

Document Analysis

A. Document analyst examine and compare _____ documents with _____ material. Experts in the field investigate such things as _____, computer _____, commercial printing, _____, and _____.

Examples of Questioned Documents:

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

B. The goal of handwriting examination is:

- To determine _____ and _____.
- To identify _____: documents created with the intention to deceive...
 - Two writings are the product of one person if their similarities are _____ and no unexplainable differences are found.

**Document Experts are *NOT* graphologist! Graphologists analyze handwriting to detect _____.

(This is not a recognized part of forensic science, but is may be useful to investigations).

C. What do you think experts are specifically looking for when they analyze the questioned document against a known sample?

A person's handwriting exhibits unique characteristics that make it distinguishable from other samples. Handwriting experts examine _____ of exemplars.

Examples:

Changes in: letter _____, _____ or appearance, line _____, letter _____, etc.

- _____ includes: letter shape, curve, slant, size, continuous stroke, and correct appearance.
- _____ includes: smoothness of letters, and darkness of lines of different strokes
- _____ includes: spacing between letters, words, and lines, placement of words, & margins

Steps of handwriting analysis

Examine the questionable document for detectable traits and record them.

1. Obtain some writing of the suspect's (an *exemplar*) and compare the _____ found in the questionable document with it.
2. Draw conclusions about the authorship of the questionable document based on the comparison.

D. Technology used in handwriting analysis

Biometric Signature Pads

- This computerized pad "learns" to recognize how a person signs his or her name based on the _____, _____, and _____ of the signing.

Computerized Analysis of Handwriting

- Computers can make objective comparisons between handwritings.
- Suspect signatures can be compared with ones stored in databases.

E. Shortcomings of Handwriting Analysis

- _____ of standards (exemplars) obtained
- Effects of _____, _____, _____, fatigue and illness on a person's handwriting

THIS IS A STICK-UP!!!
GIVE ME ALL YOUR MONEY
IN SMALL BILLS & NO ONE
GETS HURT!
NO ALARMS! NO DYE PACKS!

THIS IS A HOLDUP!!
EVERYBODY BE CLAM-
I HAVE A GUN!!!
BE QUIET & NO ONE
GETS HURT!

- _____ of document examiner (were any details missed)

Are the two writing samples below written by the same person???

