

Post-Mortem Examination and Forensic Science

Forensic Science · Answer Key · 29 Questions

1. What are the two main components of Brain Death?

- A) Cortical Death and Brainstem Death**
- B) Cerebral Death and Spinal Death
- C) Primary Death and Secondary Death
- D) Active Death and Passive Death

2. Which of the following is NOT listed as a sign of death?

- A) Unconsciousness
- B) Loss of ALL reflexes
- C) Muscle flaccidity
- D) Increased muscle tone**

3. Which test involves using a mirror to observe pupil reaction?

- A) Magnus Test
- B) Fingernail Test
- C) Mirror Test**
- D) Feather Test

4. What is 'tache noire' in the context of post-mortem changes?

- A) A bluish-purple discoloration of the skin
- B) Stiffening of muscles
- C) Dryness and discoloration of the sclera**
- D) Waxy substance derived from body fat

5. Primary flaccidity occurs as muscles begin to relax and lasts for approximately how long after death?

- A) 1-2 hours
- B) 3-6 hours**
- C) 6-12 hours
- D) 12-18 hours

6. Rigor mortis, the stiffening of muscles, typically starts to appear between how many hours after death?

- A) 1-3 hours
- B) 3-6 hours
- C) 6-12 hours**
- D) 12-24 hours

7. Which of the following factors can affect the onset and duration of rigor mortis?

A) Age, Nature of Death, Muscular State, Atmospheric Condition

- B) Body Temperature, Site of Reading, Posture, Clothing
- C) Environmental Temperature, Obesity, Emaciation, Body Fat
- D) Presence of bacteria, Blood Loss, Skin Color, Jaundice

8. What is 'cadaveric spasm'?

A) The instantaneous appearance of rigidity in a deceased body

- B) The cooling of the body after death
- C) The decomposition of tissues
- D) The formation of adipocere

9. Hypostasis, also known as livor mortis, is characterized by what?

- A) Stiffening of the muscles
- B) Cooling of the body
- C) Bluish-purple discoloration of the skin in dependent parts**
- D) Dryness of the tissues

10. Tardieu spots are described as:

- A) Yellowish bands on the sclera
- B) Petechiae and purpuric hemorrhages in dependent areas**
- C) Gas distention and skin blisters
- D) A waxy substance derived from body fat

11. Algor mortis refers to:

- A) The stiffening of muscles
- B) The cooling of the body**
- C) The decomposition of tissues
- D) The discoloration of the skin

12. Postmortem caloricity is a phenomenon where the body temperature of a corpse:

- A) Falls rapidly after death
- B) Rises or remains unusually high for up to 2 hours after death**
- C) Stays constant for the first 12 hours
- D) Approaches surrounding temperature within 3 hours

13. Which of the following conditions can lead to postmortem caloricity?

- A) Hypothermia, Hypovolemia, Anemia
- B) Heat stroke, Electrocution, Asphyxia**
- C) Drowning, Hypothermia, Sepsis
- D) Hypoxia, Hypoglycemia, Dehydration

14. Putrefaction, a stage of decomposition, is primarily caused by:

- A) Drying of tissues
- B) Bacteria originating from the intestines and lungs**
- C) Hydrolysis and hydrogenation of adipose tissues
- D) Fungal growth on the skin

15. Adipocere is a waxy substance formed from body fat, commonly seen in what kind of environment?

- A) Dry and hot environments
- B) Wet or moist environments**
- C) Cold and humid environments
- D) High altitude environments

16. Mummification occurs when tissues dry out instead of liquefying, typically in what kind of environment?

- A) Wet and cold
- B) Dry and hot**
- C) Humid and temperate
- D) Submerged in water

17. What is the literal meaning of 'Autopsy'?

- A) To see for oneself**
- B) To examine the body
- C) To determine the cause of death
- D) To view the organs

18. Which of the following is NOT a type of autopsy listed?

- A) Medical/Clinical Autopsy
- B) Psychological Autopsy
- C) Surgical Autopsy**
- D) Medico-Legal Autopsy

19. The objectives of an autopsy include determining the cause of death, manner of death, and:

- A) Establishing the victim's profession
- B) Establishing the time since death**
- C) Determining the victim's last meal
- D) Identifying the perpetrator

20. 'Cause of death' is defined as:

- A) How the cause of death arose
- B) The disease or injury responsible for the sequence of events**
- C) The final event that led to death
- D) The circumstances surrounding the death

21. 'Manner of death' explains:

- A) The specific disease or injury
- B) The sequence of events leading to death
- C) How the cause of death arose**
- D) The time elapsed since death

22. Which of the following is classified as a Blunt Force Injury/Trauma?

- A) Incised wounds
- B) Stab wounds
- C) Abrasions**
- D) Chop wounds

23. Defensive wounds typically result from:

- A) The victim attempting to save themselves**
- B) The perpetrator overpowering the victim
- C) The victim succumbing to their injuries
- D) The victim being attacked by animals

24. Asphyxia is a condition where:

- A) Oxygen supply to the blood and tissues is increased
- B) Oxygen supply to the blood and tissues is reduced due to interference with respiration**
- C) The heart stops beating due to a blockage
- D) The brain experiences a sudden surge of blood

25. Hanging is a type of mechanical asphyxial death caused by:

- A) Constriction of the neck by ligature with the body suspended**
- B) Constriction of the neck by any means without suspending the body
- C) Mechanical obstruction of air passage other than neck constriction
- D) Aspiration of fluid into the air passages

26. Strangulation is distinct from hanging because it involves:

- A) Suspension of the body by a ligature
- B) Constriction of the neck by any means without suspending the body**
- C) Obstruction of air passages by fluid
- D) Mechanical obstruction of the airways by foreign objects

27. Suffocation is a type of asphyxia characterized by:

- A) Constriction of the neck
- B) Aspiration of fluid into the air passages
- C) Mechanical obstruction of air passage due to causes other than neck constriction**
- D) Sudden cardiac arrest due to cold water immersion

28. Which type of drowning occurs when there is very little or no inhalation of water?

- A) Wet drowning
- B) Fresh water drowning
- C) Salt water drowning
- D) Dry drowning**

29. Establishing identity involves both general and specific identification. Which of the following is considered GENERAL IDENTITY?

- A) Facial Features
- B) Scars, Tattoos, Deformities
- C) Race, Age, Sex, Stature**
- D) Finger/Foot/Lip Prints