

Part One: Reading (Score: 12)

The following passage describes the types of technology that can help solve a crime. When you are through with the reading, answer the questions that follow.

Solving Crimes with Modern Technology

1. Solving crimes is one of the most important jobs of law enforcement. Improvements in crime technology help detectives solve crimes faster, and more efficiently, today. For example, crime labs have new kinds of DNA testing, which can identify body fluids such as blood, sweat, and saliva. There are also new kinds of fingerprint testing. In the past, fingerprint testing was only helpful if the fingerprints from the crime scene could be matched with "prints" that were already on file. The fingerprints of convicted criminals are kept on file in police records permanently. People whose fingerprints are not on file cannot be identified in this way, and as a result, many crimes have not been solved.

2. However, the newest kind of fingerprint testing can do much more than simply record a fingerprint pattern. It can provide additional information about a fingerprint, such as the age and sex of the owner. The fingerprints can reveal if the person takes medication, too. But the latest technology does even more. It can get fingerprints from fabric like blankets and curtains.

3. In a recent case, the police in Tacoma, Washington, found the body of a 27-year-old woman who had been murdered in her bedroom. There were no witnesses, and her apartment had few clues that called on the detectives for examination. The only real evidence didn't seem very helpful. The victim's bed sheet had some of her blood on it and looked as if someone had wiped his or her hands. At the time of the murder, it was impossible to identify a fingerprint from fabric. This is because all the unique characteristics of fingerprints can get lost in fabric. The detectives were unable to use the evidence, but they saved it anyway. Then they called Eric Berg, an expert in solving crimes, for help.

4. Eric Berg was not only a crime expert, but also a computer expert who had already spent years developing computer software in his own home to improve crime scene photos. He decided to use that software to examine the fabric from the murder case. It worked! Eric Berg had used his computer to make the fingerprint more apparent, or clear. When he was done, he gave the evidence to the detectives. The detectives found a man whose fingerprint matched a print on file. Only two hours later, the suspect was arrested. He was eventually convicted of the crime and is now in jail. Today, many other police departments use Eric Berg's new software. Because of it, crimes that seemed to be unsolvable were suddenly solvable again.

5. While all of this technology may help solve future crimes, they may also help solve crimes from the past. In all crimes, detectives carefully take samples of evidence from the scene. In many cases 15 or 20 years ago, the police could not always identify important evidence such as body fluids. In these cases, they stored the evidence in a freezer. Now, criminologists have the modern technology they require to examine the frozen evidence, and, in many cases, identify it as well. Today, they are also using the new DNA technology and believe it may lead them to the murderer, who has become like a rat that could be easily trapped.

6. Nowadays, police have other kinds of new crime-solving technology, as well. A laser system of lights helps detectives find evidence of body fluids at a crime scene in daylight. Previously, it was only possible to see this kind of evidence at night or in the dark. By helping the police identify criminals, this new technology can help put more criminals in prison.

A. Answer the following questions in complete sentences. (Score: 4.75)

1. The passage mentions three types of technology that can help solve a crime. State them.
2. Why couldn't detectives solve many crimes in the past?
3. What are two things new fingerprint testing can identify about a criminal?
4. Based on the passage, what should detectives do with the evidence of an unsolvable crime today? Justify.
5. What purpose does the passage have?
6. What theme do you think this passage offers to criminals?

B. The following statements are false because they misinterpret information stated in the reading passage. Rewrite each statement, correcting the error. (Score: 01)

1. When the woman was murdered in Tacoma, Washington, it was impossible to identify a fingerprint from fabric; the detectives could not arrest the criminal at all.
2. Detectives use the laser system of lights to find evidence at night.

C. Pick from the passage two words that have positive connotation. Then complete the chart below with their synonyms and antonyms. (Score: 1.5)

Synonyms	Words with Positive Connotation	Antonyms
1.	1.	1.
2.	2.	2.

D. In the fifth paragraph, the writer says, "Today, they are also using the new DNA technology and believe it may lead them to the murderer, who has become like a rat that could be easily trapped." What is the figurative language device used in the sentence above? Explain. (Score: 1.25)

E. Restate the following sentences, beginning with the words given. (Score: 2.5)

1. "This is because all the unique characteristics of fingerprints can get lost in fabric," said the writer.
The writer said that
2. In all crimes, detectives carefully take samples of evidence from the scene.
Samples of evidence
3. Police departments used Berg's new software in 1990, so many crimes were solved.
If

F. Find the four grammatical errors in the sentences below and correct them. (Score: 1)

1. When the 27-year-old woman was murdered, the detectives got help from Eric Berg which was an expert in solving crimes.
2. Not only Eric Berg helped police departments, but he also put his computer software at their service.
3. By the time the detectives arrested the criminal, he was free for two years.
4. Whenever a crime is committed, a witness have to touch nothing and call the police.

Part Two: Writing (Score: 08)

Crimes are committed everywhere. In a problem-solution essay, describe the problems detectives encountered at a crime scene you (or someone you know) witnessed and tell how they could find out who the criminal was at the end.

First, outline your ideas. Then develop those ideas into a well-organized essay provided with a title.

Your writing will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

Outline (2 pts.)

Content (3 pts.)

Organization, Language Structure, Mechanics, and Legible Handwriting (3 pts.)

In the Name of God

Subject: Answer Key of the Final Common English Exam

Grade: Nine

School Year: 2008 - 2009

A.

- 1- The three types of technology mentioned in the passage are: fingerprint testing, DNA testing, and the laser system of lights.

Score: 0.75 pt. for identifying the 3 types

0.25 pt. for the sentence structure

- 2- In the past, detectives could not solve many crimes because the fingerprints they used to find at the crime scene did not match with any prints that were already on files.

Score: 0.5 pt. for identifying the reason

0,25 pt. for the sentence structure

- 3- New fingerprint testing can provide information about a murderer's age and sex OR if he takes medication.

Score: 0.5 pt. for identifying the 2 things

0.25 pt. for the sentence structure

4. Detectives should save all the evidence they find at the crime scene. If the types of technology used today are unable to make use of them, the future means may.

Score: 0.25 pt. for telling what should be done

0.25 pt. for proper justification

0.25 pt. for the sentence structure

5. The passage is informing readers about the types of technology detectives use to solve crimes and the improvements that have occurred in crime technology.

Score: 0.5 pt. for identifying the purpose

0.25 pt. for the sentence structure

6. A criminal should understand that there can never be a perfect crime, and detectives will always find evidence that helps them arrest him / her.

Score: 0.5 pt. for identifying the theme

0.25 pt. for the sentence structure

Note: Accept any other logical theme students may provide

B.

1. At that time, it was impossible to identify fingerprints from fabric, yet the criminal was arrested later when Eric Berg developed computer software that could do that.
2. Detectives use the laser system of lights to find evidence at a crime scene in daylight and in the dark.

Score: 0.5 pt. for correcting every false statement

C.

Synonyms	Words with Positive Connotation	Antonyms
1. enhance; refine	1. improve	1. corrupt; damage; impair
2. preserve; store; rescue	2. save	2. waste; abolish

Score: 0.25 pt. for each correct item

D. It is a simile, for the writer is directly comparing the murderer to a rat, using the article of likeness "like".

Score: 0.5 pt. for identifying the figure of speech

0.5 pt. for proper justification

0.25 pt for the sentence structure

E.

1. The writer said (that) that was because all the unique characteristics of fingerprints could get lost in fabric.

Score: 0.25 pt. for each underlined item

2. Samples of evidence are taken from the scene in all crimes by detectives.

Score: 0.5 pt. for the correct form of the verb

0.25 pt. for the word order

3. If police departments hadn't used new software in 1990, many crimes would not have been solved.

Score: 0.5 pt. for each underlined part

F.

1. which: who OR that
2. not only Eric Berg helped: Not only did Eric Berg help
3. was: had been
4. have to: has to

Score: 0.25 pt. for correcting every error