

Serial Killer Presentation Project

Forensic Science

For this project, you are going to delve into the world of a specific serial killer. There is no exact profile that fits all serial killers. However, in general, serial killers tend to be white, heterosexual males in their twenties and thirties who are sexually dysfunctional and have low self-esteem. Their methodical rampages are almost always sexual in nature. Their killings are usually part of an elaborate fantasy that builds to a climax at the moment of their murderous outburst. Serial killers generally murder strangers with cooling off periods between each crime. Many enjoy cannibalism, necrophilia and keep trophy-like body parts as mementos of their work. Serial killers are sadistic in nature. Some return to crime scenes or gravesites of their victims to fantasize about the crime. Many like to insert themselves in the investigation of their crimes and some enjoy taunting authorities with letters or carefully placed pieces of evidence.

Serial killers tend to prey on women and children of their same race. Prostitutes, drifters and hitchhikers are often their victims of choice. Some homosexual killers enjoy hunting young boys and gay men. Female serial killers tend to be "black widows" who kill a succession of husbands, lovers, or other family members. They can also be nurses or other medical professionals who become self-appointed "angels of death" murdering babies, elderly, or the desperately ill in a misguided effort to relieve their suffering. Most serial killers grew up in violent households. As youngsters they enjoyed torturing animals, setting fires and were chronic bed-wetters. As adults, many serial killers have some type of brain damage and are addicted to alcohol and/or drugs.

1. The Research:

(You will choose a serial killer to research based on your drawing number).

Research specific questions about your serial killer:

- a. What was their childhood like?
- b. Were there any precursors? Did childhood behavior reflect problems?
- c. What was their adult life like? Did they finish high school/college?
Did they marry? Have children? Were they loners?
- d. Were they ever diagnosed with a mental disorder? Did they ever receive treatment?
- e. What was the nature of their crimes? What was the time span for their crimes? How many victims?
- f. How were they caught? What was their behavior like when they were caught?
- g. Were they found capable to withstand trial?
- h. What were they charged with and sentenced to?
- i. Are they still alive? Or did they die differently than their sentence? Or were they sentenced to death and executed in prison?
- j. Other components that are beyond the scope of the above questions.

2. The Presentation

The presentation should be 7-10 minutes in length, and you should be able to speak about the serial killer **without entirely reading off of your presentation slides** (use note section on PowerPoint). Also, be prepared to respond to additional questions the class or your teacher may have.

3. The Rubric

Name _____ Hour _____

Serial Killer Research Project/Presentation Rubric

Category	0	1	2	3	4	Score
PowerPoint (x2)	No presentation		Presentation has some pictures but too much text		Presentation is primarily visual with a few words to guide the presenter	8
Content (x4)	No presentation	1-3 components answered	4-6 components answered	7-8 components answered	9 components answered	16
Required Time (x2)	No presentation	Less than 4 minutes	Less than 5 minutes	Slightly short/long	Within time limits 7-10 minutes	8
Attire (x2)	Not dressed professionally		Dressed semipro		Dressed professionally	8
Presentation (x3)	Reads from slides the entire presentation		Read from slides half the time		Presented with articulation and consistent flow	12
Productive use of research time (x2)	Did not use class time effectively		Utilized some class time		Maximized class time	8
Maximum Points: 60					TOTAL =	_____