

Introduction to Forensic Science

Directions:

Fill in the blanks.

Criminology, Criminal Justice & Forensic Science

1. Cases which were previously thought to be impossible to crack, are now—with the development of forensic science—able to be _____.
2. Forensic science and all of the disciplines within the field are _____ by Locard's exchange principle.
3. Forensic science means any science applied to law, and includes anthropology (which is the science of skeletal analysis) criminalistics (which is the science of evidence collection and analysis), digital and multimedia sciences, _____, odontology (which is the science of dental analysis), biology, psychiatry, toxicology (which is the science of poisons), and document analysis.
4. However, the increased presence of lawyers even in initial interrogations severely limited the ability for law enforcement's ability to obtain _____ from suspects themselves.
5. Though entertainment about criminal justice has been a mainstay in popular culture, CSI was the first successful modern show to be based entirely on _____ and led to a large increase in similar crime shows.
6. Despite claims by creators that the forensic science depicted on screen is accurate, actual forensic scientists have said _____ of the techniques used in the show actually exist and most of the science depicted on the show is closer to "high-tech magic" than reality.

History Of Forensic Science

1. Some of the earliest known forensic science was described in A Collection of _____ from China written in the third-century. A case described in the collection was a suspected murder in which a woman claimed her husband died in an accidental fire.
2. French Francois Emanuel Fodéré wrote one of the earliest scientific treatises on forensic science titled A Treatise on Forensic Medicine and _____.
3. The 19th century saw many developments in biology and toxicology which affected forensic science greatly. For example, Mathieu Orfila published the first scientific articles about the _____ in the body in 1814, and blood tests were invented in 1863.

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4. The Supreme Court determined procedures, techniques or assessments may only be used as evidence if they are generally accepted in the _____.
5. Despite how ubiquitous digital evidence has become, most digital evidence continues to be _____.

Role of Forensic Scientists

1. Forensic scientists, also called criminalists, make up one small part of the criminal justice system. Their duties are simply to _____ evidence.
2. The process of forensic science in criminal justice begins when evidence is found at a crime scene by a _____.
3. Any physical evidence submitted by the medical examiners or crime scene investigators will be analyzed by a _____.
4. Once a suspect has been charged, the evidence will be used by the defense or _____ to prove or disprove the suspect's involvement in the crime.
5. If the analysis of the evidence proves to be particularly important to the case, forensic scientists may also be required to testify as _____ in a grand jury or trial to explain their analysis, the science behind it and what the evidence indicates about the crime to the jury.

Crime Labs

1. The F.B.I. also conducts research on _____ and methods used in criminal investigations.
2. Most states have a statewide crime lab; however, the organization for local municipality and police department level crime labs _____.
3. While these private labs cannot respond to crime scenes, they can provide quicker analysis than the overbooked public labs, and some experts believe private labs tend to be more accurate and less biased because, unlike public labs, private labs can be held legally responsible for any _____ so there is incentive to report accurate results.

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Careers in Forensic Science

1. The American Academy of Forensic Science categorizes the careers in forensic science into eleven sections which are anthropology, criminalistics, digital and multimedia sciences, engineering sciences, general, jurisprudence, odontology, pathology and biology, psychiatry and behavioral sciences, and _____.
2. Digital and multimedia forensic analysts are experts who preserve, collect, and process evidence in digital formats. This includes careers such as cyber-crime investigator, _____, and computer or software specialist.
3. While these professionals may not conduct analysis on evidence, they must be able to select and question _____, as well as assess the viability of forensic science analysis.
4. Finally, _____ determine whether substances (like alcohol, prescription, or illegal drugs) contributed to a crime by examining bodily fluids, organs, and tissues.
5. Despite the difficulties, forensic science professionals have the opportunity to protect their communities and they are able to play an integral role in finding justice for _____.