

RANSOM NOTE EXEMPLAR ANALYSIS

Close Examination

For those samples that appear to be similar to the ransom note, perform an analysis using the 12 different handwriting characteristics. Record your results in a separate data table for each handwriting sample.

Suspect Name:			
Characteristic	Yes	No	Comments and measurements (if required)
1. Are the lines smooth?			
2. Are words and margins evenly spaced?			Margins: Words:
3. Are the lowercase letters and capital letters consistent sizes?			
4. Is the writing continuous?			
5. Do capitals and lowercase letters connect?			
6. Are letters complete (i.e., not missing parts)?			(Which letters?)
7. Is all of the writing cursive?			
8. Are lines the same thickness throughout?			
9. Do all letters slant to the right?			
10. Are all letters written on the line?			
11. Are there fancy curls or loops?			(Which letters?)
12. Are all i's and t's dotted and crossed? (i's: L, R, center / t's: top, middle, bottom)			i's: t's:

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Visual Elimination

If any of the suspects' handwriting can be quickly eliminated without performing a 12 characteristic close examination, you will need to justify your decision with a brief statement explaining why the sample handwriting is obviously different from the ransom note. Reference the 12 characteristics where appropriate (e.g., the handwriting slants in a different direction).

Suspect Name:	
Reasons for quickly eliminating this sample:	
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2	
3	
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