Name _____

CATCHING KILLERS: FINGERPRINTS

1. In the summer of 1985, what serial killer was active in Los Angeles?

2. What does he leave behind at every crime scene?

3. What was different about how the Night Stalker selected his victims versus other serial killers?

4. How are fingerprints formed?

5. When are fingerprints “locked in” during development?

6. What is the purpose of fingerprints?

7. How did the Chinese use fingerprints?

8. Describe the case in Argentina.

9. How did the detective in Argentina collect the bloody fingerprint for evidence? How is this different from how it would have been collected today?

10. What fingerprint pattern did both the suspect and the bloody fingerprint have? Were they a match?

11. After the sketch, what additional information was a victim of the Night Stalker able to give police?

12. Where was the Night Stalker’s fingerprint found?

13. Describe how AFIS works.

14. How was Richard Ramirez caught?

15. What is Ramirez convicted of? Give all convictions.

16. What was his sentence?

17. Describe how fingerprints can be taken off of bullets that have been wiped clean.