London Gates Education Group
International Education Centre

Read the paragraphs. Which headline matches which paragraph? Drag and drop the headlines.

1.After Death **2. At Hour 1**

3. At Hour 2-5 **4. At Hour 7 and Beyond**

Because the heart no longer pumps blood, gravity begins to pull it to the areas of the body closest to the ground. If the body remains undisturbed for several hours, those parts can develop a purple coloration (like a bruise) from the accumulating blood.

Beginning approximately in the third hour after death, chemical changes within the body's cells cause all of the muscles to begin stiffening, known as rigor mortis. Due to this process the dead ones can open their eyes or mouth, as the muscles become shorter.

At the moment of death, all of the muscles in the body relax. Eyelids lose their tension, the pupils enlarge, the body's joints and limbs are flexible. Within minutes of the heart-stopping, the skin colour grows pale as blood drains from the smaller veins in the skin.

At the same time, the body begins to cool from its normal temperature until reaching the temperature around it.

Maximum muscle stiffness throughout the body occurs after roughly 12 hours due to rigor mortis. At this point, the limbs of the deceased are difficult to move or manipulate.

In one to tree days during secondary flaccidity, the skin will begin to shrink, creating the illusion that hair and nails are growing. Once secondary flaccidity is complete, all of the muscles of the body will again be relaxed.

We often think of the moment of death as that time at which the heartbeat and breathing stop. We are learning, however, that isn't quite true. Our brains are now thought to continue to "work" for 10 minutes or so after we die.

LIVEWORKSHEETS