

**Forensic Science Test Outline**

**Resources and Suggestions:**

- Handouts and Labs
- Online resources some of which are listed for you at [www.portaportal.com](http://www.portaportal.com) (sign in at guest as dallenf)

**Locard's Exchange Principle**

- Principle that states that we take something away from where we've been and we leave something behind.
- How does this apply to criminal investigation?

**Metric System and English-Metric Conversions**

- Metric conversions
- English - metric conversions

**Medical Examiner and Coroner Systems**

- Pathology - definition
- Role of the Medical Examiner
- Training of the Medical Examiner
- Role and training of the Coroner

**Death Investigation and the Forensic Pathologist**

- Training and role of the forensic pathologist
- Manner of Death
- Cause of Death
- Rigor Mortis
- Livor Mortis (Lividity)
- Algor Mortis
- Calculate Time since death from body temperature
- Convert degrees Celsius to Fahrenheit
- Convert degrees Fahrenheit to Celsius
- Importance of the body farm (see web site)

**Entomology**

- Fly life cycle
- Importance of eggs, maggots, pupa and flies in determining time since death
- Estimate PMI from data on insect activity
- Estimate ADH Accumulated Degree Hours

**NOTES:**

Body Farm  
 - Bill Bass, PhD  
 - Types of Research  
 5. What is the Relationship between ADH & Energy  
 - Constant for each Species

**Test Date:**

**Test Location:**

**Practice Problems**

**Metric-English Measure Conversion Problems**

- $62.55 \mu\text{m} = .06255 \text{ mm}$
- $857 \text{ km} = 532.2 \text{ miles}$   $\frac{857 \text{ km} \left( \frac{1000 \text{ m}}{1 \text{ km}} \right) \left( \frac{1 \text{ ft}}{12 \text{ in}} \right) \left( \frac{1 \text{ mi}}{5280 \text{ ft}} \right)}{1}$
- $695 \text{ m}^3 = 24,495.4 \text{ ft}^3$   $\frac{695 \text{ m}^3 \left( \frac{1000 \text{ cm}}{1 \text{ m}} \right)^3 \left( \frac{1 \text{ ft}}{30.5 \text{ cm}} \right)^3}{1}$
- $57 \text{ oz} = 1615.95 \text{ g}$   $\frac{57 \text{ oz} \left( \frac{28.35 \text{ g}}{1 \text{ oz}} \right)}{1}$
- $24 \text{ km}^2 = 25800000 \text{ ft}^2$
- $15.5 \text{ cc} = 15.5 \text{ mL} = 15.5 \text{ cm}^3$

F = 1.8(30.6) + 32 = 87.1°F

$T = 37 - 1.5 t$

$F = 1.8C + 32$

- Time since death is 4 hours and 15 minutes. Solve for current body temperature  
 $T = 37 - 1.5(4.25) = 30.6^\circ\text{C}$
- Convert the result of #1 to degrees F  
 $T = 37 - 1.5(4.25) = 30.6^\circ\text{C}$
- Current body temperature is 88 degrees F. Solve for time since death (PMI)  
 $88^\circ\text{F} = 31.1^\circ\text{C}$   $31.1 = 37 - 1.5t$   $t = 3.9 \text{ Hours}$

**Maggot Data Table - To determine PMI**

- House fly larvae measure 20mm  $8 + 2 = 10$   
 Cheese Skipper larvae measure 8mm  $10 + 1 = 11$   
 Temperature has been around 65 degrees.  
 Determine PMI **11 Days**  
 No Drugs

**Calculate ADH using data for the Blow Fly**

$T \times t = \text{ADH}$

- Define T and t. Where does ADH come from?  
 $T = \text{Temp } ^\circ\text{F}$   $t = \text{Time in hours}$
- How many hours does it take to progress from 1<sup>st</sup> stage larvae to 2<sup>nd</sup> stage, with a temperature of 80 degrees F.  
 $27 \times 70 = 1890$   
 $T \times t = 1890$   $80 \times t = 1890$   $t = 23.6 \text{ Hours}$
- What temperature would be need to progress from pupa to adult in 4.5 days?  
 $143 \times 70 = 10,010$   
 $T \times 108 = 10,010$   $T = 92.7^\circ\text{F}$
- The data you have is for the life cycle of the Blow Fly. What would you need to know if you were calculating ADH for a different species of fly?  
 The amt of time needed for each stage to progress at a particular temp

Helpful Tip – do these things BEFORE you give up or yell for help:

Problem Solving Strategies include

- a. Ask yourself: What information am I given:
- b. Ask yourself: What am I to do with it:
- c. Ask yourself: What formula should I use:

Formulae:  $T = 37 - 1.5t$        $F = 1.8C + 32$        $ADH = T * t$       Maggot Data Table

Formula Mind Map: Use the following table to indicate WHEN and WHY you would use each of these formulae.

<p><math>T = 37 - 1.5t</math> <u>Algor Mortis</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• When: To determine TOD (PMI) or estimate body temperature.</li> <li>• Why - use only for the first 8 hours after death</li> </ul> <p>What do T, t, 37 and 1.5 mean?  <math>T</math> = Current Body Temp. in <math>^{\circ}C</math>  <math>t</math> = Time or TOD in hours  <math>1.5</math> = heat loss per hour <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;"><math>37 =</math> Normal Body Temp</span></p>	<p><math>ADH = T * t</math></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• When This is species specific and is a constant. Use this when working with energy fly lifecycles</li> <li>• Why - a measure of the energy needed for a fly to pass from one stage to the next</li> </ul> <p>What do ADH, T, and t mean?                  Accumulated Degree</p>
<p><math>F = 1.8C + 32</math> - Temperature Conversion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• When To convert <math>^{\circ}C</math> to <math>^{\circ}F</math> or <math>^{\circ}F</math> to <math>^{\circ}C</math></li> <li>• Why</li> </ul>	<p>Maggot Data Table</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• When when maggots are present on the body</li> <li>• Why To determine TOD (PMI)</li> </ul>

1. Which formula would you use for each of the following:

- a. To estimate PMI or time since death:  $T = 37 - 1.5t$
- b. To convert  $32^{\circ}C$  to degrees Fahrenheit:  $F = 1.8C + 32$
- c. To verify an eyewitness account of the time of an event that results in death:  $T = 37 - 1.5t$
- d. To represent the amount of energy that is needed to move from one stage to another in the fly life cycle:  $ADH = T * t$
- e. To convert  $90^{\circ}F$  to degrees Celsius:  $F = 1.8C + 32$
- f. To estimate time since death when a body's temperature is  $90^{\circ}F$ :  ~~$F = 1.8C + 32$~~  and  $T = 37 - 1.5t$
- g. Which part of these equations represents heat lost per hour, after death:  $-1.5$
- h. Which part of these equations represents PMI or time since death:  $t$



- i. Which part of these equations represents current temperature of a body: **T**
- j. Which part of these equations represents normal average body temperature of a living person: **37°C**

2. List 4 processes that can be used to estimate PMI and what they mean:
- Algor mortis ( $T = 37 - 1.5t$ ) = heat loss
  - Rigor mortis (stiffening of the body)
  - Livor mortis

• maggot life cycle or Entomology

3. What are the four manners of death?
- Homicide Accident  
Suicide Natural Causes

4. Identify the following with the specific TOD, MOD, COD
- Heart attack **COD**
  - Suffocation by hanging **COD**
  - Circumstance in which death is caused intentionally: **MOD - Suicide or Homicide**
  - Circumstance in which a victim drinks too much, falls off a boat and dies: **Accident (MOD)**
  - Circumstance in which a person dies of a heart attack - **Natural Causes (MOD)**

5. Work the following Problems, showing all steps. You may use the back of this sheet.

A. Body temperature of a victim is measure at 94.5°F. **Determine PMI** (Hint: you must convert to °C first.)

$94.5^\circ\text{F} = 1.8c + 32$   
 $c = 34.7$   
 $34.7 = 37 - 1.5t$   
 $+ = 1.5 \text{ Hrs}$

B. Witnesses report hearing gunshots 80 minutes ago. Convert to hours and estimate current body temperature of the victim.

$\frac{80 \text{ min}}{60 \text{ min}} = 1.3 \text{ hrs}$

$T = 37 - 1.5(1.3)$   
 $T = 35.1^\circ\text{C}$

C. A body is found in a field near a rural community. The ambient temperature (average outside temperature) has been around 55 degrees F. Use the larvae data below to estimate time since death - (make a claim and justify it with data).

D. A body has maggots everywhere. Traces of heroin are found in her system. Temperature outside has been around 80 degrees Fahrenheit. Estimate TOD or PMI.

	Length	Days	Adjust	PMI
Cheese skippers: 15mm	15 mm	12	+3	15
Flesh Flies: 39mm	39 mm	7	+4	11
House Fly: 18 mm	18 mm	8	+4	12

Species	Length	Days	Temp	Heroin	PMI
House fly larvae - 12mm	12 mm	7	-1	+0 = 8	8
Blow fly larvae - 23 mm	23 mm	8 1/4	-2	+2 = 8 1/4	8 1/4
Flesh fly larvae - 38mm	38 mm	7	-1.5	+0 = 5.5	5.5
Pupa - 38mm (Flesh)	38 mm	11	-1.5	+0 = 9.5	9.5

PMI = 15 days based on the Cheese skipper larvae of 15mm are adjusted for 55°F

Do you suspect criminal activity? **yes - cheese skippers are city animals.**

**This body has been moved**

PMI is estimated to be **9.5 days** based on the **Flesh fly pupa** which had a length of 38mm yielding 11 days. This was adjusted for 80°F temperatures by subtracting 1.5 days. This species of Fly is **NOT** sensitive to drugs.

6. Rate yourself: A. I am ready for a test B. I am almost ready C. I need more help

The type of help I need is: