

Deduction Mysteries

CASE 01

An expensive welding rod was taken from the manager's office of Northgate Workshop during the overnight window between 00:15 and 03:15. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 7 suspects are under investigation: Ulla (electrician), Vera (welder), Penelope (machinist), Hasan (shop manager), Aleksandr (customer service rep), Kalinda (quality inspector), Akira (master mechanic). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who took the expensive welding rod?

1. Four independent requirements: a master key issued only to senior staff, clean-room or vault clearance, presence between 00:15 and 03:15, and familiarity with the security routing.
2. But: however the unsecured pedestrian door doesn't require a badge to re-enter.
3. Kalinda was passed over for a recent promotion – appears to have motive.
4. Vera has all four requirements: a master key issued only to senior staff, clean-room or vault clearance, familiarity with the security routing, and meets the temporal requirement (presence between 00:15 and 03:15).
5. However: Aleksandr is cleared – but two independent witnesses confirm a video call with them throughout the window.
6. Kalinda has clean-room or vault clearance and a master key issued only to senior staff and familiarity with the security routing – initial suspicion was high.
7. Akira lacks a master key issued only to senior staff – confirmed by personnel records.
8. Vera their video call ended at 23:45 according to the system.
9. The theft involved a hand-machined tool stocked in only one closet.
- 10 However: Kalinda is cleared – but two independent witnesses confirm a video call with them throughout the window.
- 11 Initial assumption pointed to Aleksandr because of proximity to the scene earlier, but this has been independently ruled out.

CASE 02

A championship ring was taken from the training facility of Brightline Fitness during the overnight window between 00:00 and 04:30. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 7 suspects are under investigation: Jules (facilities manager), Indira (team captain), Talia (team statistician), Kasper (star player), Nadia (referee), Roksana (rookie player), Mauro (head coach). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who took the championship ring?

1. Indira had financial pressure – appears to have motive.
2. Mauro clashed publicly with management – appears to have motive.
3. Roksana their video call ended at 23:30 according to the system.
4. The trace at the scene (an encryption signature tied to the internal training network) ties directly to inventory or systems uniquely accessible to Roksana.
5. Four independent requirements: a master key issued only to senior staff, documented hands-on history with the item, presence between 00:00 and 04:30, and possession of the specific tool used.
6. Indira has documented hands-on history with the item and a master key issued only to senior staff – initial suspicion was high.
7. However: Indira is cleared – but two independent witnesses confirm a video call with them throughout the window.
8. Jules's equipment sign-out shows them off-site the entire window.
9. Mauro has documented hands-on history with the item and possession of the specific tool used and a master key issued only to senior staff – initial suspicion was high.
- 10 However: Kasper is cleared – but time-clock record places them at the hospital with a family emergency during the entire window.

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CASE 03

An illuminated codex was taken from the restoration room of Pemberton Research Library during the overnight window between 01:30 and 05:45. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 8 suspects are under investigation: Tess (visiting scholar), Simeon (intern), Zephyr (cataloger), Ishaan (head librarian), Meriel (rare-books curator), Nadia (volunteer), Alessio (research assistant), Roksana (custodian). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who took the illuminated codex?

1. But: however VPN session record records show they re-authenticated from an internal network at 1:20.
2. Alessio filed a grievance two weeks ago – appears to have motive.
3. However: Nadia is cleared – but their reading-room pass was revoked the day before – confirmed in the security audit.
4. Simeon has a master key issued only to senior staff and familiarity with the security routing – initial suspicion was high.
5. Alessio has a master key issued only to senior staff and after-hours building access and familiarity with the security routing – initial suspicion was high.
6. Tess has only a master key issued only to senior staff of the four requirements.
7. The theft involved an encryption signature tied to the internal training network.
8. Nadia was passed over for a recent promotion – appears to have motive.
9. The trace at the scene (an encryption signature tied to the internal training network) ties directly to inventory or systems uniquely accessible to Ishaan.
- 10 Zephyr lacks a master key issued only to senior staff – confirmed by personnel records.
- 11 However: Simeon is cleared – but they were on a documented overnight flight, verified by airline records.
- 12 Ishaan has all four requirements: a master key issued only to senior staff, after-hours building access, familiarity with the security routing, and meets the temporal requirement (presence between 01:30 and 05:45).

CASE 04

A customer credit-card list was extracted from the server farm of Quartermaine Cyber during the overnight window between 00:15 and 04:45. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 8 suspects are under investigation: Vera (DevOps lead), Juno (product manager), Daphne (support lead), Noor (intern), Simeon (data scientist), Fenella (contractor), Roksana (senior engineer), Saoirse (security analyst). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who extracted the customer credit-card list?

1. However: Simeon is cleared – but VPN session log places them at the hospital with a family emergency during the entire window.
2. Simeon had financial pressure – appears to have motive.
3. Noor clashed publicly with management – appears to have motive.
4. Vera has only administrator credentials of the four requirements.
5. Saoirse lacks advanced restoration training – confirmed by personnel records.
6. But: however elevator override log records show they re-authenticated from an internal network at 1:25.
7. The data theft involved a seal cut with a serial pattern from a specific supply.
8. Daphne lacks advanced restoration training – confirmed by personnel records.
9. Roksana clashed publicly with management – appears to have motive.
- 10 Roksana has advanced restoration training and administrator credentials and knowledge of the seal serial pattern – initial suspicion was high.
- 11 Initial assumption pointed to Simeon because of being seen near the building, but this has been independently ruled out.
- 12 Noor has advanced restoration training and administrator credentials – initial suspicion was high.

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CASE 05

A machine shop key set was taken from the blueprint room of Pemberton Repair during the overnight window between 01:30 and 04:15. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 8 suspects are under investigation: Juno (painter), Fariha (quality inspector), Mikael (customer service rep), Cedric (electrician), Mei (welder), Ilya (parts clerk), Alessio (machinist), Finnegan (master mechanic). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who took the machine shop key set?

1. Ilya has clearance to the restricted archive and administrator credentials – initial suspicion was high.
2. Mei lacks clearance to the restricted archive – confirmed by personnel records.
3. The theft involved a hand-machined tool stocked in only one closet.
4. Initial assumption pointed to Finnegan because of proximity to the scene earlier, but this has been independently ruled out.
5. Mikael's parts-room audit shows them off-site the entire window.
6. Juno lacks clearance to the restricted archive – confirmed by personnel records.
7. Finnegan has possession of the specific tool used and clearance to the restricted archive – initial suspicion was high.
8. Ilya filed a grievance two weeks ago – appears to have motive.
9. The trace at the scene (a hand-machined tool stocked in only one closet) ties directly to inventory or systems uniquely accessible to Fariha.
- 10 However: Finnegan is cleared – but two independent witnesses confirm a video call with them throughout the window.
- 11 Cedric filed a grievance two weeks ago – appears to have motive.
- 12 Fariha claims to have exited the building at 23:10 – the official badge log confirms this.

CASE 06

A staff payroll list was taken from the exam preparation room of Hawthorne Day School during the overnight window between 02:00 and 06:30. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 7 suspects are under investigation: Yvonne (janitor), Beatrix (student council president), Diallo (teacher), Kenji (substitute teacher), Kiran (department head), Octavia (principal), Iolanthe (secretary). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who took the staff payroll list?

1. However: Yvonne is cleared – but they were on a documented overnight flight, verified by airline records.
2. The theft involved a foam replica skillfully painted with restoration-grade spray paint.
3. Octavia lacks elevated system privileges – confirmed by personnel records.
4. Diallo claims to have exited the building at 22:30 – the official badge log confirms this.
5. Yvonne has a verified relationship with the donor and knowledge of the seal serial pattern – initial suspicion was high.
6. Kenji has only a verified relationship with the donor of the four requirements.
7. But: however DHCP log records show they re-authenticated from an internal network at 1:30.
8. Initial assumption pointed to Yvonne because of public friction with management, but this has been independently ruled out.
9. Kiran had financial pressure – appears to have motive.
- 10 Diallo has all four requirements: elevated system privileges, a verified relationship with the donor, knowledge of the seal serial pattern, and meets the temporal requirement (presence between 02:00 and 06:30).
- 11 Beatrix has knowledge of the seal serial pattern and elevated system privileges – initial suspicion was high.

Answer Key – Deduction Mysteries

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

Case 01 C) Vera

- ☒ Four requirements (a master key issued only to senior staff, clean-room or vault clearance, presence between 00:15 and 03:15, familiarity with the security routing) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
 - ☒ Ulla appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.
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Case 02 A) Roksana

- ☒ Four requirements (a master key issued only to senior staff, documented hands-on history with the item, presence between 00:00 and 04:30, possession of the specific tool used) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
 - ☒ Kasper appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.
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Case 03 E) Ishaan

- ☒ Four requirements (a master key issued only to senior staff, after-hours building access, presence between 01:30 and 05:45, familiarity with the security routing) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
 - ☒ Alessio appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.
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Case 04 D) Fenella

- ☒ Four requirements (advanced restoration training, administrator credentials, presence between 00:15 and 04:45, knowledge of the seal serial pattern) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
 - ☒ Simeon appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.
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Case 05 undefined) Fariha

- ☒ Four requirements (clearance to the restricted archive, administrator credentials, presence between 01:30 and 04:15, possession of the specific tool used) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
 - ☒ Ilya appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.
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Case 06 E) Diallo

- ☒ Four requirements (elevated system privileges, a verified relationship with the donor, presence between 02:00 and 06:30, knowledge of the seal serial pattern) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
- ☒ Yvonne appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.