

Name _____ Date _____

TATTLE-TALE TYPE

A Lab on Typewriter Comparison

Objective

You will use the stereomicroscope to observe and compare samples of type and determine which typewriter was used to write a ransom note.

Background Information

Little Becky Larsen was 10 years old on May 12. That day, her friends attended a birthday party at her home. When the party was over, Becky remained in the backyard to play on her new swing set. Jane Larsen, her mother, went inside the house to clean up the mess.

When Jane went to the back door to check on Becky, she was shocked to see the swing empty. After calling Becky repeatedly with no response, Jane dialed the police. Even though the police found no clues concerning Becky's whereabouts, they could not issue a Missing Person report for 24 hours. As Jane was escorting the police out the front door, a white envelope with Jane's name on it fell from the front door screen.

Jane opened the note and found the following message inside:

Put ten thousand dollars in a brown paper bag.
Place the bag in the back seat of a black Jaguar
that will be parked in front of the post office on
Woodston Street between 10:00 AM
and 10:10 AM tomorrow morning.
This is your only chance. If you fail to deliver
the ransom money, you will never see your
daughter again!

Jane could not believe her eyes. Who would do such a thing? After speaking at length with police, she managed to give them a list of 20 people with whom she had recently experienced problems. Because Jane is the owner of a group of apartment buildings in the city, she is forced to reprimand some tenants when they refuse to follow the rules.

The police visited and interviewed these 20 individuals and asked them to type a simple message on the typewriters they had in their homes. The police gave the document examiner a copy of these typewritten messages and a copy of the ransom note to try to establish a match.

Jack and Jill went up the hill to fetch a pail of water.	Mary Johnson
Jack and Jill went up the hill to fetch a pail of water.	Jack Thomas
Jack and Jill went up the hill to fetch a pail of water.	Bill Jakes
Jack and Jill went up the hill to fetch a pail of <u>water</u> .	Missy Johnson
Jack and Jill went up the hill to fetch a pail of water.	Darren Olson
Jack and Jill went up the hill to fetch a pail of water.	Jimmy Jones
Jack and Jill went up the hill to fetch a pail of water.	Andy Jackson
Jack and Jill went up the hill to fetch a pail of water.	Lori Jay
Jack and Jill went up the hill to fetch a pail of water.	Keith Wilson
Jack and Jill went up the hill to fetch a pail of water.	Peggy Walker
Jack and Jill went up the hill to fetch a pail of water.	Bill Gilder
Jack and Jill went up the hill to fetch a pail of water.	Jo Anne
Jack and Jill went up the hill to fetch a pail of water.	Betty McDuffie
Jack and Jill went up the hill to fetch a pail of water.	Helen Cook
Jack and Jill went up the hill to fetch a pail of water.	Spencer Rowe
Jack and Jill went up the hill to fetch a pail of water.	Audrey McGhee
Jack and Jill went up the hill to fetch a pail of water.	Jayne Foss
Jack and Jill went up the hill to fetch a pail of water.	Lori Thomas
Jack and Jill went up the hill to fetch a pail of water.	Billy Akers
Jack and Jill went up the hill to fetch a pail of water.	Sim Edwards

Figure 4. The names of the suspects and their typewritten messages.

Type Writer Ransom Note Analysis



Name: _____

Hour: _____

1.) **State the Problem**(W question with question mark!) _____

2.) **Gather Info**(what information do you already have!?) _____

3.) **Hypothesis**(if, then statement that gives your "guess") _____

4.) **Preform the Test**(what steps will you take to solve mystery?) _____

5.) **Record the Test** (data!!)

Person	Clues

6.) **Conclude** (who do you think is responsible?) _____

7.) **Repeat** (if you were going to do the experiment again, what would you do differently?) _____