

Unit 3: Types of Evidence and Chain of Custody

Name _____ Class _____

Classification of Evidence

Testimonial Evidence: _____

- direct evidence
- eyewitness evidence*

Physical evidence: _____

- "real" evidence
- Examples: hair, _____, fingerprints, documents, _____, soil, drugs, tool marks, impressions, glass
- _____ properties

Reliability of eyewitnesses

Factors that affect accuracy:

- _____ and the situation in which the crime is observed
- Characteristics of the witness
- Manner in which the _____

Additional factors:

- Witness's _____ with the accused
- _____ between the offense and the identification
- Any prior identification or failure to identify the defendant
- Any prior identification of a person other than the defendant by the eyewitness

Physical evidence

- Is generally _____ than _____ evidence
- Can prove that a crime has been committed
- Can _____ testimony
- Can link a suspect with a victim or with a crime scene
- Can establish the _____ associated with a crime
- Can allow _____ of a crime

Reconstruction

- Physical evidence can be used to answer questions about:
 1. What took place at a crime scene
 2. The number of people involved
 3. The sequence of events
- A forensic scientist compares the _____
sample from the crime scene with a sample of _____.

Types of Physical Evidence

- _____ evidence
- _____ evidence
- _____ evidence
- _____ evidence
- _____ evidence

Transient Evidence

- _____
- Easily _____
- Usually observed by the first officer at the scene.
- Examples:
 - _____—putrefaction, perfume, gasoline, urine, burning, explosives, cigarette smoke
 - _____—surroundings, car hood, coffee, water in a bathtub, cadaver
 - _____— footprints, teeth marks in perishable foods, tire marks on certain surfaces

Pattern Evidence

- _____ between a person and an object or between two objects
 - Mostly in the form of imprints, indentations, striations, markings, fractures, or deposits
- Pattern evidence

Conditional Evidence

- Produced by a _____
- Important in crime scene reconstruction, determining circumstances or event sequence
- _____

Transfer Evidence

- Produced by contact between _____, or between person(s) and person(s).

Associative Evidence

- Something that may associate a _____ or with each other; e.g., personal belongings.

Classification of Evidence by Nature

- _____—blood, semen, saliva, sweat, tears, hair, bone, tissues, urine, feces, animal material, insects, bacteria, fungi, botanical material
- _____|—fibers, glass, soil, gunpowder, metals, minerals, narcotics, drugs, paper, ink, cosmetics, paint, plastic, lubricants, fertilizer
- _____—fingerprints, footprints, shoeprints, handwriting, firearms, tire marks, tool marks, typewriting
- _____—laundry marks, voice analysis, polygraph, photography, stress evaluation, psycholinguistic analysis, vehicle identification

Individual vs. Class Evidence

- **Individual**—

- _____—common to a group of objects or persons
 - _____

Examples:

Steps in a Forensic Investigation

- | | | |
|-------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Recognition | 4. Comparison | 7. Reconstruction |
| 2. Preservation | 5. Individualization | |
| 3. Identification | 6. Interpretation | |

Steps in a Forensic Investigation

1. _____
 - the ability to distinguish important evidence from unrelated material
 - pattern recognition
 - physical property observation
 - information analysis
 - field testing
2. _____
 - collection
 - proper packaging
3. _____ : scientific testing of...
 - physical/chemical properties
 - morphology

- biological and immunological properties

4. _____

- class characteristics measured against those of known standards or controls
- if all measurements are equal, then the two samples may be considered to have come from the same source or origin

5. _____

- demonstrating that the sample is unique, even among members of the same class

6. _____

- giving meaning to all the information

7. _____

- Inductive and deductive logic
- Statistical data
- Pattern analysis
- Results of laboratory analysis