

Deduction Mysteries

CASE 01

A SSL certificate was extracted from the engineer pod of Brightline Software during the overnight window between 00:45 and 04:30. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 7 suspects are under investigation: Leander (contractor), Marisol (intern), Octavia (CTO), Lana (product manager), Ronan (senior engineer), Elspeth (DevOps lead), Jacinta (support lead). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who extracted the SSL certificate?

1. Elspeth filed a grievance two weeks ago – appears to have motive.
2. Ronan clashed publicly with management – appears to have motive.
3. Ronan has authorization to handle the item and administrator credentials – initial suspicion was high.
4. However: Ronan is cleared – but MFA token log places them at the hospital with a family emergency during the entire window.
5. Four independent requirements: specialized engineering certification, administrator credentials, presence between 00:45 and 04:30, and authorization to handle the item.
6. But: however the unsecured side stairwell doesn't require a badge to re-enter.
7. Lana lacks specialized engineering certification – confirmed by personnel records.
8. Initial assumption pointed to Marisol because of being seen near the building, but this has been independently ruled out.
9. The data theft involved a hand-machined tool stocked in only one closet.
- 10 Elspeth has administrator credentials and specialized engineering certification – initial suspicion was high.
- 11 Marisol has only specialized engineering certification of the four requirements.
- 12 ~~Leander has all four requirements: specialized engineering certification, administrator credentials, authorization to handle the item, and meets the temporal requirement (presence between 00:45 and 04:30).~~

CASE 02

A medieval folio was taken from the archive storage of Helix Reading Room during the overnight window between 01:45 and 04:30. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 7 suspects are under investigation: Kasimir (volunteer), Eleni (cataloger), Hadley (research assistant), Sigrid (rare-books curator), Tomas (intern), Daphne (visiting scholar), Juno (archivist). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who took the medieval folio?

1. Hadley has documented hands-on history with the item and a master key issued only to senior staff – initial suspicion was high.
2. Sigrid was officially signed out at 22:10 via the front-desk register.
3. However: Hadley is cleared – but two independent witnesses confirm a video call with them throughout the window.
4. Four independent requirements: a master key issued only to senior staff, documented hands-on history with the item, presence between 01:45 and 04:30, and familiarity with the security routing.
5. The theft involved a network certificate signed by senior staff.
6. Hadley filed a grievance two weeks ago – appears to have motive.
7. Eleni's archive log shows them off-site the entire window.
8. However: Daphne is cleared – but their staff key was revoked the day before – confirmed in the security audit.
9. However: Tomas is cleared – but they were on a documented overnight flight, verified by airline records.
- 10 Juno's badge swipe shows them off-site the entire window.
- 11 Daphne clashed publicly with management – appears to have motive.

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CASE 03

An exam answer key was taken from the staff bathroom of Pemberton School during the overnight window between 02:00 and 06:15. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 8 suspects are under investigation: Selene (department head), Saoirse (student council president), Odell (teacher), Esme (coach), Gemma (school counselor), Aaliyah (librarian), Gunnar (secretary), Eitan (janitor). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who took the exam answer key?

1. However: Selene is cleared – but witness statement places them at the hospital with a family emergency during the entire window.
2. However: Saoirse is cleared – but their staff key was revoked the day before – confirmed in the security audit.
3. But: however the seal serial registry shows their vehicle remained in the lot until well after 02:00.
4. Gemma lacks a master key issued only to senior staff – confirmed by personnel records.
5. Gunnar's attendance log shows them off-site the entire window.
6. Selene has a master key issued only to senior staff and documented hands-on history with the item and possession of the specific tool used – initial suspicion was high.
7. Odell has only possession of the specific tool used of the four requirements.
8. Four independent requirements: a master key issued only to senior staff, documented hands-on history with the item, presence between 02:00 and 06:15, and possession of the specific tool used.
9. The trace at the scene (a foam replica skillfully painted with restoration-grade spray paint) ties directly to inventory or systems uniquely accessible to Aaliyah.
- 10 Selene filed a grievance two weeks ago – appears to have motive.
- 11 However: Eitan is cleared – but their keypad code was revoked the day before – confirmed in the security audit.

CASE 04

A jade figurine was taken from the storage basement of Helix Modern Art during the overnight window between 00:15 and 04:30. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 8 suspects are under investigation: Dimah (archivist), Suri (art restorer), Iolanthe (exhibition designer), Idris (security guard), Beatrix (night security), Amelia (janitor), Lucia (tour guide), Diallo (gift shop manager). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who took the jade figurine?

1. Initial assumption pointed to Amelia because of public friction with management, but this has been independently ruled out.
2. Idris clashed publicly with management – appears to have motive.
3. However: Idris is cleared – but they were on a documented overnight flight, verified by airline records.
4. Diallo has only elevated system privileges of the four requirements.
5. Beatrix has a verified relationship with the donor and authorization to handle the item – initial suspicion was high.
6. Beatrix had financial pressure – appears to have motive.
7. Lucia has all four requirements: elevated system privileges, a verified relationship with the donor, authorization to handle the item, and meets the temporal requirement (presence between 00:15 and 04:30).
8. Suri lacks a verified relationship with the donor – security audit confirms.
9. Iolanthe was passed over for a recent promotion – appears to have motive.
- 10 Lucia claims to have exited the building at 22:45 – the official badge log confirms this.
- 11 But: however the unsecured service entrance doesn't require a badge to re-enter.

Deduction Mysteries

CASE 05

A signed manuscript was taken from the second-floor gallery of Saint-Clair Museum during the overnight window between 02:45 and 05:15. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 7 suspects are under investigation: Dimitri (night security), Ronan (curator), Zephyr (docent), Mira (art restorer), Jian (archivist), Cedric (janitor), Sora (tour guide). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who took the signed manuscript?

1. Four independent requirements: specialized engineering certification, clean-room or vault clearance, presence between 02:45 and 05:15, and knowledge of the seal serial pattern.
2. Jian has clean-room or vault clearance and knowledge of the seal serial pattern and specialized engineering certification – initial suspicion was high.
3. Sora has knowledge of the seal serial pattern and clean-room or vault clearance and specialized engineering certification – initial suspicion was high.
4. Zephyr's elevator log shows them off-site the entire window.
5. However: Sora is cleared – but door sensor places them at the hospital with a family emergency during the entire window.
6. Dimitri lacks clean-room or vault clearance – security audit confirms.
7. The trace at the scene (a foam replica skillfully painted with restoration-grade spray paint) ties directly to inventory or systems uniquely accessible to Ronan.
8. But: however the unsecured side stairwell doesn't require a badge to re-enter.
9. Cedric has specialized engineering certification and knowledge of the seal serial pattern – initial suspicion was high.
- 10 The theft involved a foam replica skillfully painted with restoration-grade spray paint.
- 11 Ronan has all four requirements: specialized engineering certification, clean-room or vault clearance, knowledge of the seal serial pattern, and meets the temporal requirement (presence between 02:45 and 05:15).

CASE 06

A formula draft was swapped from the sequencing room of Nordic Bio during the overnight window between 01:15 and 05:45. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 8 suspects are under investigation: Gisela (equipment manager), Dimitri (postdoctoral researcher), Jules (operations manager), Mahdi (principal investigator), Quentin (safety officer), Yusuf (graduate student), Tess (undergraduate volunteer), Polina (lab technician). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who swapped the formula draft?

1. However: Jules is cleared – but they were on a documented overnight flight, verified by airline records.
2. Jules has a verified relationship with the donor and clearance to the restricted archive – initial suspicion was high.
3. Gisela had financial pressure – appears to have motive.
4. Four independent requirements: clearance to the restricted archive, a verified relationship with the donor, presence between 01:15 and 05:45, and possession of the specific tool used.
5. Polina has only clearance to the restricted archive of the four requirements.
6. Quentin claims to have exited the building at 22:35 – the official badge log confirms this.
7. However: Mahdi is cleared – but they were on a documented overnight flight, verified by airline records.
8. Yusuf has only a verified relationship with the donor of the four requirements.
9. But: however the elevator override log shows their vehicle remained in the lot until well after 01:15.
- 10 The trace at the scene (an encryption signature tied to the internal training network) ties directly to inventory or systems uniquely accessible to Quentin.

Answer Key – Deduction Mysteries

Solve before peeking. Correct suspect and key reasoning steps below.

Case 01 A) Leander

- Four requirements (specialized engineering certification, administrator credentials, presence between 00:45 and 04:30, authorization to handle the item) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
 - Elspeth appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.
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Case 02 undefined) Sigrid

- Four requirements (a master key issued only to senior staff, documented hands-on history with the item, presence between 01:45 and 04:30, familiarity with the security routing) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
 - Daphne appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.
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Case 03 D) Aaliyah

- Four requirements (a master key issued only to senior staff, documented hands-on history with the item, presence between 02:00 and 06:15, possession of the specific tool used) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
 - Selene appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.
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Case 04 D) Lucia

- Four requirements (elevated system privileges, a verified relationship with the donor, presence between 00:15 and 04:30, authorization to handle the item) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
 - Idris appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.
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Case 05 undefined) Ronan

- Four requirements (specialized engineering certification, clean-room or vault clearance, presence between 02:45 and 05:15, knowledge of the seal serial pattern) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
 - Jian appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.
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Case 06 undefined) Quentin

- Four requirements (clearance to the restricted archive, a verified relationship with the donor, presence between 01:15 and 05:45, possession of the specific tool used) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
- Gisela appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.