Fire Cause Determination

1. Who is often the first link in the chain of command? p. 1077

*A.) Fire fighter
B.) Fire investigator
C.) Police officer
D.) Company officer

2. What should actual conditions encountered be compared with? p. 1080

*A.) What you expected to find
B.) Witness accounts at the scene
C.) Victim accounts of events
D.) Dispatch information given

3. With which type of arson will detailed plans for setting the fire and escaping afterwards be made? p. 1086

A.) Vandalism
B.) Excitement
*C.) Revenge
D.) Crime concealment

4. What is the most important reason for investigating and determining the causes of accidental fires? p. 1074

A.) Determine who is at fault
B.) Insurance adjustor's purpose
C.) Rule out arson
*D.) Prevent future fires

5. What is anything that can be used to validate a theory or show how something could have occurred? p. 1076

A.) Direct evidence
B.) Circumstantial evidence
C.) Trace evidence
*D.) Demonstrative evidence

6. Which age group is responsible for most arson fires in schools and churches? p. 1085

A.) 13 to 17 year olds
*B.) 9 to 12 year olds
C.) 8 years old and younger
D.) 18 years old and older

7. What was the leading cause of residential fires in the United States in 2011? p. 1074

*A.) Cooking
B.) Arson
C.) Electrical malfunctions
D.) Portable heating appliances

8. Where will the search for the point of origin begin inside the building? p. 1075

A.) Area of least value
B.) Area of greatest value
C.) Area with the most damage
*D.) Area of lightest damage

9. Who is responsible for deciding if a piece of debris should be kept for evidence? p. 1077

A.) Court judge
*B.) Fire investigator
C.) Incident commander
D.) Fire fighter who found it

10. What is the fire's cause thought to be at the start of the investigation? p. 1073

A.) Arson
*B.) Undetermined
C.) Accidental
D.) Natural

11. How many people should be responsible for collecting and taking custody of evidence at a fire scene? p. 1078

A.) Three
B.) Two
C.) Four
*D.) One

12. What should be used to protect tire tracks or footprints at the fire scene? p. 1083

A.) Post a fire fighter near them
*B.) Place a box over them
C.) Lay a plastic tarp over them
D.) Put scene tape around them

13. Who should maintain control of the fire scene if a fire investigator is not immediately available? p. 1083

A.) Building department
*B.) Fire department
C.) Police department
D.) Building owner

14. When should all evidence be tagged? p. 1078

A.) At the fire station
B.) At the police station
*C.) At the fire scene
D.) At the final storage location

15. What is determined in the second phase of an arson investigation? p. 1074

A.) Property damage
*B.) Person responsible
C.) Accelerant used
D.) Ignition source

16. What is one of the first steps when investigating a fire? p. 1074

A.) Calculate the amount of damage
B.) Determine the cause
C.) Locate the person responsible
*D.) Identify the point of origin

17. What is information that can be used to prove a theory based on facts that were observed directly? p. 1076

A.) Demonstrative evidence
B.) Direct evidence
C.) Trace evidence
*D.) Circumstantial evidence

18. What will the fire investigator look for next when the point of origin has been located? p. 1075

A.) Evidence of accelerants
*B.) Indicators of specific cause
C.) Signs of person responsible
D.) Area the fire involved next

19. What should you do if an incendiary device that has not ignited is found? p. 1082

A.) Move it outside of the building
B.) Attempt to disable the device
C.) Tag it as evidence
*D.) Notify your fire officer

20. Which is normally a motivation of male arsonists? p. 1085

A.) Vandalism
B.) Concealment
C.) Excitement
*D.) Revenge

21. Who can interview witnesses as part of the fire investigation? p. 1078

A.) Fire fighter or police officer
*B.) Fire investigator or police officer
C.) IC or fire investigator
D.) Police officer, IC, or fire investigator

22. Which behavior would NOT be considered suspicious? p. 1080

*A.) Someone intent on watching the drama
B.) Individual at multiple fire locations
C.) Someone making light of the situation
D.) Individual with too much information

23. Who is the property released to once the investigation is complete? p. 1084

A.) Police department
*B.) Property owner
C.) City
D.) Insurance adjustor

24. What should be done with evidence that is discovered during overhaul? p. 1082

*A.) Leave it in place for the fire investigator
B.) Collect it all in one location
C.) Package it in evidence containers
D.) Tag it as evidence and remove it

25. What portion of all fires set in vacant buildings are initiated by adolescents? p. 1085

A.) One-fourth
*B.) Two-thirds
C.) One-third
D.) One-half

26. How will the fire investigator work through a debris pile? p. 1076

A.) Bottom of the pile to the top
B.) Small items first
*C.) Top of the pile to the bottom
D.) Large items first

27. When is evidence most often found? p. 1077

A.) Ventilation and extinguishment
*B.) Salvage or overhaul
C.) Extinguishment or salvage
D.) Search and rescue

28. Who should note if the windows and doors of the building were locked or unlocked? p. 1081

A.) Suppression crew
B.) IC
*C.) Ventilation crew
D.) Rescue occupants

29. During which timeframe are intentionally set home-structure fires most likely to be set? p. 1085

A.) 6:00 pm to 11:00 pm
B.) 10:00 am to 7:00 pm
*C.) 3:00 pm to 12:00 am
D.) 2:00 am to 5:00 am

30. What are characteristics of most pyromaniacs? p. 1084

A.) Teen females, often loners
*B.) Adult males, often loners
C.) Adult females, often loners
D.) Teen males, often loners

31. Which is NOT a correct statement about overhaul operations in a fire that resulted in injuries or fatalities? p. 1083

A.) Preserve the victim's clothing when it is removed
B.) Document anything lying under a victim's body
C.) Thoroughly investigate these types of fires
*D.) Remove victims who did not escape the fire