



KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER: WJEC LEVEL 3 NATIONAL EXTENDED CRIMINOLOGY UNIT 3: CRIME SCENE TO COURTROOM

1.1 Evaluate the effectiveness of the roles of personnel involved in criminal investigations.

(10)

- You must cover a **range of** crime personnel types, so choose the ones you know best.
- You have about 50 minutes to complete, which is about 12 minutes on each one.
- No overall introduction or conclusion is needed.
- For each one, follow this structure:
 1. What is their **overall role** in a crime investigation? Summarise this briefly.
 2. Identify their main **strengths and limitations**.
- At least 2 of each.
- Potential limitations may include cost, expertise and availability, so try to include these ideas, with evidence e.g. recent statistics.
- Give **supporting examples** – real cases and the Brief, where appropriate.

How would you judge their overall effectiveness and why? Concluding statement.

1.2 Assess the usefulness of investigative techniques in criminal investigations (20 marks)

Choose a **range of** investigative techniques. When preparing for the CA and taking notes:

1. Explain why this technique was developed and how it is used in crime investigations.
2. Which type/s of criminal investigations is the technique most useful for and why?
3. Assess how it can be useful in crime investigations (2-3 strengths), with examples of cases.
4. Link to the brief where appropriate. Explain how it was used. To what extent was it used effectively? What were the strengths and limitations shown?
5. Assess its limitations in crime investigations (2-3 weaknesses), with examples of cases.
6. Are there any controversies around this technique and what is your view of these?

When doing the CA, this structure can be further simplified to the following areas:

1. Why this **technique** was developed and how it is used in crime investigations.
2. Main **strengths** of this technique, with case evidence, reference to the brief, where appropriate and discussion about its use.
3. Main **limitations** of this technique, with case evidence, reference to the brief, where appropriate and discussion about its use.
4. **Overall judgement**. How useful is this investigative technique in crime investigations?

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AC1.3 - How is Evidence processed? (6 Marks)

Consider the following in your answer:

- You have to **explain** how **physical & testimonial** evidence is **processed**, which means briefly describe **how** and give reasons **why** it is processed the way it is
- You have to discuss how **specific professionals** (personnel involved) do this (eg SoCO collects the evidence, ballistics forensics specialists look at guns and bullets, etc.
- Use the wording of the actual processes (e.g. **storage** and **analysis**) whenever possible
- Use **case studies** to illustrate where the process goes wrong and the consequences when it does. This helps you illustrate reasons for using the processes that are used.
- You can refer to the Brief, if it is relevant and appropriate.
- Do this in **enough detail** to achieve top mark band 4-6 marks.

1.4 Examine the rights of individuals in criminal investigations. (6 marks)

1. The rights of a suspect – define first v briefly.
2. The rights of a victim – define first v briefly.
3. The rights of a witness – define first v briefly.

For each group examine the following areas:

- What legal rights exist for each group during a criminal investigation, including the right of appeal?
- Which laws are relevant here in protecting these rights?
- Refer to cases and the Brief, when appropriate, where these rights may have been breached and explain how.

AC2.1 Role of CPS and three tests, with examples in four short paragraphs. (4)

Requirements:

- Charging role – Criminal Justice Act 2003
- Prosecution of Offences Act 1985
- Full Code Test

You need to be able to explain the role of the CPS. To do this successful you need to be able to describe in detail the evidential and public interest tests in the decision to prosecute.

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AC2.2 : Trial processes – describe key aspects in four short paragraphs – detail for top marks (4)

courts, appeals and roles.

- Criminal offences main types and where tried. Appeal system.
- Pre-trial preparations.
- The bail system and on remand.
- Plea bargaining
- Courts
- appeals

You need to be able to describe each stage of the trial process. To do this well you need to include the role of the personnel involved.

AC2.3: Rules of evidence, with examples in four short paragraphs. (4)

Show a detailed understanding of the following in relation to relevance and admissibility:

- Improperly obtained evidence – entrapment
- Pre-trial silence
- Character evidence and past convictions
- Disclosure in criminal cases
- Hearsay evidence and exceptions

Reference to legislation and case law needs to support each rule, that you have explained. Try to link to the brief, where appropriate e.g. the right to silence.

AC2.4: Influences on outcomes of criminal cases (10)

As it is worth **10** marks, depth of explanation and supporting evidence needed.

The key command word is **ASSESS**. You must make a judgement on the **IMPACT** of each influence on the progress and outcome of a criminal case.

Assess the following key influences:

- Evidence
- Media
- Witnesses
- Expert witnesses
- Politics
- Judiciary
- Barristers and legal teams.

For each of these influences include the following in detail:

- How can they influence criminal cases? What is their role in criminal cases?
- Are there any concerns about their influence and why?
- Which significant cases show their influence in practice? Refer to examples from the textbook, recent cases from online research and the brief, where appropriate.
- Make a judgment on how much impact they have on the progress and outcome of criminal cases, after considering all the evidence.

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AC2.5: Discuss the use of lay people in criminal cases in two parts: (6 marks)

- Juries
- Magistrates

Discuss is the key command word.

- You must first briefly outline the roles they have and how they are chosen.
- You must then **fully discuss** their strengths and weaknesses, with supporting evidence - examples and cases, including the brief, where appropriate.

AC 3.1 Examine information for Validity (15 marks)

To examine in detail validity against the above Information Sources by testing the areas where validity may have been undermined leading to an unfair trial and/or final judgement.

Information Sources to examine:

1. Evidence
2. Trial transcripts/Verdicts
3. Media reports
4. Judgements/Enquiries
5. Law Reports

Areas where there may be a problem with validity:

- 1) Bias 2) Opinion 3) Circumstances 4) Currency 5) Accuracy

Evidence to use for each Information source

- Criminal cases and enquiries where validity is questionable.
- References to the brief where validity is questionable.

Suggested Written Structure:

1. Introduction

The importance of validity in criminal cases and brief explanation of the areas above where it may be undermined.

1. Information Sources x 5:

Evidence, Trial transcripts/Verdicts, Media Reports, Judgements/Enquiries, Law Reports:

- Explain briefly the Information Source examined for validity.
- Provide 1-2 cases for each source in which validity may have been undermined and with reference to the Crime Brief, where appropriate and relevant. Examine cases in detail. You may NOT use the same cases for different Information Sources.

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AC 3.2 Draw conclusions from information (15 marks)

You should develop skills to analyse information from criminal cases, in order to draw conclusions based on **reasoned evidence**.

Evidence to use for each Information source

- Criminal cases where justice is in doubt. (Examples – see Power Point)
- References to the brief where justice is questionable. You **MUST** refer to the brief.

Suggested Written Structure:

Introduction

The right to justice in criminal cases and brief explanation of why it may be undermined.

Conclusions to develop for the four areas shown below:

- Explain the meaning and importance of each idea/legal term below briefly.
- Look at 1-2 case studies for each, with references to the brief where appropriate, where justice may have been undermined.
- Develop conclusions, after examining the evidence in detail.

1. **Just verdicts**
2. **Miscarriages of justice**
3. **Safe verdicts**
4. **Just sentencing**

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How do we use Knowledge Organisers in CRIMINOLOGY

How will we use knowledge organisers in Criminology?

- **Test:** We will do regular low stakes tests to check your ability to retrieve information from memory.
- **Mark our answers:** Once you have done a low stake test you can mark your work using the knowledge organiser.
- **Improve our work:** Once you have finished a piece of work you may be asked to check your knowledge organiser to see if there is any information on it that you could add into an answer.

<u>ASSESSMENT</u>	<u>SECTION ON KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>SUBMITTED?</u>
AC1.1- Evaluate the effectiveness of the roles of personnel involved in criminal investigations.			
AC1.2- Assess the usefulness of investigative techniques in criminal investigations.			
AC1.3- Explain how evidence is processed.			
AC1.4- Examine the rights of individuals in criminal investigations.			
AC2.1- Explain the requirements of the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) for prosecuting suspects.			
AC2.2- Describe trial processes.			
AC2.3- Understand rules in relation to the use of evidence in criminal cases.			
AC2.4- Assess key influences affecting the outcomes of criminal cases.			
AC2.5- Discuss the use of laypeople in criminal cases.			
AC3.1- Examine information for validity.			
AC3.3- Draw conclusions from information.			