

Name _____

ACTIVITY 10-2
ANALYSIS OF RANSOM NOTE AND EXPERT TESTIMONY

Data Table 1: Ransom Note Analysis

Characteristic #	Yes	No	Description (and measurements in mm) if required
1. Is line quality smooth?			
2. Are words and margins evenly spaced?			Margins:
			Words:
3. Is ratio of small letters to capital letters consistent?			
4. Is the writing continuous?			
5. Are letters connected between capitals and lowercase letters?			
6. Are letter formations complete?			(Be specific, which letters?)
7. Is all of the writing cursive?			(Which words?)
8. Is the pen pressure the same?			
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 dotted and "t"s crossed? (top, middle, or not)			"i"s
			"t"s

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Visual Elimination Format

If any of the suspects' handwriting can be quickly eliminated without performing a 12-exemplar analysis, you will need to justify your elimination with a brief statement explaining why the handwriting is obviously not the same as the handwriting found in the ransom note. Use the following format:

Suspect # _____

Reasons for quickly eliminating this suspect:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____