



Comprehension

Fingerprints

Look at the tips of your fingers. You will see that there is a pattern in the skin. The pattern is made up of little ridges and very narrow furrows. Press your finger in fine sand, or on a damp glass, even on a dusty desk. Your finger leaves a pattern. It is the print of your own finger.

Nobody else in the whole world can make the same pattern that you have just made. It is your fingerprint, and your fingerprint alone. Your fingerprints never change. Even as a tiny baby your fingers had the same pattern of ridge and furrow. When you are old, your fingers will make the same pattern.

The Chinese knew this hundreds of years ago and used fingerprints instead of signatures.

from 999 . . . **Police** by B. Taylor