

## Forensic Files: Sign of the Zodiac

Name \_\_\_\_\_

*Complete this worksheet as you watch the video.*

1. When did the first crime occur? \_\_\_\_\_
2. When did the second crime occur? \_\_\_\_\_
3. What evidence did the police recover from the scenes? \_\_\_\_\_
4. When did the third crime occur? \_\_\_\_\_
5. What was found near the third victim? \_\_\_\_\_
6. What did the killer call himself? \_\_\_\_\_
7. What did the killer know about the victims? \_\_\_\_\_
8. How did the constellations relate to the crimes? \_\_\_\_\_
9. Where and when had a Zodiac killer been reported? \_\_\_\_\_
10. What did investigators learn from the handwriting analysis of the letters? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
11. When did the astronomer predict the next attack would occur? Why? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
12. What did the police learn from the note the Zodiac left with the fourth victim? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
13. How is ninhydrin used? \_\_\_\_\_
14. In what year were the next three victims killed? \_\_\_\_\_
15. What was different about the eighth victim? \_\_\_\_\_
16. Why are the grooves on a bullet important? \_\_\_\_\_
17. How did police get Zodiac's DNA? \_\_\_\_\_
18. How did police link Seda to the Zodiac crimes? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
19. What was his sentence? \_\_\_\_\_
20. How did he know the victim's birthdates? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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## ANSWER KEY

*Complete this worksheet as you watch the video.*

1. When did the first crime occur? **March 1990**
2. When did the second crime occur? **3 weeks later**
3. What evidence did the police recover from the scenes? **9 mm bullet**
4. When did the third crime occur? **2 months later**
5. What was found near the third victim? **A note was found with a threat to kill 12 people one for each astrological sign.**
6. What did the killer call himself? **The Zodiac**
7. What did the killer know about the victims? **He knew their birthdays and astrological signs.**
8. How did the constellations relate to the crimes? **Orion and the Seven Sisters were not visible on the nights of the attacks.**
9. Where and when had a Zodiac killer been reported? **San Francisco, California in the 1960s**
10. What did investigators learn from the handwriting analysis of the letters? **They learned that the letters were written by two different people.**
11. When did the astronomer predict the next attack would occur? Why? **June 21<sup>st</sup> (summer solstice) would be the next time the two constellations would not be visible in the sky.**
12. What did the police learn from the note the Zodiac left with the fourth victim? **They learned that he knew the victim was a Cancer and that he claimed he was not a copycat killer.**
13. How is ninhydrin used? **It reacts with amino acids in skin oils and can reveal fingerprints.**
14. In what year were the next three victims killed? **1994**
15. What was different about the eighth victim? **She was a Taurus, the same as an earlier victim.**
16. Why are the grooves on a bullet important? **They are used to match bullets to a specific gun.**
17. How did police get Zodiac's DNA? **He licked the envelope on a letter and left behind saliva.**
18. How did police link Seda to the Zodiac crimes? **He signed a page with a symbol that investigators knew from the Zodiac letters. His handwriting and thumbprint also matched the prints from earlier letters. The toolmarks on his zipguns matched the marks on the bullets and his DNA matched that found on the last letter.**
19. What was his sentence? **230 years in prison**
20. How did he know the victim's birthdates? **Police believe he looked in the wallets and it was just a coincidence that they had different signs.**