

Evidence & Investigation Vocabulary List

1. **Graphology:** study of handwriting
2. **Chromatography:** study and process of separating a mixture into its components
3. **DNA:** carrier of genetic information, molecular 'blueprint' for living things
4. **Suspect Profile:** document outlining details about a suspect (e.g., height, weight, job, age, address, allergies)
5. **Witness statement:** person's claim of what they saw/ heard happen, written and signed account of what happened
6. **Forensic evidence:** items/ evidence obtained and analyzed by scientific methods
7. **Eyewitness testimony:** what witness says in court proceeding
8. **Lawyer:** someone who advises people about the law, an experienced person to act for you on your behalf (defend and advise you on in legal matters)
9. **Detective:** person that goes to a crime scene to investigate a crime
10. **District Attorney:** someone who represents the state/government to help prosecute/ convict the accused of a crime
11. **Forensic Scientist:** a person who helps analyze evidence in the process of investigating a crime
12. **Manipulated variable in an experiment:** the purposely changed component of an experiment
13. **Class characteristics of shoes:** e.g. tread pattern
14. **Accidental characteristics of shoes:** e.g. dirt, wear pattern in the tread
15. **Animal tracks:** footprints made by animals
16. **Footprints:** prints that shoes or feet leave behind
17. **Tire prints:** image/ impression made by a tire on a surface – tread pattern
18. **Crime Scene:** an area where an incident happened, something illegal
19. **Evidence:** something that is connected to the crime (e.g. knife, voice recording, video, footprint, DNA)
20. **Exhibit:** item(s) publicly displayed and organized
21. **Constable:** a low ranking street officer
22. **Fibre:** a small strand of a substance e.g. natural fibres (animal & plant), synthetic fibres
23. **Inference:** (deduction) A conclusion based upon evidence and reasoning
24. **Deduction:** using investigative techniques (connecting the 'dots') A conclusion based upon evidence and reasoning
25. **CSI** – short for: Crime Scene Investigation