Hair Questions! Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. What remains the hairs most characteristic forensic feature?
2. The shaft is composed of what three layers?
3. The scales that make up the cuticle are made from what?
4. The cortex contains granules. What are these granules and what do they determine?
5. The medullary index measures what?
6. Name, describe, and sketch the four medulla patterns.
7. What is the main purpose for examining a hair found at the crime scene?
8. Can you distinguish a hair that has been bleached or dyed from a natural hair? How or why not?
9. What is the approximate growth rate for hair?
10. What are the odds of a head hair originating from one person to another? A pubic hair?
11. Can the body area of a hair be determined? Why not?/How?

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1. Can the racial origin of hair be determined? Why not? /How?
2. Can the age and sex of a hair be determined? Why not? /How?
3. Is it possible to determine if a body hair so was forcibly removed from the body? Why not? /How?
4. DNA can be extracted from hair so why is hair found at a crime scene not normally used for DNA typing?
5. Can you distinguish between natural and synthetic fibers? Why not?/How?
6. List the features which are examined when observing a hair under a microscope.
7. Where would an investigator look for control hairs in a missing person’s case? Give a few examples.