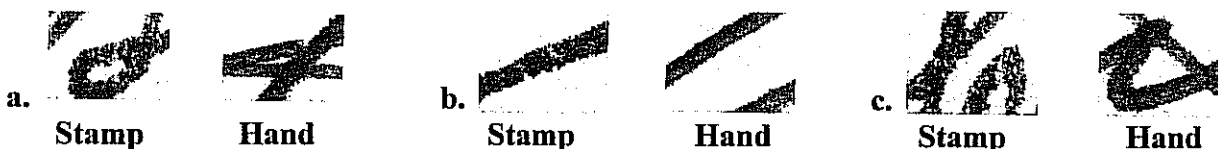


Class: TMS CSI
Grade/Subject: 7th & 8th Grade Science Elective Course (Forensics)

Topic: Document Analysis (Forgery; Hand Signature vs. Stamped)
Duration: 7 days

Lesson Plan – Day 1 & 2

1. Students will work together in Crime Scene Investigative teams.
2. Crime scene investigators (CSIs) will be “briefed” using the document camera on the characteristics used to determine whether a signature was a hand written signature or a stamped signature.
 - a. Lines of a stamped signature are usually thick and do not change in width.
 - b. A stamped signature has small breaks in the ink.
 - c. A stamped signature does not have darkened areas where a line crossover occurs.



3. CSIs will be provided three different signatures to practice using the above criteria. We will discuss the characteristics of each and come to a final conclusion as to original or stamped.
4. CSIs will be given multiple samples of my signature both signed and stamped. They will try to determine which signatures are original and which are stamped.
 - a. CSIs will be trained on using the document camera.
 - b. CSIs will use the document camera, computer, and SMARTboard to analyze each signature and organize their presentation.
 - c. After analyzing and making conclusions for each signature, each team will present their findings to the other CSI teams using the document camera and SMARTboard.

Lesson Plan – Day 3 & 4

1. Students will work together in Crime Scene Investigative teams.
2. At the beginning of class, all CSIs will write the following statement on an index card (**DO NOT WRITE YOUR NAME ON THE CARD**): “Handwriting comparisons are useful because no two people have exactly the same handwriting.”
 - a. The cards will be collected by the teacher for later use in the lesson.
3. CSIs will write in their detective notebooks the following paragraph:
“Could you select your signature if it were mixed in with a group of similar signatures? When you get a letter in the mail, can you identify its author from the handwriting? Because handwriting is very individualistic, you can usually recognize your own handwriting and that of a good friend.”
4. CSIs will be “briefed” using the document camera on handwriting characteristics that can be used to identify individual handwriting samples.
 - a. Line Quality
 - b. Spacing
 - c. Size and Proportion
 - d. Penlifts
 - e. Connecting Strokes
 - f. Beginning Strokes
 - g. Unusual letters
 - h. Pen Pressure
 - i. Slant
 - j. Baseline Writing
 - k. Fancy Writing
 - l. Placement of diacritics
5. Using the document camera, CSIs will analyze the teacher’s handwriting sample (paragraph above) together as a group.

6. Now it is time for the original handwriting samples from the CSIs. Let's see how well the CSIs can pick out their own handwriting. The index cards will be passed one at a time from person to person. When the CSI sees his/her card, they are to hold on to it and keep passing the remaining cards on to the next person. The end result should be that everyone has his/her own handwriting sample card and the one left over should be the teacher's card. We'll repeat the activity, this time the CSI must pull out the handwriting sample card for the person sitting next to them. Again, the card left over should be the teacher's card.
7. After completing the activity, CSIs will take some time to analyze their own handwriting sample and prepare a briefing.
8. Using the document camera, computer, and SMARTboard, each CSI will conduct a briefing for their handwriting sample showing as many handwriting characteristics as possible.

Lesson Plan – Day 5 & 6

1. Now that the CSIs are able to analyze and recognize different handwriting characteristics and tendencies, it is time to see if they can spot a forgery.
2. Each CSI will have a booklet with handwriting samples from each faculty member in our building. Each sample in the booklet is identified by the teacher's name.
3. Each CSI team will be given three handwriting samples. Each sample will be labeled with a teacher's name which may or may not be correct. Each CSI team will work together to determine the authenticity of each sample. They will use the document camera to analyze, conclude, and prepare a briefing.
4. Each CSI team will conduct a briefing using the document camera, computer, and SMARTboard.

Lesson Plan – Day 7

1. Each CSI team will use their briefings from the previous day to create and upload a voicethread (ed.voicethread.com).