Documentary: Poisoner's Handbook Name: _____ Per. ___ Seat# ___

The Poisoner's Handbook goes into the birth of **forensic medicine and toxicology**. It follows NYC's first professional medical examiner, Charles Norris, and his partner in crime, Alexander Gettler. They looked at the mysterious deaths by poison, while improving and setting standards for forensic toxicology. Fill out the charts below while watching the Poisoner's Handbook video.

1. Name five people in the video. Each person should be from a separate "poison" story. There are a total of 7 poisons. Describe them and their stories including background info, job, physical description, etc.

Name	**Description and Story**
1. **Charles Norris (Medical Examiner)**	
2. **Alexander Gettler (Toxicologist)**	
3.	
4.	
5.	

Poisons	**Formula of Element/Molecule (if given in the video- leave blank if not)**	**Things the police or medical examiner can observe in a person that has been exposed to the poison**	**How does the forensic chemist test for the substance? What will the test show if the person has been exposed?**
Cyanide			
Arsenic			
Methanol			
Lead			
Carbon Monoxide			
Radium			
Thallium			

Poisoner's Handbook Interactive Graphic Novel Name: _____ Per. ___ Seat# ___

https://ca.pbslearningmedia.org/resource/amex26-sci-novel/tales-from-the-poisoners-handbook/

Use the above link and read the four graphic novels about poisons. For each one, record which organs are affected by the poison, symptoms, etc. As you click through the pages record the procedure for testing for the poison and what the positive test/proof looks like.

Fatal Fumes- Cyanide	
What are the sources of cyanide (where is it found in nature?)	
After extraction in labs, where can you find cyanide?	
How does cyanide kill someone?	
What are the symptoms of cyanide poisoning?	
Describe in detail the steps for testing for cyanide poisoning including how you know if it is a positive test (there are signs of cyanide).	
Ingested (ate) cyanide- testing for cyanide stomach.	
Inhaled (breathed) cyanide gas- testing for cyanide in the lungs	
How did the Jacksons die?	

Click on the top left key "Home" to return to the original screen.

The Telltale Corpse- Carbon monoxide	
What are the sources of carbon monoxide? In other words, where is it found in the home?	
How does carbon monoxide kill someone?	

What are the symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning?	
Can a dead body absorb carbon monoxide? Explain Gettler's experiment.	
How do you test for carbon monoxide poisoning (be very specific and give steps).	
How do you know the victim was exposed to carbon monoxide poisoning- how does the blood look compared to normal blood?	
How was carbon monoxide released in the room? Why didn't it kill Travia?	
Did Travia kill Anna? What is he found guilty of actually doing?	

Click on the top left key "Home" to return to the original screen.

Poison Paint- Radium	
What are the 3 steps to painting numbers on watches?	
What does ingested radium do inside the body?	

Look at the skull picture. Which bone was most affected by the 3 steps of painting numbers on watches?	
Describe the test for radium (in detail)	
What was the proof that the bones are radioactive?	
What were the symptoms of these other female painters?	Quinta MacDonald: Albina Larice: Edna Hussman: Grace Fryer: Katherine Schaub:
What was the settlement (what did each person receive at the end of the lawsuit)?	

Click on the top left key “Home” to return to the original screen.

Murderous Metal- Arsenic	
Why is arsenic popular for poisoning back in the 1920’s?	
Where can arsenic be found?	
Describe in detail the Reich Test (first test).	

Describe in detail the Marsh test (second test). If the test tube interior turns dark back after testing (Marsh test), what does it indicate? What is the positive result for Arsenic in the Marsh test?	