

CRIMINOLOGY

Q- What are the principles and techniques of interrogation? How far these techniques have potential to clear an accused? 11.00

1- INTRODUCTION:

Interrogation is a technique of criminal investigation. The purpose of criminal investigation is to establish the guilt. As it is the responsibility of police to ensure law and order and implement law in the society, so it is essential for police to bring criminals to the court of law for justice through investigation facts and for accusing the suspect. Interrogation involves the interview scheduled at the conclusion of the investigation, after all the evidence has been considered.

2- INTERROGATION AS TECHNIQUE OF INVESTIGATION:

"An interrogation is the process by which suspects are questioned in regards to their involvement in the activity that gave rise to the investigation."

Once the interrogation procedure has reached to the accusatory tone, it is impossible to stop and go back to interviewing. In the

interrogation, the investigator will do most of the talking. The questions asked of the suspect will be more direct and less open ended.

3- PRINCIPLES OF INTERROGATION:

Following principles should be considered by the investigator while doing interrogation from the suspect.

- i- Exercise of power shall be guided by law
- ii- No use of oppressive and offensive tactics or disproportionate use of authority.
- iii- Transparency to be ensured.
- iv- Investigators shall take reasonable steps to understand particular needs of the victims and accused.

4- TECHNIQUES OF INTERROGATION:

These are several interrogation techniques which are beneficial for criminal investigation.

i- Direct Confrontation:

Under this technique, all the evidence is provided to suspect and chance is given

for confession.

Example: Officer William tells James that neighbors saw him hit his wife. She has visible bruises on her arms which shows James' hand mark on her arms.

ii- Dominance:

Through dominance, Law Enforcement Agency officer doesn't let James the suspect talk! Officer shows his dominant behaviour. However, James didn't talk even after dominant behaviour of the officer.

iii- Deflection or Minimization:

Officer gives the perpetrator a moral justification for his act of hitting his wife. Officer justifies James' actions and blames the victim. James finally talks but objects all the themes.

iv- Turning justified objections into Justifications:

Officer William turns James' objections to justifications.

Example: "Yes, you aren't violent but when your wife got in your way you had to hit her."

Officer still remains unable to get any justification or answer.

v- Expressing Empathy:

Officer William shows empathy; asks he ~~understood~~ understands James' situation and what he is suffering through. James remain silent.

vi- Posing an alternate question:

Officer William says you aren't admitting, fearing that you will lose your job and would be unable to meet children. James become responsive to the scenario of losing his job and children. He nods his head, which is first ~~act~~ admission of the guilt.

5- OTHER INTERROGATION TECHNIQUES:

Apart from above interrogation also has some other techniques for investigation of criminals.

INTERROGATION TECHNIQUES

Reid Technique

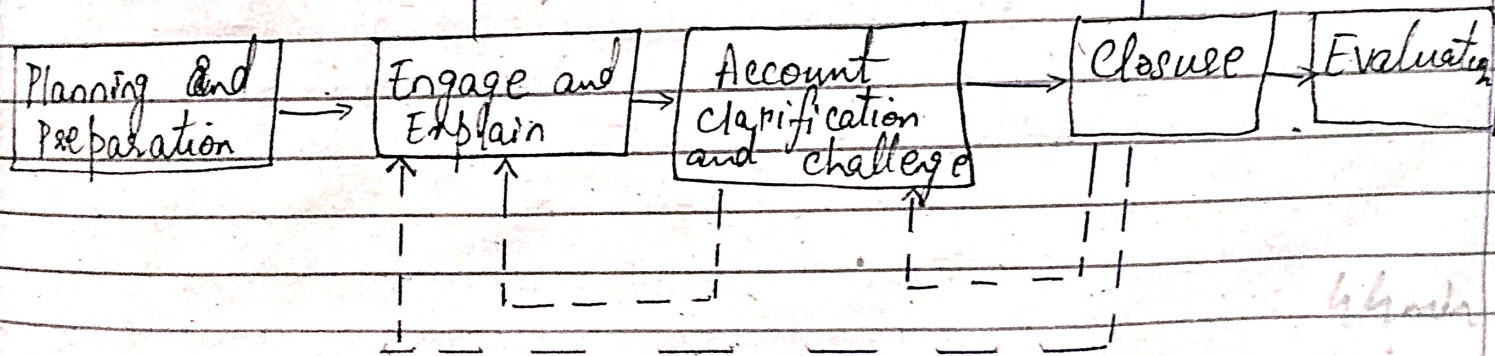
Kinesic
Technique

PEACE
MODEL

i- PEACE MODEL OF INTERROGATION:

The method is called **Preparation and Planning**, Engage and Explain, Account, Closure and Evaluation. Under PEACE Model, investigators allow a suspect to tell his or her story without interruption before presenting the suspect with any inconsistencies or contradictions between the story and evidence.

Interview



PEACE MODEL

6. POTENTIAL OF TECHNIQUES TO CLEAR ^{THE} ACCUSED:

These techniques of interrogation use alternative themes justifying the crime or verbal aggression to make a suspect uncomfortable and intensify the line of questioning. Interrogation techniques based on pressure, persuasion, or coercion can cause a suspect to collapse and alter his perception of himself and the situation so that he sees an act of confession in his selfish interest as the only option to be out of the problem. Controlled laboratory studies and meta-analyses have shown that interrogation tactics can increase the number of false confessions by up to 20% (Stewart, Woody and Pulos, 2018)

7. CONCLUSION:

In conclusion, interrogation is the crucial component of criminal investigation. Through interrogation, the officer interviews the suspect to bring in the court of law for justice via investigated facts. Therefore, the technique to of interrogation are devised in a way to fulfil the requirements of justice and law.