

Deduction Mysteries

CASE 01

The prototype specifications were taken from the legal archive of Helix Corporation during the overnight window between 02:00 and 06:45. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 8 suspects are under investigation: Ines (executive assistant), Simeon (senior engineer), Kerensa (legal counsel), Finnegan (IT administrator), Saoirse (records clerk), Joaquin (HR director), Aleksandr (facilities coordinator), Idris (security officer). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who took the prototype specifications?

1. Aleksandr has administrator credentials and elevated system privileges – initial suspicion was high.
2. Saoirse was passed over for a recent promotion – appears to have motive.
3. Four independent requirements: elevated system privileges, administrator credentials, presence between 02:00 and 06:45, and knowledge of the seal serial pattern.
4. Kerensa lacks elevated system privileges – confirmed by personnel records.
5. Finnegan lacks administrator credentials – security audit confirms.
6. Ines's printer log shows them off-site the entire window.
7. Aleksandr was passed over for a recent promotion – appears to have motive.
8. But: however the VPN session record shows their vehicle remained in the lot until well after 02:00.
9. The trace at the scene (an encryption signature tied to the internal training network) ties directly to inventory or systems uniquely accessible to Simeon.
- 10 Idris was passed over for a recent promotion – appears to have motive.
- 11 Idris has knowledge of the seal serial pattern and administrator credentials – initial suspicion was high.
- 12 However: Saoirse is cleared – but their employee badge was revoked the day before – confirmed in the security audit.

CASE 02

A register cash was taken from the manager's office of The Briar Room during the overnight window between 02:45 and 05:00. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 7 suspects are under investigation: Akira (bartender), Sigrid (manager), Polina (sommelier), Yvonne (host), Esme (sous chef), Eitan (dishwasher), Selene (head chef). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who took the register cash?

1. However: Esme is cleared – but their manager key was revoked the day before – confirmed in the security audit.
2. However: Yvonne is cleared – but they were on a documented overnight flight, verified by airline records.
3. Yvonne clashed publicly with management – appears to have motive.
4. Yvonne has knowledge of the seal serial pattern and specialized engineering certification – initial suspicion was high.
5. Selene has specialized engineering certification and knowledge of the seal serial pattern – initial suspicion was high.
6. The theft involved a foam replica skillfully painted with restoration-grade spray paint.
7. However: Selene is cleared – but their manager key was revoked the day before – confirmed in the security audit.
8. Eitan their video call ended at 23:40 according to the system.
9. Polina lacks specialized engineering certification – confirmed by personnel records.
- 10 Eitan has all four requirements: specialized engineering certification, documented hands-on history with the item, knowledge of the seal serial pattern, and meets the temporal requirement (presence between 02:45 and 05:00).

Deduction Mysteries

CASE 03

A client database was taken from the records vault of Quartermaine & Associates during the overnight window between 02:45 and 05:45. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 8 suspects are under investigation: Caelan (CFO), Daphne (IT administrator), Yara (security officer), Akhil (executive assistant), Eleni (senior engineer), Aiko (HR director), Esme (records clerk), Oren (legal counsel). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who took the client database?

1. Oren's elevator log shows them off-site the entire window.
2. Esme's door access record shows them off-site the entire window.
3. Yara has only possession of the specific tool used of the four requirements.
4. Aiko claims to have exited the building at 23:35 – the official badge log confirms this.
5. Daphne has advanced restoration training and after-hours building access and possession of the specific tool used – initial suspicion was high.
6. Eleni was passed over for a recent promotion – appears to have motive.
7. However: Eleni is cleared – but their admin credentials was revoked the day before – confirmed in the security audit.
8. Aiko has all four requirements: advanced restoration training, after-hours building access, possession of the specific tool used, and meets the temporal requirement (presence between 02:45 and 05:45).
9. Caelan has after-hours building access and advanced restoration training – initial suspicion was high.
- 10 Daphne clashed publicly with management – appears to have motive.
- 11 Caelan filed a grievance two weeks ago – appears to have motive.
- 12 The trace at the scene (a network certificate signed by senior staff) ties directly to inventory or systems uniquely accessible to Aiko.

CASE 04

An archive password log was taken from the reading room of Saint-Clair Collection during the overnight window between 01:30 and 05:45. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 8 suspects are under investigation: Katarina (head librarian), Juno (volunteer), Ramona (custodian), Jules (rare-books curator), Dimah (intern), Cosima (reference librarian), Iolanthe (research assistant), Mikael (cataloger). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who took the archive password log?

1. Juno has authorization to handle the item and after-hours building access and specialized engineering certification – initial suspicion was high.
2. The theft involved an encryption signature tied to the internal training network.
3. However: Juno is cleared – but book-checkout record places them at the hospital with a family emergency during the entire window.
4. Dimah filed a grievance two weeks ago – appears to have motive.
5. Mikael has authorization to handle the item and after-hours building access and specialized engineering certification – initial suspicion was high.
6. Mikael filed a grievance two weeks ago – appears to have motive.
7. Ramona their video call ended at 23:15 according to the system.
8. Katarina has only after-hours building access of the four requirements.
9. Iolanthe's archive log shows them off-site the entire window.
- 10 Initial assumption pointed to Iolanthe because of public friction with management, but this has been independently ruled out.
- 11 Ramona has all four requirements: specialized engineering certification, after-hours building access, authorization to handle the item, and meets the temporal requirement (presence between 01:30 and 05:45).

Deduction Mysteries

CASE 05

A signed manuscript was taken from the periodicals room of Aldermarsh Library during the overnight window between 01:30 and 04:15. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 7 suspects are under investigation: Mauro (rare-books curator), Akira (intern), Kalinda (archivist), Eitan (head librarian), Ramona (cataloger), Simeon (reference librarian), Diallo (volunteer). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who took the signed manuscript?

1. Simeon clashed publicly with management – appears to have motive.
2. Initial assumption pointed to Simeon because of proximity to the scene earlier, but this has been independently ruled out.
3. Akira's security camera shows them off-site the entire window.
4. Four independent requirements: advanced restoration training, clean-room or vault clearance, presence between 01:30 and 04:15, and authorization to handle the item.
5. Diallo has all four requirements: advanced restoration training, clean-room or vault clearance, authorization to handle the item, and meets the temporal requirement (presence between 01:30 and 04:15).
6. The trace at the scene (an encryption signature tied to the internal training network) ties directly to inventory or systems uniquely accessible to Diallo.
7. Eitan has only advanced restoration training of the four requirements.
8. Ramona was passed over for a recent promotion – appears to have motive.
9. However: Simeon is cleared – but archive log places them at the hospital with a family emergency during the entire window.
10. However: Mauro is cleared – but door sensor places them at the hospital with a family emergency during the entire window.

CASE 06

A signed binary release was extracted from the code review room of Meridian Data during the overnight window between 02:30 and 06:45. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 7 suspects are under investigation: Yusuf (security analyst), Thora (intern), Jules (DevOps lead), Gunnar (product manager), Jian (support lead), Adrian (senior engineer), Amelia (site-reliability engineer). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who extracted the signed binary release?

1. Initial assumption pointed to Jules because of being seen near the building, but this has been independently ruled out.
2. Yusuf has administrator credentials and knowledge of the seal serial pattern – initial suspicion was high.
3. Adrian has knowledge of the seal serial pattern and administrator credentials – initial suspicion was high.
4. The data theft involved a foam replica skillfully painted with restoration-grade spray paint.
5. However: Yusuf is cleared – but they were on a documented overnight flight, verified by airline records.
6. Yusuf filed a grievance two weeks ago – appears to have motive.
7. However: Adrian is cleared – but two independent witnesses confirm a video call with them throughout the window.
8. Adrian clashed publicly with management – appears to have motive.
9. Gunnar their video call ended at 22:40 according to the system.
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 Gunnar.

Answer Key – Deduction Mysteries

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

Case 01 F) Simeon

- ☒ Four requirements (elevated system privileges, administrator credentials, presence between 02:00 and 06:45, knowledge of the seal serial pattern) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
 - ☒ Aleksandr appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.
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Case 02 undefined) Eitan

- ☒ Four requirements (specialized engineering certification, documented hands-on history with the item, presence between 02:45 and 05:00, knowledge of the seal serial pattern) 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 03 undefined) Aiko

- ☒ Four requirements (advanced restoration training, after-hours building access, presence between 02:45 and 05:45, possession of the specific tool used) 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 04 C) Ramona

- ☒ Four requirements (specialized engineering certification, after-hours building access, presence between 01:30 and 05:45, authorization to handle the item) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
 - ☒ Juno appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.
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Case 05 undefined) Diallo

- ☒ Four requirements (advanced restoration training, clean-room or vault clearance, presence between 01:30 and 04:15, authorization to handle the item) 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 06 E) Gunnar

- ☒ Four requirements (advanced restoration training, administrator credentials, presence between 02:30 and 06:45, knowledge of the seal serial pattern) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
 - ☒ Yusuf appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.
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