Eyewitness Basics

Name _________________________________

1. What is testimonial evidence?

Testimonial evidence includes oral or written ______________ given to police as well as __________ in court by people who witnessed an event. Eyewitness accounts can be a useful tool in helping investigators with analyzing ______________, but are not viewed to be highly _______________. In addition, eyewitness identifications (right or wrong) can have a big influence on the outcome of an ______________ or trial.

2. Memory Challenge

After the time is up, write down as many of the items as you can remember.

1. ______________
2. ______________
3. ______________
4. ______________
5. ______________
6. ______________
7. ______________
8. ______________
9. ______________
10. ______________

11. ______________
12. ______________
13. ______________
14. ______________
15. ______________
16. ______________
17. ______________
18. ______________
19. ______________
20. ______________

3. What factors affect a person’s memory and their ability to identify a suspect?

Witness Factors: ____________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________

Crime Scene & Suspect Factors: ____________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________

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4. Crime Scene Challenge

After the time is up, write the answer for each question in the space below.

1. _____________________________
2. _____________________________
3. _____________________________
4. _____________________________
5. _____________________________
6. _____________________________
7. _____________________________
8. _____________________________
9. _____________________________
10. _____________________________

5. Facial Composites

Investigators work with sketch ______________ and eyewitnesses to create facial composites, or sketches of a person’s ______________. Today many police departments are using facial reconstruction ______________ to help them with this task.

The composite may be used ______________ to assist officers in identifying the suspect or used ______________ through local media (radio, TV, and newspaper) to solicit leads from citizens.

______________ – A software program that offers many options to help you recreate a person’s facial features.