Forensic Files: Past Lives

Name __________________________

Complete this worksheet as you watch the video.

1. What is believed to have happened to Rutherford? ________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________________

2. What did his wife do to help investigators identify the body? _______________________________

3. What was unusual about the medical alert bracelet? _________________________________

4. How much was Rutherford insured for? ______________________________________________

5. What did examining the skull fragments tell Dr. Bass about the skeleton?
   1 - __________________________________________________________________________
   2 - __________________________________________________________________________

6. What did Dr. Bass learn from the teeth?
   1 - __________________________________________________________________________
   2 - __________________________________________________________________________

7. What was Dr. Bass’s finding? ________________________________________________________

8. Why did investigators think the scene was staged? Give two reasons.
   1 - __________________________________________________________________________
   2 - __________________________________________________________________________

9. Why did Rutherford tell his neighbor his death was faked? _________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________________

10. What did the FBI tell the neighbor? _________________________________________________

11. What did the Mexican authorities find? _______________________________________________

12. How did investigators find him? ____________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________________

13. What was the motive behind Rutherford’s scheme? ______________________________________

14. What was his sentence? ____________________________ His wife’s? ____________________________

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Complete this worksheet as you watch the video.

1. What is believed to have happened to Rutherford? **He was burned to death in a car accident.**

2. What did his wife have to do help investigators identify the body? **She gave him a tooth.**

3. What was unusual about the medical alert bracelet? **It was not clasped.**

4. How much was Rutherford insured for? **$7 million**

5. What did examining the skull fragments tell Dr. Bass about the skeleton?
   1 – **The person must have had his head on the floor of the car.**
   2 – **The amount of fusion between the parts of the skull showed it was an older person.**

6. What did Dr. Bass learn from the teeth?
   1 – **The teeth were shoveled shaped showing an Asian or American Indian heritage.**
   2 - **The person had lots of cavities (not like someone who was wealthy.)**

7. What was Dr. Bass’s finding? **The skeleton was not Rutherford.**

8. Why did investigators think the scene was staged? Give two reasons.
   1 – **The bracelet and watch were not clasped.**
   2 – **Although eyewitnesses saw a bicycle, none was found at the scene.**

9. Why did Rutherford tell his neighbor his death was faked? **He said that the FBI faked his death to protect him.**

10. What did the FBI tell the neighbor? **They told her that Rutherford had taken all her money.**

11. What did the Mexican authorities find? **They found a bag of bloody clothes with Rutherford’s blood on them.**

12. How did investigators find him? **He was posing as a business man in Boston, but was driving a car registered to Rutherford.**

13. What was the motive behind Rutherford’s scheme? **He lost a lot of money on stocks.**

14. What was his sentence? **5 years**  
   His wife’s? **18 months**