

Chapter 2

History

Test Questions and Answers

1. Why is it important to know the history of your science?
 - a. For courtroom testimony
 - b. To understand the past, present and future of the science
 - c. For certification tests
2. What is a certification test?
 - a. A voluntary exam that tests your general knowledge, professional capabilities and competency
3. True or false: Fingerprints found on ancient pottery indicate that ancient peoples were knowledgeable about the uniqueness and permanence of friction ridge skin.
 - a. False
4. Where were fingerprints first used as identifying marks as early as 246 B.C.E.?
 - a. China
5. Nehemiah Grew, the “Father of Plant Physiology”, performed the first scientific analysis of friction ridges using what newly invented scientific tool?
 - a. Microscope
6. Grew published a treatise on which features of friction ridge skin?

- a. Pores
7. Where did the science of fingerprint analysis begin to take shape in the mid-eighteen hundreds?
- a. British Empire – India
8. True or false: Sir William Herschel became the first European to acknowledge the individualizing power of fingerprints.
- a. False
 - b. J.C.A. Mayer of Germany
9. What were Dr. Henry Faulds' contributions to the history of fingerprint analysis?
- a. He was the first European to publish an article stating that visible fingerprints, such as bloody, greasy or sooty fingerprints, may be useful for solving crimes
10. Who wrote the first book on fingerprints (entitled Finger Prints) in 1892?
- a. Sir Francis Galton
11. What premises of fingerprint analysis did Sir Francis Galton describe?
- a. Uniqueness
 - b. Permanence
12. What are Galton details?
- a. Minutiae
13. What is anthropometry?
- a. The measurement of physiological characteristics
14. Define "classification" as it pertains to criminal identification.

- a. A method of organizing criminal records so they may be relocated in order to compare them with new arrests
15. Describe Alphonse Bertillon's contributions to criminal identification and classification.
- a. Originated a method of classification known as Bertillonage
 - b. Bertillonage = anthropometry
 - c. Criminals were identified and classified based on physiological measurements that were recorded surrounding a mug shot on a Bertillonage card
16. What were the justifications for using Bertillonage as a method of identification?
- a. It was based on the randomness of physiological/natural variation
17. What were the disadvantages of Bertillonage?
- a. The need for specialized equipment and measuring tools
 - b. The process was time-consuming
 - c. Criminals did not always cooperate with their captors
 - d. It does not take into consideration the proportions between height and limb length
18. Why did fingerprints replace Bertillonage as the preferred method of criminal identification and classification?
- a. They are more individualizing than anthropometric measurements

19. Who is responsible for developing the first classification system still in use today in mostly Spanish-speaking countries, and where was that classification system developed?
- a. Juan Vucetich
 - b. Argentina
20. Describe the classification system developed by Sir Edward Henry and his colleagues that became known as Henry Classification.
- a. Letters and numbers are assigned to pattern types found on each finger, starting with the right thumb
 - b. The alphanumerical designation of the right hand is located in the numerator
 - c. The alphanumerical designation of the left hand is located in the denominator.
21. True or false: Fingerprinting was introduced to North America in 1903 when the New York State Prison System began routinely fingerprinting inmates.
- a. True
22. What is the current name of the oldest active international forensic association, formed in Oakland, California in 1915?
- a. The International Association for Identification (IAI)
23. What technological invention allowed vast numbers of fingerprint cards to be stored and searched efficiently?
- a. The computer

24. What is AFIS?
- a. Automated Fingerprint Identification System
 - b. The fingerprint computer