

Deduction Mysteries

CASE 01

A principal's personal file was taken from the computer lab 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: Xiomara (department head), Lucia (school counselor), Vera (teacher), Yusuf (student council president), Roksana (coach), Anand (secretary), Kasper (principal). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who took the principal's personal file?

1. 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 Lucia.
2. Four independent requirements: elevated system privileges, documented hands-on history with the item, presence between 02:00 and 06:30, and possession of the specific tool used.
3. The theft involved a seal cut with a serial pattern from a specific supply.
4. Anand has possession of the specific tool used and documented hands-on history with the item – initial suspicion was high.
5. However: Xiomara is cleared – but two independent witnesses confirm a video call with them throughout the window.
6. However: Kasper is cleared – but hallway camera places them at the hospital with a family emergency during the entire window.
7. Kasper has possession of the specific tool used and elevated system privileges – initial suspicion was high.
8. Xiomara filed a grievance two weeks ago – appears to have motive.
9. Xiomara has possession of the specific tool used and elevated system privileges – initial suspicion was high.
- 10 Roksana has only possession of the specific tool used of the four requirements.

CASE 02

The clinical trial samples were taken from the operating theater of Pemberton Medical during the overnight window between 01:30 and 05:30. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 8 suspects are under investigation: Mei (administrator), Kenji (social worker), Stellan (technician), Yusuf (attending physician), Gisela (medical resident), Rosalind (janitor), Penelope (volunteer), Elspeth (security officer). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who took the clinical trial samples?

1. The theft involved a foam replica skillfully painted with restoration-grade spray paint.
2. The trace at the scene (a foam replica skillfully painted with restoration-grade spray paint) ties directly to inventory or systems uniquely accessible to Yusuf.
3. However: Penelope is cleared – but medication audit places them at the hospital with a family emergency during the entire window.
4. Stellan has advanced restoration training and authorization to handle the item – initial suspicion was high.
5. Four independent requirements: advanced restoration training, documented hands-on history with the item, presence between 01:30 and 05:30, and authorization to handle the item.
6. Rosalind's pharmacy CCTV shows them off-site the entire window.
7. Yusuf has all four requirements: advanced restoration training, documented hands-on history with the item, authorization to handle the item, and meets the temporal requirement (presence between 01:30 and 05:30).
8. Elspeth filed a grievance two weeks ago – appears to have motive.
9. Yusuf their video call ended at 23:15 according to the system.
- 10 Penelope had financial pressure – appears to have motive.

Deduction Mysteries

CASE 03

A final exam answer sheet was taken from the science lab of Cedarvale High during the overnight window between 01:30 and 05:45. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 7 suspects are under investigation: Wren (coach), Tariq (student council president), Roksana (principal), Anand (substitute teacher), Klaus (department head), Dimah (school counselor), Adrian (janitor). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who took the final exam answer sheet?

1. Dimah was officially signed out at 22:20 via the front-desk register.
2. Tariq has after-hours building access and authorization to handle the item – initial suspicion was high.
3. Roksana lacks after-hours building access – security audit confirms.
4. Four independent requirements: a master key issued only to senior staff, after-hours building access, presence between 01:30 and 05:45, and authorization to handle the item.
5. Adrian had financial pressure – appears to have motive.
6. Adrian has authorization to handle the item and a master key issued only to senior staff and after-hours building access – initial suspicion was high.
7. The trace at the scene (a network certificate signed by senior staff) ties directly to inventory or systems uniquely accessible to Dimah.
8. However: Adrian is cleared – but two independent witnesses confirm a video call with them throughout the window.
9. Klaus lacks a master key issued only to senior staff – confirmed by personnel records.
10. Wren clashed publicly with management – appears to have motive.
11. The theft involved a network certificate signed by senior staff.
12. ~~Anand lacks a master key issued only to senior staff – confirmed by personnel records.~~

CASE 04

A sound-system controller was taken from the sound booth of Saint-Clair Playhouse during the overnight window between 01:15 and 05:15. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 8 suspects are under investigation: Amelia (lighting tech), Marisol (musical director), Maeve (stagehand), Quincy (director), Ishaan (understudy), Sami (lead actor), Mateo (stage manager), Ilya (prop master). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who took the sound-system controller?

1. Amelia has all four requirements: advanced restoration training, clean-room or vault clearance, authorization to handle the item, and meets the temporal requirement (presence between 01:15 and 05:15).
2. However: Ishaan is cleared – but witness crew member places them at the hospital with a family emergency during the entire window.
3. But: however elevator override log records show they re-authenticated from an internal network at 2:00.
4. Sami's rehearsal sign-in shows them off-site the entire window.
5. Initial assumption pointed to Mateo because of proximity to the scene earlier, but this has been independently ruled out.
6. Amelia their video call ended at 23:10 according to the system.
7. However: Marisol is cleared – but they were on a documented overnight flight, verified by airline records.
8. Ishaan has clean-room or vault clearance and advanced restoration training – initial suspicion was high.
9. Ishaan filed a grievance two weeks ago – appears to have motive.
10. Maeve's witness crew member shows them off-site the entire window.

Deduction Mysteries

CASE 05

A calibration kit was swapped from the cleanroom of Aldermarsh Laboratory during the overnight window between 02:30 and 06:45. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 8 suspects are under investigation: Klaus (lab technician), Hiroshi (clinical coordinator), Octavia (graduate student), Bayan (safety officer), Kerensa (postdoctoral researcher), Zephyr (equipment manager), Aleksandr (operations manager), Wilder (visiting scientist). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who swapped the calibration kit?

1. Aleksandr has all four requirements: clearance to the restricted archive, clean-room or vault clearance, authorization to handle the item, and meets the temporal requirement (presence between 02:30 and 06:45).
2. However: Octavia is cleared – but two independent witnesses confirm a video call with them throughout the window.
3. Octavia was passed over for a recent promotion – appears to have motive.
4. Klaus was passed over for a recent promotion – appears to have motive.
5. However: Zephyr is cleared – but their biohazard clearance was revoked the day before – confirmed in the security audit.
6. Klaus has clean-room or vault clearance and authorization to handle the item – initial suspicion was high.
7. Bayan's badge swipe shows them off-site the entire window.
8. The trace at the scene (a hand-machined tool stocked in only one closet) ties directly to inventory or systems uniquely accessible to Aleksandr.
9. Zephyr was passed over for a recent promotion – appears to have motive.
- 10 But: however pedestrian-door sensor records show they re-authenticated from an internal network at 1:55.

CASE 06

An exam answer key was taken from the computer lab of Westbrook Academy during the overnight window between 02:15 and 06:15. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 7 suspects are under investigation: Phaedra (principal), Cyrus (student council president), Akhil (school counselor), Hadley (substitute teacher), Kerensa (librarian), Eira (coach), Tariq (janitor). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who took the exam answer key?

1. Hadley clashed publicly with management – appears to have motive.
2. Four independent requirements: specialized engineering certification, after-hours building access, presence between 02:15 and 06:15, and authorization to handle the item.
3. Hadley has after-hours building access and authorization to handle the item – initial suspicion was high.
4. 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 Cyrus.
5. Cyrus has all four requirements: specialized engineering certification, after-hours building access, authorization to handle the item, and meets the temporal requirement (presence between 02:15 and 06:15).
6. But: however VPN session record records show they re-authenticated from an internal network at 1:30.
7. However: Kerensa is cleared – but printer log places them at the hospital with a family emergency during the entire window.
8. Phaedra's attendance log shows them off-site the entire window.
9. Tariq has specialized engineering certification and authorization to handle the item – initial suspicion was high.
- 10 The theft involved a seal cut with a serial pattern from a specific supply.

Answer Key – Deduction Mysteries

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

Case 01 A) Lucia

- ☒ Four requirements (elevated system privileges, documented hands-on history with the item, presence between 02:00 and 06:30, possession of the specific tool used) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
 - ☒ Xiomara appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.
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Case 02 B) Yusuf

- ☒ Four requirements (advanced restoration training, documented hands-on history with the item, presence between 01:30 and 05:30, authorization to handle the item) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
 - ☒ Stellan appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.
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Case 03 D) Dimah

- ☒ Four requirements (a master key issued only to senior staff, after-hours building access, presence between 01:30 and 05:45, authorization to handle the item) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
 - ☒ Adrian appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.
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Case 04 E) Amelia

- ☒ Four requirements (advanced restoration training, clean-room or vault clearance, presence between 01:15 and 05:15, authorization to handle the item) 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 05 A) Aleksandr

- ☒ Four requirements (clearance to the restricted archive, clean-room or vault clearance, presence between 02:30 and 06:45, authorization to handle the item) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
 - ☒ Zephyr appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.
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Case 06 D) Cyrus

- ☒ Four requirements (specialized engineering certification, after-hours building access, presence between 02:15 and 06:15, authorization to handle the item) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
- ☒ Tariq appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.