

Crime Scene Sketching

-Student Notes

Directions:

Fill in the blanks.

1. Crime Scene Sketches

- Are created to document a permanent record of a crime scene
 - allows investigators who did not see the crime scene to _____ it
 - usually admissible in court
- Should accurately portray the _____ location of evidence, landmarks and other objects
 - provides distances and dimensions not present in photographs, video evidence, etc.

2. Crime Scene Sketches

- Assist with the following:
 - interviewing and _____
 - preparing reports
 - presenting the case in court
- _____ photographs, notes, plaster casts and other in investigative techniques
- Should be created for all serious crimes and accident scenes

3. Crime Scene Sketches

- Include:
 - rough sketches
 - also known as field _____
 - final sketches
 - also known as _____ or scale sketches

4. Rough Sketches

- Are the first, pencil-drawn _____ of the scene
- Include the locations of evidence, landmarks and other objects
- Are not usually drawn to scale
 - with _____ distance and size proportions
- Should be drawn at the crime scene, after photographs are taken, but before anything is moved

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5. Rough Sketches

- Should be clear and include as many _____ as possible
- Are often artistically _____

6. Final Sketches

- Are finished, polished renditions of rough sketches, drawn to scale
 - with accurate distance and size proportions
- Are typically prepared for _____ presentation
- Are produced in ink or by computer software
- May not include all of the measurements and _____ included in a rough sketch
 - any insignificant objects may be left out

7. Final Sketches

- Are typically drawn after the _____ has left the crime scene
 - using the rough sketch and notes as a _____
- Should be free of clutter and easy to read

8. Final Sketches

- Should include:
 - all significant objects drawn to _____
 - title
 - legend (key)
 - indicates what symbols within the sketch mean
 - case information
 - initials or name of artist
 - compass
 - indicates _____ (north)
 - scale
 - notation stating “all measurements are approximate”

9. Sketches

- May be drawn from multiple views
 - _____ or bird’s eye
 - elevation or side
 - three-dimensional
 - _____ or cross-sectional

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10. Overhead Sketches

- Are drawn as if the viewer is looking _____ from above the scene
- Are the most common type
- Cannot show heights or evidence on _____ surfaces

11. Elevation Sketches

- Are drawn as if the _____ is looking straight ahead at the scene
 - from a present viewer's typical _____

12. Three-Dimensional Sketches

- Are typically created using computer programs
- _____ the entire scene to help explain what happened and in what order
 - may include _____

13. Exploded Sketches

- Are drawn with the floor in the _____ and the walls drawn flat surrounding the _____

14. Sketching Materials

- Include:
 - paper
 - pencil or pencils
 - _____
 - measuring tape
 - clipboard
 - pen or pens
 - _____
 - compass

15. Sketching Steps

- Observe and plan
- Measure the area and _____ locations
- Make notes
- Identify the _____ with a legend and a scale

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16. Observing & Planning

- Is important to be sure all significant details are documented
 - the sketch should be built in a _____ order to avoid mistakes, omissions, etc.
- Includes identifying and photographing all evidence
 - after evidence is marked and photographed, the sketching process can begin
- Includes identifying all _____ and objects which need to be recorded

17. Common Evidence

- Recorded in crime scene sketches includes:
 - dead bodies
 - bones
 - _____
 - fingerprints
 - paint transfer
 - _____
 - hairs and fibers
 - drugs

18. Common Evidence

- Recorded in crime scene sketches includes:
 - impression evidence
 - shoeprints, tire tracks, tool marks, etc.
 - _____ evidence
 - guns, bullets, shell casings, gunshot residue, etc.
 - body fluids
 - blood, saliva, semen, sweat, urine, etc.
 - items with possible _____
 - gum, cigarette butts, tissues, toothpicks, etc.
 - insects
 - questioned documents

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19. Common Landmarks & Objects

- Recorded in crime scene sketches include:
 - buildings and other structures
 - _____ poles
 - signs
 - trees and bushes
 - vehicles
 - _____
 - windows
 - furniture

20. Measuring

- Is also known as mapping
- May require more than one person
- Requires using one of the standard _____ methods:
 - baseline
 - rectangular coordinate
 - _____
 - polar/grid
 - advanced methods

21. Baseline Mapping

- Requires:
 - identifying a baseline such as a wall, fence or edge of a road
 - the baseline can also be developed by personnel by laying a string or tape through a scene between two _____ points (trees, signs, etc.)
 - measuring along the baseline to the evidence then measuring the distance of evidence from the _____ at a 90 degree angle
 - either the center point of evidence or the point nearest to the baseline

22. Baseline Mapping

- Is the most _____ and easiest form of _____, but is the least accurate

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23. Rectangular Coordinate Mapping

- Requires:
 - identifying two baselines which are perpendicular to one another
 - measuring along baseline A to the evidence then measuring the _____ of evidence from baseline A at a 90 degree angle
 - sometimes, more than one evidence point is measured for each piece of evidence (for example, _____ corners) to increase accuracy
 - repeating the process with baseline B

24. Rectangular Coordinate Mapping

- Takes a little more time than baseline _____, but is slightly more _____

25. Triangulation Mapping

- Requires:
 - choosing at least two fixed points for each piece of evidence (for example, two _____ of the room)
 - the fixed points may be different for different pieces of evidence
 - measuring from each fixed point to at least _____ on evidence (for example, corners)
 - for a total of at least _____ measurements for each piece of evidence

26. Triangulation Mapping

- Is the most accurate method which does not require _____ technology
- Is more laborious and time consuming than baseline or rectangular _____ mapping

27. Triangulation Mapping

See Mapping Examples Student Handout for slide graphic

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28. Polar/Grid Mapping

- Is best utilized in large _____ with very few landmarks
 - for example, a plane crash in a remote area
- Requires measuring distance, _____ and polar directions of evidence from fixed points
 - using a transit and compass

29. Polar/Grid Mapping

See **Mapping Examples Student Handout** for slide graphic

30. Advanced Mapping

- Employs the use of advanced technology such as:
 - global positioning systems (GPS)
 - satellite-based navigation system which transmits signals and _____ location
 - total stations
 - electronic surveying instrument with an integrated computer which utilizes laser _____ to measure distances and angles in three dimensions
 - allows for the creation of _____ sketches

31. Making Notes

- Is important so the _____ does not forget anything after leaving the crime scene
- Requires writing down facts or thoughts which could not be _____ in the rough sketch, but may be useful when creating the final sketch
 - for example, if an object was upside down, under another object, etc.

32. Creating a Legend

- Is important so a reader can understand the _____ used in the sketch
 - some evidence may be too small to draw in a _____ fashion, so symbols are used instead

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33. Creating a Scale

- Is important so the final sketch is proportional to the actual _____ scene and the reader can determine _____ distances from the sketch

34. Crime Scene Sketching

- Is an important part of crime scene investigation
- Requires _____ and great attention to detail
- Plays a role in crime _____