

## Transcript

### What does it take to work in Forensic Science?

*Interview with a forensic examiner from BBC Co-Pro 'Forensics: The Real CSI'*

**Tanyah:** I am an examiner in the biology department at the Eurofins forensic services. My job is to examine items for various body fluids that are recovered from crime scenes.

I remember I was studying for my A-levels, my biology teacher was asking us what we want to do at university. And I remember really wanting to be a marine biologist, and he went on to discuss all of these careers that you could get into with biology, said, you know, he could even solve crimes.

And I just fell in love with the idea of helping people and I fell in love with the idea of potentially solving a crime, I thought that was the most amazing thing in the world. So I applied for a degree to study forensic science at Lincoln University.

It took me around a year to get a job in forensics, but I have been forensic examiner for over four and a half years now.

So now I'm just going to look at the swabs just to see if there's any visible standing on there.

The item could be a swab or it could be two T-shirts for semen, regardless of the case circumstances, whether it's a burglary, whether it's a sexual assault or a murder, every single thing that we do when the item is incredibly important.

So we do presumptive testing for blood.

I love it, I do love it, there's no other job in the world like this. I can guarantee that nobody has seen what I've seen in those labs.

Sometimes have been so memorable, you know, sometimes have been absolutely hilarious and or sometimes I've and or sometimes I've had hardships with have been a bit of a struggle to examine. You will be up close and personal with suggesting things.

I've definitely took some elements of work home with me, and it has affected my home life because it's quite an emotional job and it's quite distressing. And I think until you've built that resilience, it's quite difficult to segregate that and not remember what you examine when you've been at work.

But I think I've built such a resilience just because everything we do counts towards absolutely everything in the case, it could make or break a case, essentially.