Ch 12 Review Questions

Answer each question completely.

1. What is hair and the organ that produces it?
2. Name and briefly describe the three layers of the hair shaft.
3. What two features make hair a good subject for establishing identity? To which layer of the hair shaft are much of these features attributed?
4. What is the main forensic importance of the cortex?
5. What is the difference between the medullae of human and animal hairs?
6. Name the three stages of hair growth. A criminalist is more likely to collect DNA from hairs in which stage of growth? Why?
7. In comparing hairs, what aspects of the hair is the criminalist particularly interested in matching?
8. Why must questioned hairs and standard/reference hairs being compared come from the same area of the body?
9. Why should the entire hair be collected when performing a hair comparison?
10. Define polymer and monomer.
11. What two morphological characteristics does a criminalist first compare when examining fibers with a microscope? What other features may be important in such a comparison?
12. What analytical technique does a criminalist use to analyze the composition of the dye in a fiber?
13. Describe three analytical techniques for comparing the color of two fibers.