

Deduction Mysteries

CASE 01

A signed manuscript was taken from the private collection room of Helix Modern Art during the overnight window between 01:30 and 04:45. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 8 suspects are under investigation: Hiroshi (janitor), Helena (gift shop manager), Leila (art restorer), Frida (curator), Olive (night security), Juno (archivist), Gunnar (docent), Bram (exhibition designer). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who took the signed manuscript?

1. However: Bram is cleared – but two independent witnesses confirm a video call with them throughout the window.
2. Four independent requirements: a master key issued only to senior staff, clean-room or vault clearance, presence between 01:30 and 04:45, and knowledge of the seal serial pattern.
3. The theft involved a foam replica skillfully painted with restoration-grade spray paint.
4. Frida had financial pressure – appears to have motive.
5. Hiroshi has only clean-room or vault clearance of the four requirements.
6. Gunnar was officially signed out at 23:45 via the front-desk register.
7. Bram had financial pressure – appears to have motive.
8. Leila was passed over for a recent promotion – appears to have motive.
9. Olive has only clean-room or vault clearance of the four requirements.
- 10 Juno's door sensor shows them off-site the entire window.
- 11 Initial assumption pointed to Bram because of public friction with management, but this has been independently ruled out.
- 12 But: however DHCP log records show they re-authenticated from an internal network at 1:40.
- 13 The trace at the scene (a foam replica skillfully painted with restoration-grade spray paint) ties ~~directly to inventory or systems uniquely accessible to Gunnar.~~

CASE 02

A catering payment was taken from the walk-in cooler of Octavia's during the overnight window between 02:15 and 05:30. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 7 suspects are under investigation: Daphne (pastry chef), Akhil (sous chef), Hiroshi (bartender), Ginevra (server), Leander (dishwasher), Damaris (line cook), Penelope (manager). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who took the catering payment?

1. Ginevra has a verified relationship with the donor and possession of the specific tool used – initial suspicion was high.
2. Leander filed a grievance two weeks ago – appears to have motive.
3. Leander has possession of the specific tool used and a verified relationship with the donor and elevated system privileges – initial suspicion was high.
4. Damaris's witness server shows them off-site the entire window.
5. Hiroshi has all four requirements: elevated system privileges, a verified relationship with the donor, possession of the specific tool used, and meets the temporal requirement (presence between 02:15 and 05:30).
6. Akhil lacks a verified relationship with the donor – security audit confirms.
7. However: Ginevra is cleared – but kitchen camera places them at the hospital with a family emergency during the entire window.
8. Initial assumption pointed to Penelope because of proximity to the scene earlier, but this has been independently ruled out.
9. Daphne has possession of the specific tool used and elevated system privileges and a verified relationship with the donor – initial suspicion was high.
- 10 Penelope lacks a verified relationship with the donor – security audit confirms.

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CASE 03

The sealed wills were taken from the staff break room of City Records Office during the overnight window between 01:00 and 05:45. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 7 suspects are under investigation: Rosalind (clerk), Sami (researcher), Marisol (administrator), Anastasia (volunteer), Stellan (intern), Ines (genealogist), Etienne (head archivist). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who took the sealed wills?

1. Ines has all four requirements: specialized engineering certification, a verified relationship with the donor, knowledge of the seal serial pattern, and meets the temporal requirement (presence between 01:00 and 05:45).
2. However: Sami is cleared – but their research-room pass was revoked the day before – confirmed in the security audit.
3. Sami has a verified relationship with the donor and specialized engineering certification and knowledge of the seal serial pattern – initial suspicion was high.
4. Sami had financial pressure – appears to have motive.
5. Initial assumption pointed to Marisol because of proximity to the scene earlier, but this has been independently ruled out.
6. But: however the unsecured pedestrian door doesn't require a badge to re-enter.
7. Marisol lacks specialized engineering certification – confirmed by personnel records.
8. Anastasia lacks specialized engineering certification – confirmed by personnel records.
9. Ines claims to have exited the building at 23:45 – the official badge log confirms this.
10. Rosalind has specialized engineering certification and knowledge of the seal serial pattern and a verified relationship with the donor – initial suspicion was high.
11. The trace at the scene (a foam replica skillfully painted with restoration-grade spray paint) ties directly to inventory or systems uniquely accessible to Ines.

CASE 04

An exam answer key was taken from the science lab of Aldermarsh High during the overnight window between 01:30 and 05:45. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 7 suspects are under investigation: Hiroshi (librarian), Olive (student council president), Hadley (coach), Bao (teacher), Priya (department head), Vidal (principal), Ronan (janitor). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who took the exam answer key?

1. But: however the unsecured service entrance doesn't require a badge to re-enter.
2. Vidal clashed publicly with management – appears to have motive.
3. Four independent requirements: clearance to the restricted archive, administrator credentials, presence between 01:30 and 05:45, and authorization to handle the item.
4. However: Priya is cleared – but attendance log places them at the hospital with a family emergency during the entire window.
5. Vidal has administrator credentials and clearance to the restricted archive and authorization to handle the item – initial suspicion was high.
6. However: Olive is cleared – but door sensor places them at the hospital with a family emergency during the entire window.
7. Olive was passed over for a recent promotion – appears to have motive.
8. Hiroshi lacks clearance to the restricted archive – confirmed by personnel records.
9. Initial assumption pointed to Priya because of being seen near the building, but this has been independently ruled out.
10. Priya filed a grievance two weeks ago – appears to have motive.
11. The theft involved a network certificate signed by senior staff.

Deduction Mysteries

CASE 05

A staff payroll list was taken from the sports equipment room of Cedarvale High during the overnight window between 02:15 and 06:45. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 8 suspects are under investigation: Yusuf (janitor), Helena (teacher), Meriel (principal), Mateo (secretary), Sigrid (coach), Idris (department head), Omari (school counselor), Kenji (librarian). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who took the staff payroll list?

1. The theft involved a seal cut with a serial pattern from a specific supply.
2. Idris has advanced restoration training and possession of the specific tool used – initial suspicion was high.
3. Initial assumption pointed to Sigrid because of proximity to the scene earlier, but this has been independently ruled out.
4. Omari's keycard log shows them off-site the entire window.
5. Meriel clashed publicly with management – appears to have motive.
6. However: Meriel is cleared – but they were on a documented overnight flight, verified by airline records.
7. Sigrid has possession of the specific tool used and administrator credentials – initial suspicion was high.
8. Yusuf claims to have exited the building at 22:00 – the official badge log confirms this.
9. 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 Yusuf.
- 10 However: Idris is cleared – but door sensor places them at the hospital with a family emergency during the entire window.
- 11 But: however the unsecured side stairwell doesn't require a badge to re-enter.

CASE 06

The tip jar contents were taken from the walk-in cooler of The Briar Room during the overnight window between 02:30 and 05:45. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 7 suspects are under investigation: Juno (bartender), Tariq (head chef), Saoirse (sous chef), Omari (sommelier), Elspeth (line cook), Hakim (dishwasher), Hiroshi (host). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who took the tip jar contents?

1. However: Juno is cleared – but their master key was revoked the day before – confirmed in the security audit.
2. Omari has all four requirements: clearance to the restricted archive, administrator credentials, familiarity with the security routing, and meets the temporal requirement (presence between 02:30 and 05:45).
3. However: Elspeth is cleared – but witness server places them at the hospital with a family emergency during the entire window.
4. But: however the parking-lot camera shows their vehicle remained in the lot until well after 02:30.
5. The trace at the scene (an encryption signature tied to the internal training network) ties directly to inventory or systems uniquely accessible to Omari.
6. Saoirse has only administrator credentials of the four requirements.
7. However: Tariq is cleared – but POS log places them at the hospital with a family emergency during the entire window.
8. Juno filed a grievance two weeks ago – appears to have motive.
9. Tariq had financial pressure – appears to have motive.
- 10 Omari claims to have exited the building at 22:30 – the official badge log confirms this.

Answer Key – Deduction Mysteries

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

Case 01 F) Gunnar

- ☒ Four requirements (a master key issued only to senior staff, clean-room or vault clearance, presence between 01:30 and 04:45, knowledge of the seal serial pattern) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
 - ☒ Frida appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.
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Case 02 F) Hiroshi

- ☒ Four requirements (elevated system privileges, a verified relationship with the donor, presence between 02:15 and 05:30, possession of the specific tool used) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
 - ☒ Ginevra appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.
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Case 03 D) Ines

- ☒ Four requirements (specialized engineering certification, a verified relationship with the donor, presence between 01:00 and 05:45, knowledge of the seal serial pattern) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
 - ☒ Rosalind appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.
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Case 04 A) Bao

- ☒ Four requirements (clearance to the restricted archive, administrator credentials, presence between 01:30 and 05:45, authorization to handle the item) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
 - ☒ Vidal appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.
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Case 05 A) Yusuf

- ☒ Four requirements (advanced restoration training, administrator credentials, presence between 02:15 and 06:45, possession of the specific tool used) 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 06 A) Omari

- ☒ Four requirements (clearance to the restricted archive, administrator credentials, presence between 02:30 and 05:45, familiarity with the security routing) 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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