

# Forensic Biology Job Interview Questions And Answers



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## Forensic Biology Interview Questions And Answers Guide.

### Question - 1:

Explain me what is your favorite part of working in forensics?

#### Ans:

I have always loved science - I was the kid with the chemistry set in the basement. Forensic science allows me to still do science, and I can also directly impact my community. Additionally I like the relatively quick turnaround for casework. Cancer research, AIDS research, etc. may take many years with little or no progress. Forensic casework often yields results in a matter of weeks.

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### Question - 2:

Explain do you have any advice for youth interested in joining this field of work?

#### Ans:

Get knowledgeable about it. Don't rely on TV for your thoughts of what the job really entails. See if it would be possible to get a tour of your local forensic lab, or at least an interview with an analyst.

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### Question - 3:

Tell me what is the annual salary?

#### Ans:

Somewhere between 15 000 and 30 000 pounds (20 to 50 thousand dollars?) United Kingdom. Plus shift allowances, plus weekend working allowances (and, rarely, overtime). Plus call out for major incidents that occur at night (my office is not open between midnight and 7am).

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### Question - 4:

Tell me how do you handle the stress?

#### Ans:

A lot of it is talking with the people you deal with every day. In forensics we often develop a warped sense of humor; we find humor in grotesque things. Forensic folks together will laugh about stuff that would horrify people outside the field. You build your own defenses, and vent it at work.

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### Question - 5:

Tell me what personal qualities are recommended?

#### Ans:

Dark sense of humor and ability to separate yourself from your work. Forensic scientists often deal with homicides, rapes, and sexual assaults of children. If you internalize every crime that comes through the lab you will not last long in this field.

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### Question - 6:

Tell me is it tough to get into school for forensic science?

#### Ans:

I do not know. I know that CSI and forensics is becoming more popular due to the shows on television, so more people are becoming interested in the field, but more and more universities and colleges are setting up courses to fill the demand.

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### Question - 7:



Tell me have you ever had to juggle two or more projects at the same time?

**Ans:**

Of course in the lab as well as being a mom, a soldier, a student and employee at the same time. As a generalist in the lab it is common to be doing multiple timed testing while being interrupted on the phone and in person by other staff.

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**Question - 8:**

Tell me are there any benefits from the job?

**Ans:**

My friends think my job is cool.  
You get to see 'behind the scenes' of investigations.  
You get treated as a respected part of a team.

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**Question - 9:**

Tell me how do you keep up on the latest tools and technology in forensic science?

**Ans:**

To be able to adjust with advanced tools and technologies is very important in my opinion. I hope and I will try my best to cope with advancement in order to do my duty.

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**Question - 10:**

Explain me how do I become a forensic scientist?

**Ans:**

If you wish to work in a crime laboratory, you must obtain a degree where you have a sound grounding in the basic sciences of chemistry, biology, physics, and mathematics. For most jobs you must also have a masters degree in biology or chemistry. A major in criminal justice is not adequate preparation for a career in forensic science.

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**Question - 11:**

Explain me what work experience is recommended?

**Ans:**

Lab work.  
If you can intern at a forensic lab, that is best. If you can't, then any amount of actual lab work is beneficial. Nobody wants to hire a person and then have to teach them the absolute basics of how to conduct themselves in a lab. You should be able to utilize a pipettor and know safe lab practices.

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**Question - 12:**

Tell me what degrees do you have?

**Ans:**

B.S. in Biochemistry (Worcester Polytechnic Institute, MA)  
M.S. in Forensic Science (University of New Haven, CT)

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**Question - 13:**

Tell me what do you like most about being a Forensic Science Technician?

**Ans:**

I enjoy being a part of a process that can help others and also has the capability of helping the future of mankind whether it be the process of protecting citizens from further crime or developing new testing or treatments for patients.

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**Question - 14:**

Tell us how would you define success as a forensic science technician?

**Ans:**

I would define success for someone in my chosen career as a person who has managed to be in the field and grow as a professional learning many things that would bring his/her experiences into a new level.

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**Question - 15:**

Have you ever testified in court?

**Ans:**

In 16 years of work at the MDSP-FSD I have testified over 50 times.



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**Question - 16:**

Explain what would be your definition of a forensic scientist?

**Ans:**

An individual who applies science to answer questions related to matters of the law.

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**Question - 17:**

Please explain what made you choose to become a Forensic Science Technician?

**Ans:**

I have loved forensic science since I was in 7th grade. I have always enjoyed science and wanted to help people. problem solving is something that has always been a big part of my life. with the studies over the past 5 years, I know that this is the field I want to be in an I am ready to make a contribution to the world of forensic science.

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**Question - 18:**

Explain me how you go about delegating work?

**Ans:**

Before I delegate the work, I take a step back and see what I can do on my own first without overwhelming myself or trading quality for time when I know I can not dedicate the appropriate effort to a task. Once I figure out what I will do and what I must delegate, I do it in such a way that the person I am delegating the work to has the qualifications and strengths to complete the work up to a higher standard. I also tend to look over delegated work once it is completed to ensure that we both agree the work is top quality.

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**Question - 19:**

Explain what does a forensic scientist do?

**Ans:**

Many forensic scientists work in crime laboratories. For example, a forensic biologist usually specializes in DNA analysis or continues to medical school to pursue a career as a medical examiner, a forensic chemist analyzes non-biological trace evidence found at crime scenes in order to identify unknown materials and match samples to known substances. A forensic geologist applies soil analysis to crime investigations, and forensic physicist works with trajectories.

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**Question - 20:**

Which field of forensics do you work in?

**Ans:**

Biology (serology and DNA)

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**Question - 21:**

Tell us what skills are most important to hone?

**Ans:**

You need to understand scientific principles. You need to know how to conduct an experiment, generate a theory, and then see if you can make it fail. In DNA, you have to know enough biology to understand genetics. In firearms testing, you need know physics, math, how things ricochet and how trajectories can be figured out. You've got to understand the instrument you're using, how a mass spectrometer works, what it's doing, what it's telling you; how you might get a false positive or false negative reading. You have to take notes, write reports, and be articulate enough to explain complicated science to a jury.

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**Question - 22:**

Tell us what is the most difficult part of being a Forensic Science Technician?

**Ans:**

Discovering the areas in which I need to focus more of my time because my knowledge is not currently up to date.

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**Question - 23:**

Explain me in what ways are you trying to improve yourself as a forensic science technician?

**Ans:**

I try to learn as much as I can from those around me and in literature and media. I take peoples criticism seriously and thoughtfully without compromising my identity or self esteem.

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**Question - 24:**

Explain how did you begin your career?



**Ans:**

I got into the forensic field by accident.

I was working in the toxicology lab at the medical school in Portland, and the state police crime lab was upstairs. They'd come down and ask for assistance with blood alcohol or toxicity, so I got to know them.

When they got a grant to expand the lab, I decided I'd just as soon not be a medical tech the rest of my life. After that it was on-the-job training. I went to the FBI academy for training in hairs and fibers, instrumental analysis for paint chips-all that trace evidence.

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**Question - 25:**

Tell me are there any classes you suggest taking while in high school?

**Ans:**

Depends on what aspects of forensic science interests you.

If getting into DNA, then you need Biology.

If getting into Drug Chemistry, then you need Chemistry.

I would also suggest taking some class on public speaking... many people think about the lab side of forensic science and forget that every case analyzed has the potential to go to court. If you can't accurately and confidently discuss your analysis and conclusions, you cannot be an effective expert witness.

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**Question - 26:**

Tell me what type of outlook should you have going into this job? (ex. should you be a people person?)

**Ans:**

All my colleagues are 'people persons', you have to have an interest in the job and also a desire to help people, as the role can be very hard - particularly when young people or old people are involved.

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**Question - 27:**

Tell me what are the other specialized forensic science careers outside the crime laboratory?

**Ans:**

Forensic pathology, forensic anthropology, forensic entomology, forensic psychiatry, forensic odontology, forensic engineering and so on.

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**Question - 28:**

Do you have any idea what are the other specialized forensic science careers outside the crime laboratory?

**Ans:**

Forensic pathology, forensic anthropology, forensic entomology, forensic psychiatry, forensic odontology, forensic engineering and so on.

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**Question - 29:**

Explain what does a forensic biologist do?

**Ans:**

Forensic biologists utilize scientific methodology and analyses to investigate matters that involve public legal systems, including crime and civil actions. The majority of a forensic biologist's work occurs in the laboratory, but they often collect evidence from the "field" at crime scenes or other areas of interest to the legal system. This evidence can include human, animal or plant remains, DNA traces, physical material like clothing fibers, and other material that can be helpful to legal investigations. Forensic biologists have degrees in either forensic science or biological sciences with a focus on forensics, and they may work for law enforcement or government agencies, private and consulting companies that specialize in laboratory analyses, or at universities. You may think of the popular television show CSI and homicide investigations as the typical job of a forensic biologist, and indeed this is a common application to the field of forensic biology. Crime scene investigations often involve collection of human biological material, including hair, teeth, skin, blood and other human remains that can be analyzed for DNA to identify potential victims and suspects. Sometimes this biological material occurs in only trace amounts, and may be found from corpses, walls, floors, and objects (including murder weapons) at crime scenes. Samples are collected with swabs (similar to a Q-tip), filter paper, tweezers, sample tubes, and other specialized, sterile equipment for subsequent analysis in the laboratory. Some biological material (e.g., blood) can be identified at the crime scene with the use of special lighting or chemical sprays. Other similar applications may include assistance with autopsies to determine time and manner of death, and collection of physical or biological evidence from suspects in crimes.

However, some forensic biologists specialize in the identification of confiscated animal remains (e.g., horns, skins, fur, feathers, bones) to aid law enforcement agencies that combat illegal wildlife trade, including endangered species. Other forensic biologist specialties include investigations of animal cruelty and zoonotic disease, which are pathogens that can pass between humans and animals-examples include SARS (severe acute respiratory syndrome) and West Nile virus. The latter field is an integral component of managing disease outbreaks, and other applications that are relevant to public health.

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**Question - 30:**

Explain me what advice would you give to someone just starting their career as a Forensic Expert?

**Ans:**

Well, just starting, they would not be an 'expert'. Learn all they can. Take advantage of any courses available. Do not rush to be considered an 'expert', take your time and you will just discover one day that you are one. Do the little jobs and not push to move onto major crimes too quickly. Wait until you are ready and trained before taking on too much work.

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**Question - 31:**



What is an average day in the field like?

**Ans:**

Morning shift...

Unlock the office, switch on computer, while it boots up put the kettle on for a cup of tea.

Check the overnight logs of crime to see if there was any incidents that may need dealing with quickly (assault scenes where a cordon has been put in place, scenes where the weather may destroy evidence etc). If there is, get in touch with any allocated officer (if there is one yet), contact officers at scene and give them an E.T.A. If no major incidents, check the crime scene log for the scenes that have come in overnight or have been left over from the day before. Check what staffing levels for the CSI office are that day and allocate the scenes. Drink tea. If no immediate scenes (that need attending pronto - such as businesses that will want to get their crime scenes done quick so they can get on with opening for business, or people who are available for a visit straight away) get kettle ready for the CSI officers who are coming on soon.

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### Question - 32:

Tell me are there any type of job duties that would disgust you and inhibit your performance?

**Ans:**

I would have to think that the only thing that would disgust me thus inhibit my performance would be smelling something disgusting, however after a certain amount of time the smells tend to become common.

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### Question - 33:

Basic Forensic Biology Job Interview Questions:

**Ans:**

- \* Are you a patient person? When have you displayed patience in the workplace?
- \* Have you ever been the main lead in a case?
- \* What do you like least about being a Forensic Science Technician?
- \* What is the most difficult part of being a Forensic Science Technician?
- \* What made you choose to become a Forensic Science Technician?
- \* Sometimes long reports need to be summarized. Are you able to summarize a very long report in a clear and concise way?
- \* Do you have strong documentation and report writing skills?
- \* Why do you feel that your job is so important?
- \* While attending university/college, what was your most challenging subject and why?
- \* While attending university/college, what was your favorite subject and why?
- \* A lot of people can misunderstand forensic science facts from hollywood movies and tv shows. Which, in your opinion, is the most absurd portrayal you have seen on tv so far?
- \* Do you have an area of expertise within forensic science? (Ie: fingerprinting, biochemistry, or handwriting analysis.)
- \* If you could specialize in any area of forensics, which would you choose?
- \* Have you ever written a report or study as a SME (subject matter expert)? If so, what was the subject and whom was the report for?
- \* Do you have a criminal record and/or is there anything in your history that would be important for us to know?
- \* If you could choose, would you rather work in a lab or on a crime scene?
- \* Have you ever had to reconstruct a crime scene? Did you find it helpful?
- \* Are you comfortable with calling in specialized experts, and can you recognize when they may be required? (Ie: doctors, chemists, etc)
- \* As a forensics scientist you will come across disturbing crime scenes and data. Do you have strong command over your emotions?
- \* Do you have strong verbal communication skills?
- \* Tell me about your post-secondary education. Did you begin university/college knowing that you wanted a career in forensic science?
- \* How do you stay up to date with new trends and discoveries in forensic science?
- \* What do you like most about being a Forensic Science Technician?
- \* In what ways are you trying to improve yourself as a forensic science technician?
- \* Tell me how you go about delegating work.
- \* What would your current coworkers say about you?
- \* How do your soft skills help you to be a successful forensic science technician?
- \* Have you ever had to juggle two or more projects at the same time?
- \* How would you define success as a forensic science technician?
- \* Are you a detail oriented person?
- \* Are there any type of job duties that would disgust you and inhibit your performance?
- \* Tell me about a time when you contaminated or ruined evidence by accident. What happened and what did you learn from your mistake?
- \* How do you keep up on the latest tools and technology in forensic science?
- \* Your schedule as a forensic science technician can be sporadic at times. Are you available to work overtime, evenings, weekends, and holidays - even if it is short notice?
- \* Are you comfortable testifying in court? Have you ever had to testify in court?
- \* If you weren't in forensic science, what career would you choose?
- \* How do you prioritize your day to day activities?
- \* What 3 positive things would your most recent supervisor say about you?
- \* Have you ever lost control of your emotions on a crime scene?

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### Question - 34:

Behavioral Forensic biology interview questions:

**Ans:**

- \* Give examples of ideas you've had or implemented.
- \* How do you keep track of things you need to do?
- \* What kind of events cause you stress on the job?
- \* What kinds of situations do you find most stressful?
- \* What can you do for us that other candidates cant?

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### Question - 35:

Situational Forensic biology interview questions:

#### Ans:

- \* What parts of your education do you see as relevant to this position?
- \* Which subjects did you enjoy during your qualifying degree?
- \* What relevant experience do you have?
- \* What attracted you to this company?
- \* How do you think you can make a contribution to this company?

Never interrupt even where the question is obvious, wait for the interviewer to finish before your reply. Limit your answer to your career background and experience. Always focus on the positive reason such you were seeking the opportunity to expand your career opportunities.

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### Question - 36:

Competency Based Forensic biology interview questions:

#### Ans:

- \* What techniques and tools do you use to keep yourself organized?
- \* What are your expectations regarding promotions and salary increases?
- \* Did you feel you progressed satisfactorily in your last job?
- \* How do you react to instruction and criticism?
- \* If you were hiring a person for this job, what would you look for?

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### Question - 37:

Phone Based Forensic biology interview questions:

#### Ans:

- \* How well did your college experience prepare you for this job?
- \* What are the qualities of a good leader?
- \* What is your greatest achievement outside of work?
- \* When were you most satisfied in your job?
- \* Tell me about yourself.

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### Question - 38:

Video Based Forensic biology interview questions:

#### Ans:

- \* Where do you see yourself in five years time?
- \* Describe a situation in which you had to collect information.
- \* How did you react when faced with constant time pressure?
- \* How would you weigh a plane without scales?
- \* What problems have you encountered at work?

Find out everything you can about the company, its culture and its goals. Just try to stay focused on the job you're interviewing for. Think of actual examples you can use to describe your skills.

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### Question - 39:

Strengths and Weaknesses Based Forensic biology interview questions:

#### Ans:

- \* List five words that describe your character.
- \* Tell me about a time when you successfully handled a situation?
- \* What are your salary requirements.
- \* When was the last time you were in a crises?
- \* What assignment was too difficult for you?

Be prepared to discuss in detail and with examples your five or six main attributes.

Provide truthful answers to Forensic biology interview questions and exude confidence when speaking. Be sure to discuss a very specific example.

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### Question - 40:

Communication skills Based Forensic biology interview questions:

#### Ans:

- \* What do you think this position involves.
- \* What major challenges and problems did you face?
- \* What irritates you about other people?
- \* Describe a time you were faced with stresses which tested your skills.
- \* Do you have the qualities and skills necessary to succeed in your career?

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### Question - 41:

Basic Forensic biology interview questions:





**Ans:**

- \* How did you prepare for this work?
- \* How would you describe your work style?
- \* Do you have any questions for me?
- \* What is more important to you: the money or the work?
- \* A team experience you found disappointing.

Try to include improvement activities that relate to the job. Say something relevant to the objective line in the resume.

Have a good questions ready about the position, opportunities for training or skill improvement, and other questions related to the job.

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**Question - 42:**

Suppose your schedule as a forensic science technician can be sporadic at times. Are you available to work overtime, evenings, weekends, and holidays - even if it is short notice?

**Ans:**

Yes if I have to complete my job on time and I have short time to finish it I have to work hard all hours.

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**Question - 43:**

Please explain about a time when you contaminated or ruined evidence by accident. What happened and what did you learn from your mistake?

**Ans:**

I have not ruined evidence but I have run out of sample for a test and simply used the computer to locate another sample collected for that patient or request a redraw if the patient was in the hospital.

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**Question - 44:**

Tell me while attending university/college, what was your most challenging subject and why?

**Ans:**

English and contemptibly health issues. I have always struggled with spellings and grammar and contemptibly health issues just didn't interest me.

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**Question - 45:**

Tell me what do you most/least enjoy about your job?

**Ans:**

Likes: My colleagues, helping people, every scene is a puzzle and challenge.

Dislikes: nothing in particular, unpleasant people (a rarity), working on child abuse cases, working on cases where people target old people (who tend to be very trusting). Knowing that I cannot always help people get justice.

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**Question - 46:**

Tell me how can I prepare myself to be a forensic scientist in high school?

**Ans:**

If you want to get ready for this career starting in high school, you can prepare yourself by acquiring several skills listed at the College Board career website. These include:

- \* taking as many math and science courses as possible
- \* developing public speaking skills
- \* organizing notes of class lectures and keeping lab notebooks
- \* visiting a courthouse and watching legal cases
- \* enhancing your writing skills

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**Question - 47:**

Explain me what is Forensic Science?

**Ans:**

Forensic science the application of science to those criminal and civil laws that are enforced by police agencies in a criminal justice system. A forensic scientist analyzes physical evidence and gives written information and/or expert testimony in a court of law. There are many disciplines and career paths within forensic science.

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**Question - 48:**

Explain me is it anything like forensic scenes on tv?

**Ans:**

Not really. The science on television is usually correct, but scenes take longer, evidence takes longer to get results, and the amount of resources is usually less than the shows indicate.

Also, we do not always get a result - on television, they nearly always get the offender.

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**Question - 49:**

Tell me what's a typical day in the life of a forensic scientist?

**Ans:**

Depends on the field of forensic science.

As a forensic biologist I tell people that "I cut up crusty underwear and move small amounts of water around." About half the day is spent in the lab looking at evidence and performing labwork. The other half of the day is documentation and analysis at the computer.

Lots of paperwork needs to be maintained... this is something that is often ignored when people consider going into forensic science. Again, since every case has the potential to go to court, lots of documentation needs to be maintained to prove to the court that the analysis was done according to validated protocols.

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**Question - 50:**

Explain what is most satisfying about forensic science?

**Ans:**

What I enjoy most about forensic science is the problem solving. You look at the evidence to see what it's telling you. How can you use the experts, scientific tests, and your own knowledge to answer questions and solve problems?

The forensic field is changing. Laboratories are being accredited and there are different standards. There are written procedures detailing how to do the analysis. You can't just say, "I know how to use these instruments and I can figure it out." The changes are driven by arguments that attorneys make. There's a standardization for everything. They have to know how the procedure is done, what the normal range is. They want to read a result and know it's the same, no matter which lab did the test.

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**Question - 51:**

Tell us are you comfortable testifying in court? Have you ever had to testify in court?

**Ans:**

I have had practice testifying in mock cases. While I am sure I will be nervous, I know I am qualified in my.

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**Question - 52:**

Explain me how do your soft skills help you to be a successful forensic science technician?

**Ans:**

I know how to handle laboratory equipment, use proper pipetting, awareness of the specimen handling requirements including body fluids. At the U of M I handled non-human primate specimens which utilized very strict biohazard procedures to prevent the possibility of fatal encephalitis. I also had to be very organized and carefully handle research information so it went to the right place and not into the wrong hands. From the airlines to the military and healthcare I have handled numerous stressful and time critical situations as well as sensitive material and expensive technology. I feel that the BCA is a place that I am now ready to experience as well as appreciate for its unique testing specialties and well experienced staff. I know the training can be 2-3 years from what I've read and that I will be working with people who are not only skilled but enthusiastic about their jobs for that reason.

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**Question - 53:**

Explain me what do you like least about being a Forensic Science Technician?

**Ans:**

I do not like that I may not always get the results I would like to see but I understand this is necessary in order to maintain an ethically sound and accurate analysis.

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**Question - 54:**

As you know what are the services of a crime laboratory?

**Ans:**

It includes five basic services:

- (1) Physical Science unit: uses the principles of chemistry, physics, and geology to identify and compare physical evidence.
- (2) Biology unit: applies knowledge of biological sciences in order to investigate blood samples, body fluids, hair and fiber samples.
- (3) Firearms unit: investigates discharged bullets, cartridge cases, shotgun shells and ammunition.
- (4) Document unit: provides the skills needed for handwriting analysis and other questioned document issues.
- (5) Photographic unit: applies specialized photographic techniques for recording and examining physical evidence. Additional services may include toxicology, fingerprint analysis, voiceprint analysis, evidence collection and polygraph (lie detector) administration.

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**Question - 55:**

Tell me what are the services of a crime laboratory?

**Ans:**

A crime laboratory usually includes five basic services:

- \* Physical Science unit: uses the principles of chemistry, physics, and geology to identify and compare physical evidence;
  - \* Biology unit: applies knowledge of biological sciences in order to investigate blood samples, body fluids, hair and fiber samples;
  - \* Firearms unit: investigates discharged bullets, cartridge cases, shotgun shells and ammunition;
  - \* Document unit: provides the skills needed for handwriting analysis and other questioned document issues; and
  - \* Photographic unit: applies specialized photographic techniques for recording and examining physical evidence.
- Additional services may include toxicology, fingerprint analysis, voiceprint analysis, evidence collection and polygraph (lie detector) administration.

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**Question - 56:**

Explain what type of highschool or community activities would help prepare for this career?

**Ans:**

Photography and video courses would be of assistance - both media formats are used to record crime scenes for presentation in court, and also for briefing purposes for the investigating officers (so they do not have to enter the crime scene).

Science club - a background in science is always useful.

Public speaking - we give talks to interested parties, briefings to investigating officers, and have to stand up in court to answer questions from barristers and magistrates. This can be quite intimidating until you get used to being the centre of attention.

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**Question - 57:**

Tell me which is the best institution to work at in your opinion? (FIB, CIA, etc)

**Ans:**

"Best" is a relative term....

National labs (FBI) may require analysts to travel all over the country for testimony. If you have a family with small children, you may not want this. Additionally you may have to work with attorneys from all over the country - you may not obtain a rapport being able to work with any single attorney on a regular basis.

State labs have smaller jurisdictions, so the travel is less. However, the funding may be less than a national lab. Fewer attorneys; more chance for rapport.

County or city labs have a very small jurisdiction, so very little travel. Sometimes the courthouse is next door to the lab. These smaller labs may have fewer staff.

This could be good if everyone works well together - may be bad if they don't. Also, with only a single jurisdiction you work with only a limited number of attorneys. Again, could be good if they work well with the lab; could be bad if they don't.

Then there are also private labs. These have their pros and cons vs government labs too. Private labs have to be financially stable; some may close or be bought out by other labs. Private labs also generally service any client in the country (or world) so you are back to similar issues as with national labs.

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**Question - 58:**

Tell me is there anything about this field of work that you don't like?

**Ans:**

There is a fair amount of political bureaucracy. Forensic labs may be run by police departments who don't fully understand the scientific aspects of the lab.

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**Question - 59:**

To you, what is forensic science?

**Ans:**

On television shows like CSI they have criminalists interviewing and arresting people. In real life criminalists do not do that. In some states we can only use the evidence that has been collected by police officers, in other states there are teams that process crime scenes. The person who collects the evidence may not be the one who actually analyzes it. Each piece of evidence goes to its own specialty: DNA, firearms, drugs, toxicology or trace evidence.

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**Question - 60:**

Tell me what would your current coworkers say about you?

**Ans:**

They would say that I am very much about quality and that I take my work very seriously but I am also easy to get along with and humble in my tasks. I am not afraid to ask for help or get a second opinion because I always place the patient or result first but I am assertive enough to speak up if I think something has compromised a result. I know there is more than one way to get the same result and I learn from others techniques and try them to see what best fits for me as long as it does not violate policy.

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**Question - 61:**

Tell me if you weren't in forensic science, what career would you choose?

**Ans:**

I always enjoyed the science field as well as helping others; I believe I would end up as a nurse. possibly working as a sane art nurse.

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**Question - 62:**

Tell me what's the most challenging thing about the job?

**Ans:**

I'm not the first at the scene, the state folks are. The challenge on my part as a defense criminalist is to go back and look at the photos, look at the write-ups, the lab notes, and decide if they actually collected all the evidence they needed. A lot of what I do deals with the underbelly of society and it's not necessarily fun to do that. I encounter bad stuff: mutilated bodies, child abuse, autopsies. Sometimes people say, "I can't do this anymore, I don't want to see any more dead bodies."

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**Question - 63:**

Tell me what was your minor in college?

**Ans:**

Did not have a minor.



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**Question - 64:**

Tell me how many hours do you work a week?

**Ans:**

Typical 40hr work week.

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**Question - 65:**

Do you enjoy what you do?

**Ans:**

Absolutely. I have been a forensic scientist and thought it was the best job in the world. Now I am a CSI I think I have the best job in the world. It is very rewarding (tjthough not financially).

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**Question - 66:**

Tell me what is the working environment like?

**Ans:**

The office is like any office - desks and computers.

Crime scenes vary. They can be very dirty, or contaminated with bodily fluids. The smells can be quite bad, but, in my opinion, are part of the scene - decomposing bodies, rotting food, unclean houses. You get used to it.

Heath and Safety is important, body fluids can be health hazards, hepatitis, general biological hazards, such as bacteria as well. Drug addicts may drop used needles, broken glass at a point of entry is sharp, exposed sharp objects such as nails, structural collapse in fire scenes, this list is endless (well, almost).

You may have to deal with unpleasant, or upset (emotional) people, both complainants and offenders.

Working with very young, or very old, victims can be upsetting, but you have to be able to rise above it to do a good job.

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**Question - 67:**

Suppose i'm in high school; how can I prepare myself to be a forensic scientist?

**Ans:**

If you want to get ready for this career starting in high school, you should take as many mathematics and science courses as possible, develop public speaking skills, enhance your writing skills.

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**Question - 68:**

Tell me are you a patient person? When have you displayed patience in the workplace?

**Ans:**

I am. As we know, in science, things don't happen overnight. Sometimes troubleshooting experiments takes a great deal of patience. Also, large labs tend to have an array of personalities, and patience is often the key to working with others who differ from you.

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