

Name: _____

Interfire: Follow the Case

Today you will be listening to a series of audio recordings regarding the investigation of a fire. It is best to listen to the recordings; however, transcripts of the recordings are also available for you to read. Listen to each call and answer the questions as you go.

Go to: <http://www.interfire.org/features/followThatCase/episode001.asp> to start the recording with episode one. As you finish each recording and questions, move to the next episode available at the bottom of the screen.

Episode One: The 911 Call

1. How many possible victims and witnesses are there according to this 911 call? _____
2. Name the people involved: _____
3. What is the address of the location of the fire? _____
4. Who reported the fire? _____
5. Did anyone attempt rescue before the fire department arrived? _____
6. What victim were reported trapped? _____

Episode Two: Interviewing the Professional

1. What information have you gained from this interview? Give at least two pieces of information.
2. What else would you have asked the Chief and the first-in firefighter? Give at least two questions.
3. What would be your next steps in this investigation?
4. What other professionals are you planning on interviewing? Give at least one.
5. What questions would you ask this professional? Give at least three questions.

Episode Three: Preliminary Scene Assessment

1. What safety conditions were identified in this preliminary scene assessment?
2. What construction features did you note that you would like to investigate further?
3. What use and occupancy conditions did you note that you would like to investigate further?
4. At this time, what area is likely the area of origin? _____
5. At this time, what causes are you considering? _____
6. At this time, what do the physical conditions suggest to you about the circumstances of the victim's death?

7. What questions do you want to ask Rose, the witness who called 911? Give at least two.
8. What questions do you want to ask Manny, the witness who attempted rescue? Give at least two.

Episode Four: Interviewing Rosa and Manny Sanchez

1. Summarize the interview with Manny and Rosa. What important information did you learn from them?
2. How do you assess the truthfulness of both witnesses?

Episode Five: The Medical Examiner

1. What information did you learn from the medical examiner? Give at least three pieces of information.
2. What questions have been raised by the probable cause of death stated by the medical examiner?
3. What information from the medical examiner will you follow up on at the scene and how will you follow up on it?
4. What will you be looking for at the scene to address the issues brought up by the medical examiner's analysis?
5. What further questions would you ask witness based on what you learned from the medical examiner? Give at least two questions.
6. What other evidence would have you have taken from Margaret's bedroom besides a sample of the liquid in the drinking glass? Give at least one other piece of evidence.

Episode Six: Scene Examination

1. Where is the origin of this fire? _____
2. At this time, what causes are you considering? _____
3. What potential accidental causes have you identified at this scene? Give at least two.
4. How would you go about eliminating those accidental causes?

5. What is your current hypothesis for what happened at this scene? Include supporting physical evidence in your answer.
6. Are you currently considering an incendiary cause for this fire? If so, why? If not, why not? Include evidence in your answer.
7. How does the physical evidence compare to the witness statements?

Episode Seven: Jessica Manchester's Statement

1. What information did you learn from Jessica? Give at least two pieces of information.
2. Based on Jessica's statement, what will you look for when you return to the scene? If nothing, why not?

Episode Eight: AK-9 Unit

1. What have you learned from the AK-9 alerts? Give at least two things.
2. Which AK-9 alerts will you collect samples from? Why?
3. If all AK-9 alerts are confirmed by the laboratory, what might explain the alerts in the hall and back door?
4. Are you prepared to make a cause determination at this time? If so, what is it and what supporting evidence do you have? If not, why not?

Episode Nine: Test and Autopsy Results

1. How is your theory of the case evolving given the new information from the autopsy and the laboratory reports?
2. At this time, how do you weigh the hypothesis of accident fire caused by an overheated teakettle vs an incendiary fire?
3. What inconsistencies have been uncovered? List at least two.

Episode Ten: Insurance Records

1. What information have you learned from the insurance file and insurance representative? Give at least two pieces of information.
2. How has the information you have learned from the insurance affect you current hypothesis?

Episode Eleven: The Executor

1. What information did you learn from the executor? Give at least two pieces of information.
2. What information did you learn from the fingerprint analysis?
3. How has this information changed your overall hypothesis?

Episode Twelve: Interviewing Kevin Jones

1. What information did you learn from Kevin? Give at least two pieces of information.
2. How do you assess Kevin's truthfulness?
3. Are there any inconsistencies between Kevin's statements and facts you have determined and statements made by other witnesses?
4. Do you consider Kevin Jones to be a suspect in this cases? Why or why not?

Episode Thirteen: Presentation to the Prosecutor

1. Describe a timeline of the sequence of event before, during, and after the fire.

2. What is the origin of the fire? _____
3. What is the cause of the fire? _____
4. What was the ignition source? _____
5. What was the first material ignited? _____
6. Who was the responsible party, if any? _____

