

Deduction Mysteries

CASE 01

A historical photograph was taken from the registration desk of Aldermarsh County Archive during the overnight window between 01:00 and 04:45. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 8 suspects are under investigation: Tomas (clerk), Hiroshi (records administrator), Kai (researcher), Joren (administrator), Amelia (genealogist), Zinnia (security officer), Mikael (intern), Tariq (head archivist). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who took the historical photograph?

1. Four independent requirements: specialized engineering certification, documented hands-on history with the item, presence between 01:00 and 04:45, and possession of the specific tool used.
2. The theft involved an encryption signature tied to the internal training network.
3. However: Zinnia is cleared – but they were on a documented overnight flight, verified by airline records.
4. Joren lacks documented hands-on history with the item – security audit confirms.
5. However: Mikael is cleared – but two independent witnesses confirm a video call with them throughout the window.
6. Hiroshi has only possession of the specific tool used of the four requirements.
7. Kai was officially signed out at 22:05 via the front-desk register.
8. Amelia filed a grievance two weeks ago – appears to have motive.
9. Tomas has only documented hands-on history with the item of the four requirements.
- 10 Kai has all four requirements: specialized engineering certification, documented hands-on history with the item, possession of the specific tool used, and meets the temporal requirement (presence between 01:00 and 04:45).
- 11 Tariq's vault entry record shows them off-site the entire window.
- 12 ~~However: Amelia is cleared – but archive log places them at the hospital with a family emergency~~
during the entire window.

CASE 02

A final exam answer sheet was taken from the exam preparation room of Saint-Clair School during the overnight window between 01:15 and 05:45. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 8 suspects are under investigation: Maeve (principal), Olive (substitute teacher), Damaris (school counselor), Juno (secretary), Darya (teacher), Wren (librarian), Mateo (coach), Roksana (student council president). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who took the final exam answer sheet?

1. Initial assumption pointed to Wren because of public friction with management, but this has been independently ruled out.
2. Mateo lacks after-hours building access – security audit confirms.
3. However: Darya is cleared – but they were on a documented overnight flight, verified by airline records.
4. Olive has only specialized engineering certification of the four requirements.
5. However: Wren is cleared – but they were on a documented overnight flight, verified by airline records.
6. Darya was passed over for a recent promotion – appears to have motive.
7. The trace at the scene (a seal cut with a serial pattern from a specific supply) ties directly to inventory or systems uniquely accessible to Maeve.
8. Maeve has all four requirements: specialized engineering certification, after-hours building access, possession of the specific tool used, and meets the temporal requirement (presence between 01:15 and 05:45).
9. Wren has possession of the specific tool used and specialized engineering certification – initial suspicion was high.
- 10 Damaris has only specialized engineering certification of the four requirements.

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CASE 03

A sealed surgical kit was taken from the intensive care wing of Brierfield Hospital during the overnight window between 00:15 and 04:15. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 8 suspects are under investigation: Kiran (attending physician), Ishaan (social worker), Noor (pharmacist), Nikolai (security officer), Magnus (head nurse), Zara (volunteer), Elara (technician), Kalinda (medical resident). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who took the sealed surgical kit?

1. Kiran has all four requirements: advanced restoration training, clean-room or vault clearance, authorization to handle the item, and meets the temporal requirement (presence between 00:15 and 04:15).
2. The theft involved a foam replica skillfully painted with restoration-grade spray paint.
3. Four independent requirements: advanced restoration training, clean-room or vault clearance, presence between 00:15 and 04:15, and authorization to handle the item.
4. Elara lacks clean-room or vault clearance – security audit confirms.
5. Zara was passed over for a recent promotion – appears to have motive.
6. Magnus has authorization to handle the item and advanced restoration training and clean-room or vault clearance – initial suspicion was high.
7. Nikolai's medication audit shows them off-site the entire window.
8. Magnus was passed over for a recent promotion – appears to have motive.
9. Kalinda lacks advanced restoration training – confirmed by personnel records.
- 10 The trace at the scene (a foam replica skillfully painted with restoration-grade spray paint) ties directly to inventory or systems uniquely accessible to Kiran.
- 11 Kiran was officially signed out at 22:25 via the front-desk register.
- 12 Initial assumption pointed to Elara because of public friction with management, but this has been independently ruled out.

CASE 04

An accounting ledger was taken from the secure terminal of Cedarstone Inc during the overnight window between 01:15 and 05:15. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 8 suspects are under investigation: Mateo (senior engineer), Vidal (intern), Elspeth (legal counsel), Finnegan (records clerk), Tess (IT administrator), Hattie (security officer), Isolde (executive assistant), Ronan (CFO). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who took the accounting ledger?

1. Mateo has all four requirements: advanced restoration training, administrator credentials, authorization to handle the item, and meets the temporal requirement (presence between 01:15 and 05:15).
2. However: Tess is cleared – but witness account places them at the hospital with a family emergency during the entire window.
3. Elspeth lacks administrator credentials – security audit confirms.
4. Isolde clashed publicly with management – appears to have motive.
5. However: Vidal is cleared – but their employee badge was revoked the day before – confirmed in the security audit.
6. Four independent requirements: advanced restoration training, administrator credentials, presence between 01:15 and 05:15, and authorization to handle the item.
7. Isolde has advanced restoration training and administrator credentials – initial suspicion was high.
8. But: however the pedestrian-door sensor shows their vehicle remained in the lot until well after 01:15.
9. Ronan's witness account shows them off-site the entire window.
- 10 However: Isolde is cleared – but they were on a documented overnight flight, verified by airline records.

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CASE 05

A prop weapon was taken from the backstage left of Helix Repertory during the overnight window between 00:15 and 04:30. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 8 suspects are under investigation: Cyrus (understudy), Mikael (director), Talia (prop master), Wilder (musical director), Cosima (stagehand), Ines (stage manager), Jacinta (costume designer), Pavel (lighting tech). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who took the prop weapon?

1. Mikael has only familiarity with the security routing of the four requirements.
2. Cyrus lacks after-hours building access – security audit confirms.
3. Initial assumption pointed to Wilder because of public friction with management, but this has been independently ruled out.
4. However: Jacinta is cleared – but their backstage pass was revoked the day before – confirmed in the security audit.
5. Pavel was passed over for a recent promotion – appears to have motive.
6. Ines has all four requirements: advanced restoration training, after-hours building access, familiarity with the security routing, and meets the temporal requirement (presence between 00:15 and 04:30).
7. Cosima's witness crew member shows them off-site the entire window.
8. Four independent requirements: advanced restoration training, after-hours building access, presence between 00:15 and 04:30, and familiarity with the security routing.
9. Wilder has only advanced restoration training of the four requirements.
- 10 Jacinta filed a grievance two weeks ago – appears to have motive.
- 11 However: Pavel is cleared – but their prop-room code was revoked the day before – confirmed in the security audit.

CASE 06

A championship ring was taken from the equipment shed of Helix Sports Complex during the overnight window between 01:00 and 05:45. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 7 suspects are under investigation: Saoirse (referee), Aaliyah (rookie player), Maeve (team captain), Adrian (equipment manager), Bram (head coach), Dimah (star player), Noor (assistant coach). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who took the championship ring?

1. Adrian has possession of the specific tool used and clean-room or vault clearance and a master key issued only to senior staff – initial suspicion was high.
2. However: Adrian is cleared – but equipment sign-out places them at the hospital with a family emergency during the entire window.
3. The trace at the scene (an encryption signature tied to the internal training network) ties directly to inventory or systems uniquely accessible to Dimah.
4. Four independent requirements: a master key issued only to senior staff, clean-room or vault clearance, presence between 01:00 and 05:45, and possession of the specific tool used.
5. Aaliyah has only a master key issued only to senior staff of the four requirements.
6. However: Bram is cleared – but two independent witnesses confirm a video call with them throughout the window.
7. Maeve has only clean-room or vault clearance of the four requirements.
8. But: however pedestrian-door sensor records show they re-authenticated from an internal network at 1:00.
9. Bram has clean-room or vault clearance and possession of the specific tool used and a master key issued only to senior staff – initial suspicion was high.
- 10 Dimah has all four requirements: a master key issued only to senior staff, clean-room or vault clearance, possession of the specific tool used, and meets the temporal requirement (presence between 01:00 and 05:45).

Answer Key – Deduction Mysteries

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

Case 01 **undefined) Kai**

- ☒ Four requirements (specialized engineering certification, documented hands-on history with the item, presence between 01:00 and 04:45, possession of the specific tool used) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
 - ☒ Mikael appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.
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Case 02 **C) Maeve**

- ☒ Four requirements (specialized engineering certification, after-hours building access, presence between 01:15 and 05:45, possession of the specific tool used) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
 - ☒ Wren appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.
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Case 03 **A) Kiran**

- ☒ Four requirements (advanced restoration training, clean-room or vault clearance, presence between 00:15 and 04:15, authorization to handle the item) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
 - ☒ Zara appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.
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Case 04 **A) Mateo**

- ☒ Four requirements (advanced restoration training, administrator credentials, presence between 01:15 and 05:15, authorization to handle the item) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
 - ☒ Tess appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.
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Case 05 **F) Ines**

- ☒ Four requirements (advanced restoration training, after-hours building access, presence between 00:15 and 04:30, familiarity with the security routing) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
 - ☒ Talia appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.
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Case 06 **F) Dimah**

- ☒ Four requirements (a master key issued only to senior staff, clean-room or vault clearance, presence between 01:00 and 05:45, possession of the specific tool used) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
- ☒ Adrian appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.