# ANIMAL BLOOD LAB

At a crime scene, it is important to determine whether or not a red fluid is blood and then whether or not it is human. There are certain characteristics that separate human blood from that of other animals. First observe human blood under the microscope and record your data. Then look at the blood of several different animals, recording information about each.

## HUMAN BLOOD SMEAR

1. Observe the human blood under the microscope.
2. Draw the human blood in the circle below.
3. Label the power you drew cells with and following on the blood smear drawing:
   - Red blood cells
   - White blood cells
   - Platelets

![Circle](image)

**Power ________

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Scientific name</th>
<th>Size</th>
<th>Color</th>
<th>Numbers (count)</th>
<th>Function</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>WBC’s:</td>
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<td>PLATELETS:</td>
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QUESTIONS
1. A forensic veterinarian may be called upon to identify a specific animal’s blood. How would this be done?
2. What test is used to determine if blood is human or animal? Explain how this test works. Why is the serum used in this test called human antiserum?

The Scenario:
Police get a frantic phone call from an individual named Louie Carton who says someone tried to kill him. Louie is well known to the police at the type of person who engages in ‘attention seeking behavior’ as he has a history of making prank calls. However, despite Louie’s long history police officers must take this call seriously because he could be in danger.

When officers arrive at the crime scene they discover Louie lying on the floor screaming and a large volume of blood smeared all over Louie and on many of his apartment walls.

Officers become suspicious of Louie’s story after close examination of his injuries by paramedics prove that he has only a few superficial cuts on his arms. These small cuts could not have been the source of all the blood found at the scene.

To prove the validity of Louie’s story officers need some proof; however they find no weapon and Louie says the culprit wore a ski mask and gloves. After looking through Louie’s apartment they discover a cat that had been stabbed to death under a sofa. When asked about this cat, Louie began sobbing and said that the perpetrator must have killed his cat.

3. Explain two different ways a forensic scientist could help police prove that Louie’s story has been fabricated. Be sure to include the results that would accompany each test assuming Louie was lying.