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# What the Cheese Told

A man robbed a grocery store in Texas. The thief took more than money from the store. He took some bites of cheese. The thief was long gone by the time the police arrived and searched the store, but still, the police found something. They found a piece of cheese that the thief had taken a bite of.

The police used the cheese as evidence. They took the cheese to a forensic dentist. A forensic dentist is a special type of dentist. A forensic dentist identifies criminals and victims by their teeth or bite marks. The dentist matched the bite marks on the cheese to one of the police's suspects. The thief was caught because of what the cheese told!



Another time, a piece of gum was found at a crime scene. The gum was chewed. The police did not know if the gum was evidence, but just in case, they took it to a forensic dentist. The dentist used the gum to make a mold. The mold showed what the gum chewer's teeth looked like.

The police had picked up a suspect. The police compared the forensic dentist's mold to the suspect's teeth. It was a match! It proved that the suspect was at the crime scene. What did the suspect do when he was shown the evidence? He confessed to the crime.

# The Jewelry Store Robbery

“We just got a phone call,” said the police captain. “Mr. Gem’s jewelry store is being robbed! Get down there!”

Police officers Diamond and Pearl raced to the store. Broken glass was everywhere. They heard a sound in the back. They followed the sound and found Mr. Gem. They had not seen him because he was lying on the floor behind the counter. He was all tied up.

After the police officers freed him, Mr. Gem cried out, “They have taken all my jewels!” Police officers Diamond and Pearl asked Mr. Gem to tell them exactly what happened.

Mr. Gem said, “Two men in gray suits came in. The biggest one ordered me to lie down behind the counter so I couldn’t see what was going on. As he was tying me up, I heard his partner smashing the glass on the display cases. I could tell his partner was enjoying himself because he was grinning widely, showing his giant white teeth. Oh, I hope you catch those horrible thieves!”

Officer Diamond said, “Mr. Gem, we will arrest you to start with.”

“Why would you arrest me?” cried Mr. Gem.

“If you were behind the counter and couldn’t see,” said Officer Pearl, “you would not have known the man was smiling and showing his teeth when he smashed the display cases.”



# Show What You Know

Answer the questions on “What the Cheese Told” and “The Jewelry Store Robbery.”  
You may look back at what you have read if you need to.

1. **What might a forensic dentist find most useful?**

- (A) an apple a thief stole
- (B) an apple a thief baked in a pie
- (C) an apple a thief cut into slices
- (D) an apple a thief took a bite out of

2. **How did police officers Diamond and Pearl know where to find Mr. Gem?**

- (A) They followed the broken glass.
- (B) They heard a sound in the back.
- (C) They saw Mr. Gem behind the counter.
- (D) They got a phone call from the captain.

3. **Both stories are about**

- (A) teeth molds.
- (B) teeth and crimes.
- (C) forensic dentists.
- (D) bite marks and evidence.

4. **A forensic dentist would not be able to identify criminals if**

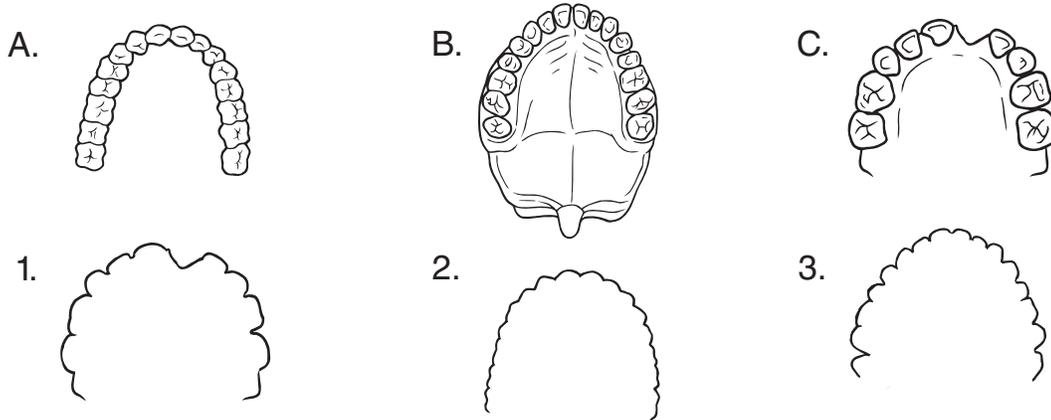
- (A) people’s teeth were all the same.
- (B) people did not confess to crimes.
- (C) people left more evidence behind.
- (D) people stopped chewing gum or eating cheese.

5. **Mr. Gem became a \_\_\_\_\_ because of what he said he saw.**

- (A) victim
- (B) dentist
- (C) suspect
- (D) evidence

# Show What You Know (cont.)

6. Do the work of a forensic dentist. Match the bite marks to the teeth.



7. List in order what happens in the story. Use the numbers 1 to 5. Put 1 by what happened first. Put 5 by what happened last.

- \_\_\_\_\_ Mr. Gem is found.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Police officers go to jewelry store.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Police say they will arrest Mr. Gem.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Police are called.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Mr. Gem talks about thieves.

Write two or more sentences that tell what each story is about.

8. "What the Cheese Told" \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

9. "The Jewelry Store Robbery" \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

10. Think about the role of police officers and forensic dentists when it comes to solving crimes. Which job would you like better? Write one paragraph telling why you would like one job better than the other.  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_