

Deduction Mysteries

CASE 01

A signed binary release was extracted from the server farm of Helix Tech during the overnight window between 00:45 and 03:45. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 8 suspects are under investigation: Talia (site-reliability engineer), Hakim (senior engineer), Aiko (data scientist), Esme (contractor), Odell (intern), Wilder (product manager), Ginevra (CTO), Joaquin (DevOps lead). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who extracted the signed binary release?

1. Hakim filed a grievance two weeks ago – appears to have motive.
2. Talia has after-hours building access and familiarity with the security routing – initial suspicion was high.
3. Four independent requirements: a master key issued only to senior staff, after-hours building access, presence between 00:45 and 03:45, and familiarity with the security routing.
4. Hakim has after-hours building access and a master key issued only to senior staff and familiarity with the security routing – initial suspicion was high.
5. Initial assumption pointed to Hakim because of public friction with management, but this has been independently ruled out.
6. Esme has a master key issued only to senior staff and after-hours building access and familiarity with the security routing – initial suspicion was high.
7. But: however elevator override log records show they re-authenticated from an internal network at 2:20.
8. Wilder lacks after-hours building access – security audit confirms.
9. Talia clashed publicly with management – appears to have motive.
- 10 Aiko has only familiarity with the security routing of the four requirements.
- 11 The data theft involved an encryption signature tied to the internal training network.

CASE 02

The admin credentials were extracted from the war room of Brightline Software during the overnight window between 01:15 and 04:00. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 7 suspects are under investigation: Jules (product manager), Yara (intern), Octavia (data scientist), Eleni (support lead), Ravi (DevOps lead), Noor (security analyst), Tariq (site-reliability engineer). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who extracted the admin credentials?

1. Octavia filed a grievance two weeks ago – appears to have motive.
2. Yara has all four requirements: advanced restoration training, after-hours building access, knowledge of the seal serial pattern, and meets the temporal requirement (presence between 01:15 and 04:00).
3. However: Tariq is cleared – but their admin token was revoked the day before – confirmed in the security audit.
4. However: Jules is cleared – but CCTV camera places them at the hospital with a family emergency during the entire window.
5. Initial assumption pointed to Jules because of proximity to the scene earlier, but this has been independently ruled out.
6. Noor lacks after-hours building access – security audit confirms.
7. Tariq has advanced restoration training and after-hours building access and knowledge of the seal serial pattern – initial suspicion was high.
8. But: however the pedestrian-door sensor shows their vehicle remained in the lot until well after 01:15.
9. However: Octavia is cleared – but their admin token was revoked the day before – confirmed in the security audit.

Deduction Mysteries

CASE 03

A wine collection inventory was taken from the prep kitchen of Aldermarsh Bistro during the overnight window between 01:00 and 04:30. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 7 suspects are under investigation: Noor (pastry chef), Bao (sommelier), Enzo (bartender), Wilder (head chef), Simeon (host), Fenella (dishwasher), Polina (sous chef). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who took the wine collection inventory?

1. Four independent requirements: clearance to the restricted archive, a verified relationship with the donor, presence between 01:00 and 04:30, and knowledge of the seal serial pattern.
2. Polina has clearance to the restricted archive and a verified relationship with the donor and knowledge of the seal serial pattern – initial suspicion was high.
3. Simeon was passed over for a recent promotion – appears to have motive.
4. The theft involved a network certificate signed by senior staff.
5. Noor was passed over for a recent promotion – appears to have motive.
6. Wilder has all four requirements: clearance to the restricted archive, a verified relationship with the donor, knowledge of the seal serial pattern, and meets the temporal requirement (presence between 01:00 and 04:30).
7. Polina was passed over for a recent promotion – appears to have motive.
8. However: Simeon is cleared – but reservation system places them at the hospital with a family emergency during the entire window.
9. Wilder claims to have exited the building at 23:10 – the official badge log confirms this.
- 10 Initial assumption pointed to Bao because of public friction with management, but this has been independently ruled out.
- 11 Noor has a verified relationship with the donor and clearance to the restricted archive and knowledge of the seal serial pattern – initial suspicion was high.

CASE 04

A science project was taken from the exam preparation room of Hawthorne Day School during the overnight window between 02:15 and 05:45. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 8 suspects are under investigation: Ines (secretary), Darya (librarian), Akhil (principal), Kenji (school counselor), Zinnia (student council president), Kiran (coach), Idris (substitute teacher), Kerensa (janitor). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who took the science project?

1. Zinnia's witness statement shows them off-site the entire window.
2. Akhil had financial pressure – appears to have motive.
3. Darya has only a master key issued only to senior staff of the four requirements.
4. The trace at the scene (a hand-machined tool stocked in only one closet) ties directly to inventory or systems uniquely accessible to Kenji.
5. Akhil has a master key issued only to senior staff and a verified relationship with the donor and knowledge of the seal serial pattern – initial suspicion was high.
6. The theft involved a hand-machined tool stocked in only one closet.
7. Kenji was officially signed out at 22:40 via the front-desk register.
8. Kenji has all four requirements: a master key issued only to senior staff, a verified relationship with the donor, knowledge of the seal serial pattern, and meets the temporal requirement (presence between 02:15 and 05:45).
9. However: Kiran is cleared – but two independent witnesses confirm a video call with them throughout the window.
- 10 Initial assumption pointed to Akhil because of proximity to the scene earlier, but this has been independently ruled out.

Deduction Mysteries

CASE 05

A sports trophy was taken from the records office of Northgate Academy during the overnight window between 01:30 and 04:45. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 8 suspects are under investigation: Darya (school counselor), Yusuf (secretary), Aurora (substitute teacher), Bayan (student council president), Gisela (department head), Mauro (coach), Kalinda (principal), Cyrus (teacher). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who took the sports trophy?

1. Yusuf was passed over for a recent promotion – appears to have motive.
2. Darya lacks a master key issued only to senior staff – confirmed by personnel records.
3. Cyrus has all four requirements: a master key issued only to senior staff, documented hands-on history with the item, authorization to handle the item, and meets the temporal requirement (presence between 01:30 and 04:45).
4. Aurora lacks documented hands-on history with the item – security audit confirms.
5. Bayan clashed publicly with management – appears to have motive.
6. Four independent requirements: a master key issued only to senior staff, documented hands-on history with the item, presence between 01:30 and 04:45, and authorization to handle the item.
7. Kalinda lacks documented hands-on history with the item – security audit confirms.
8. Bayan has a master key issued only to senior staff and authorization to handle the item – initial suspicion was high.
9. Cyrus was officially signed out at 22:00 via the front-desk register.
- 10 The trace at the scene (a hand-machined tool stocked in only one closet) ties directly to inventory or systems uniquely accessible to Cyrus.
- 11 Gisela lacks a master key issued only to senior staff – confirmed by personnel records.
- 12 Initial assumption pointed to Mauro because of being seen near the building, but this has been independently ruled out.

CASE 06

A musical score was taken from the box office of Pemberton Opera House during the overnight window between 02:45 and 06:00. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 7 suspects are under investigation: Arjun (understudy), Hadley (stage manager), Kasimir (musical director), Hasan (stagehand), Rhys (box-office manager), Zoltan (lighting tech), Darya (prop master). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who took the musical score?

1. However: Arjun is cleared – but their box-office key was revoked the day before – confirmed in the security audit.
2. Four independent requirements: advanced restoration training, after-hours building access, presence between 02:45 and 06:00, and authorization to handle the item.
3. The theft involved an encryption signature tied to the internal training network.
4. The trace at the scene (an encryption signature tied to the internal training network) ties directly to inventory or systems uniquely accessible to Hasan.
5. Zoltan's props inventory log shows them off-site the entire window.
6. Rhys's witness crew member shows them off-site the entire window.
7. However: Darya is cleared – but their director's key was revoked the day before – confirmed in the security audit.
8. Kasimir has authorization to handle the item and advanced restoration training and after-hours building access – initial suspicion was high.
9. Hasan has all four requirements: advanced restoration training, after-hours building access, authorization to handle the item, and meets the temporal requirement (presence between 02:45 and 06:00).
- 10 But: however the unsecured service entrance doesn't require a badge to re-enter.

Answer Key – Deduction Mysteries

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

Case 01 B) Ginevra

- ☒ Four requirements (a master key issued only to senior staff, after-hours building access, presence between 00:45 and 03:45, familiarity with the security routing) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
 - ☒ Esme appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.
-

Case 02 B) Yara

- ☒ Four requirements (advanced restoration training, after-hours building access, presence between 01:15 and 04:00, knowledge of the seal serial pattern) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
 - ☒ Tariq appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.
-

Case 03 F) Wilder

- ☒ Four requirements (clearance to the restricted archive, a verified relationship with the donor, presence between 01:00 and 04:30, knowledge of the seal serial pattern) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
 - ☒ Noor appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.
-

Case 04 undefined) Kenji

- ☒ Four requirements (a master key issued only to senior staff, a verified relationship with the donor, presence between 02:15 and 05:45, knowledge of the seal serial pattern) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
 - ☒ Kiran appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.
-

Case 05 E) Cyrus

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

Case 06 B) Hasan

- ☒ Four requirements (advanced restoration training, after-hours building access, presence between 02:45 and 06:00, authorization to handle the item) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
- ☒ Arjun appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.