of the grooves. When searching through the pockets of the jeans, they discover credit cards belonging to several different women and \$604 in cash.

The woman had put up a struggle and remembers pulling a pair of eyeglasses off one of her attackers. As her memory becomes clearer, she recalls stepping on the glasses and breaking them, and that attacker picked up the smashed frames before running away. An investigator finds small fragments of glass at the scene but cannot determine the source of the glass. The victim remembers that this attacker's long black hair and hoodie were flecked with what looked like pollen.

Suspect 1 identifies one of his cohorts in crime. Armed with a warrant—which Suspect 2 has difficulty reading— police search his house and collect glass fragments embedded in the soles of his sneakers. They also find several pills scattered across the living room carpet along with a half-empty and unlabeled bottle of brownish liquid that the suspect claims is cough syrup he purchased at a local pharmacy. As he is handcuffed, the arresting officer notices that Suspect 2's hoodie is covered with yellow dust and small seed-like particles.

Several weeks pass and Suspect 3 remains at large. His companions refuse to accept plea deals by identifying him. However, the victim begins receiving threatening notes in her apartment mailbox, each written in a different color of ink, telling her to “move on” and “let it go.” She informs the police who hypothesize that the missing perpetrator might be the author of the notes. Late one dark and stormy night (of course), the police receive an anonymous phone call claiming that Tommy Miller is not only the author of the notes but is the third participant in the park robbery. The officers visit Tommy's apartment and find several pens of various ink colors. He is arrested.