

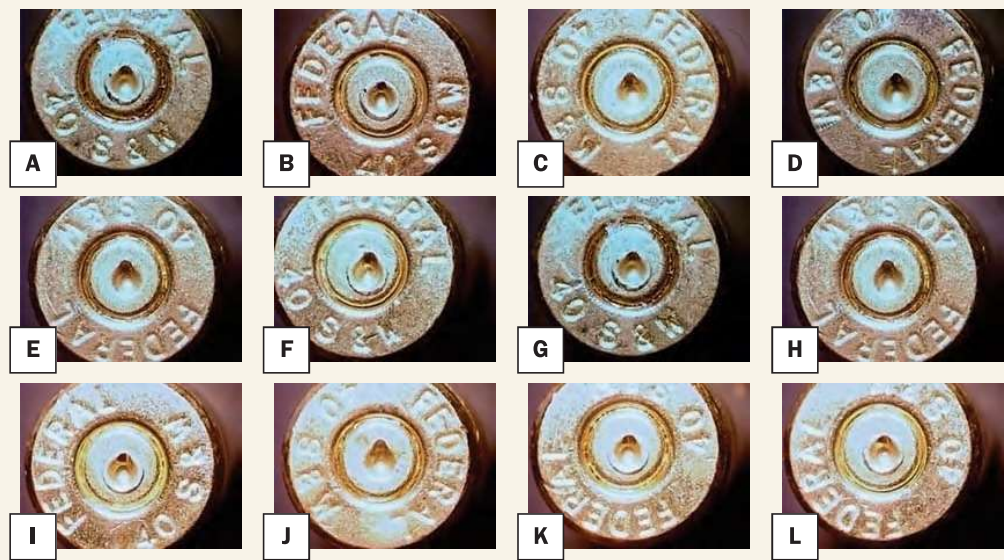
Cartridge shell casings made from test firing guns from the three suspects.



Data Table: Comparison of casings

	Suspect 1	Suspect 2	Suspect 3
Caliber			
Headstamp marking			
Firing pin strike (center or rim)			
Description of mark			

Evidence cartridge shell casings recovered from previous robberies.



Final Analysis:

1. Of the three suspects, which one(s) could you link to the crimes?
2. Based on the shell-casing matches, which of the three suspects could *not* be linked?
3. Describe specific (unique) characteristics that linked one of the suspect's casings to the crime-scene casings.
4. If you were a prosecuting attorney, what argument could you provide to the defense's claim that "if a suspect's cartridge shell casings were *not* found at a crime scene, he must be innocent"?
5. Crime labs today are better able to compare and analyze ballistic evidence. Describe two advances in technology that have enabled a better use of ballistics evidence in solving crime.

Further Study:

Research the Washington, D.C. sniper case mentioned at the beginning of the chapter. Explain how ballistics evidence was used to link the two suspects to the serial killings.