

Deduction Mysteries

CASE 01

A medieval folio was taken from the curator office of Northgate Library during the overnight window between 01:30 and 05:00. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 7 suspects are under investigation: Sora (visiting scholar), Meriel (head librarian), Cyrus (archivist), Renata (custodian), Darya (cataloger), Finnegan (volunteer), Gisela (intern). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who took the medieval folio?

1. Four independent requirements: clearance to the restricted archive, administrator credentials, presence between 01:30 and 05:00, and possession of the specific tool used.
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 Renata.
3. Renata their video call ended at 23:05 according to the system.
4. Initial assumption pointed to Sora because of being seen near the building, but this has been independently ruled out.
5. Gisela was passed over for a recent promotion – appears to have motive.
6. Renata has all four requirements: clearance to the restricted archive, administrator credentials, possession of the specific tool used, and meets the temporal requirement (presence between 01:30 and 05:00).
7. Sora's security camera shows them off-site the entire window.
8. Gisela has possession of the specific tool used and administrator credentials and clearance to the restricted archive – initial suspicion was high.
9. Darya has possession of the specific tool used and clearance to the restricted archive – initial suspicion was high.
- 10 But: however the parking-lot camera shows their vehicle remained in the lot until well after 01:30.

CASE 02

A rare ingredient was taken from the front register of Octavia's during the overnight window between 02:45 and 06:00. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 7 suspects are under investigation: Selene (dishwasher), Ines (host), Ramona (bartender), Galina (line cook), Lucia (pastry chef), Tariq (head chef), Ishaan (server). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who took the rare ingredient?

1. Ramona was passed over for a recent promotion – appears to have motive.
2. Ishaan their video call ended at 22:25 according to the system.
3. Tariq had financial pressure – appears to have motive.
4. The trace at the scene (a foam replica skillfully painted with restoration-grade spray paint) ties directly to inventory or systems uniquely accessible to Ishaan.
5. Initial assumption pointed to Ines because of public friction with management, but this has been independently ruled out.
6. Tariq has possession of the specific tool used and specialized engineering certification and documented hands-on history with the item – initial suspicion was high.
7. However: Lucia is cleared – but they were on a documented overnight flight, verified by airline records.
8. Lucia clashed publicly with management – appears to have motive.
9. Lucia has specialized engineering certification and possession of the specific tool used and documented hands-on history with the item – initial suspicion was high.
- 10 But: however the DHCP log shows their vehicle remained in the lot until well after 02:45.
- 11 Selene has only possession of the specific tool used of the four requirements.

Deduction Mysteries

CASE 03

A specialized welding kit was taken from the main shop floor of Helix Restoration during the overnight window between 02:00 and 06:30. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 7 suspects are under investigation: Wren (apprentice), Helena (customer service rep), Aaliyah (welder), Indira (electrician), Ravi (parts clerk), Zinnia (quality inspector), Noor (machinist). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who took the specialized welding kit?

1. The theft involved an encryption signature tied to the internal training network.
2. Ravi's tool-checkout log shows them off-site the entire window.
3. Zinnia has all four requirements: a master key issued only to senior staff, clean-room or vault clearance, authorization to handle the item, and meets the temporal requirement (presence between 02:00 and 06:30).
4. Wren has clean-room or vault clearance and authorization to handle the item and a master key issued only to senior staff – initial suspicion was high.
5. Indira has clean-room or vault clearance and a master key issued only to senior staff and authorization to handle the item – initial suspicion was high.
6. However: Indira is cleared – but their manager key was revoked the day before – confirmed in the security audit.
7. Aaliyah lacks clean-room or vault clearance – security audit confirms.
8. Wren filed a grievance two weeks ago – appears to have motive.
9. However: Noor is cleared – but their manager key was revoked the day before – confirmed in the security audit.
- 10 Initial assumption pointed to Helena because of being seen near the building, but this has been independently ruled out.

CASE 04

A musical score was taken from the costume room of Northgate Stage during the overnight window between 01:30 and 04:15. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 8 suspects are under investigation: Omari (lead actor), Quincy (stagehand), Anand (costume designer), Zinnia (prop master), Stellan (understudy), Ginevra (director), Joaquin (box-office manager), Phaedra (stage manager). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who took the musical score?

1. But: however elevator override log records show they re-authenticated from an internal network at 1:05.
2. The trace at the scene (a hand-machined tool stocked in only one closet) ties directly to inventory or systems uniquely accessible to Ginevra.
3. Stellan has knowledge of the seal serial pattern and clean-room or vault clearance and clearance to the restricted archive – initial suspicion was high.
4. Stellan had financial pressure – appears to have motive.
5. Quincy filed a grievance two weeks ago – appears to have motive.
6. Four independent requirements: clearance to the restricted archive, clean-room or vault clearance, presence between 01:30 and 04:15, and knowledge of the seal serial pattern.
7. Ginevra has all four requirements: clearance to the restricted archive, clean-room or vault clearance, knowledge of the seal serial pattern, and meets the temporal requirement (presence between 01:30 and 04:15).
8. Zinnia has only clearance to the restricted archive of the four requirements.
9. Omari has only clearance to the restricted archive of the four requirements.
- 10 However: Stellan is cleared – but they were on a documented overnight flight, verified by airline records.

Deduction Mysteries

CASE 05

A donor list was taken from the rare books vault of Saint-Clair Collection during the overnight window between 00:00 and 03:30. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 7 suspects are under investigation: Gemma (rare-books curator), Kiran (cataloger), Idris (volunteer), Zephyr (custodian), Leander (intern), Diallo (reference librarian), Florian (head librarian). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who took the donor list?

1. Idris clashed publicly with management – appears to have motive.
2. Idris has authorization to handle the item and elevated system privileges – initial suspicion was high.
3. But: however the unsecured service entrance doesn't require a badge to re-enter.
4. However: Florian is cleared – but their archive badge was revoked the day before – confirmed in the security audit.
5. Initial assumption pointed to Zephyr because of proximity to the scene earlier, but this has been independently ruled out.
6. Leander's archive log shows them off-site the entire window.
7. The trace at the scene (an encryption signature tied to the internal training network) ties directly to inventory or systems uniquely accessible to Gemma.
8. Four independent requirements: elevated system privileges, clean-room or vault clearance, presence between 00:00 and 03:30, and authorization to handle the item.
9. The theft involved an encryption signature tied to the internal training network.
- 10 Zephyr has clean-room or vault clearance and authorization to handle the item – initial suspicion was high.
- 11 Gemma claims to have exited the building at 23:00 – the official badge log confirms this.

CASE 06

An enzyme batch was swapped from the sample storage of Brightline Sciences during the overnight window between 00:30 and 03:15. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 8 suspects are under investigation: Sami (lab technician), Maeve (undergraduate volunteer), Nizar (clinical coordinator), Katarina (graduate student), Omari (safety officer), Dario (postdoctoral researcher), Suri (visiting scientist), Kalinda (operations manager). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who swapped the enzyme batch?

1. The trace at the scene (a foam replica skillfully painted with restoration-grade spray paint) ties directly to inventory or systems uniquely accessible to Sami.
2. Kalinda clashed publicly with management – appears to have motive.
3. Maeve had financial pressure – appears to have motive.
4. Nizar's badge swipe shows them off-site the entire window.
5. Suri lacks documented hands-on history with the item – security audit confirms.
6. However: Katarina is cleared – but they were on a documented overnight flight, verified by airline records.
7. However: Kalinda is cleared – but clean-room entry log places them at the hospital with a family emergency during the entire window.
8. Four independent requirements: clearance to the restricted archive, documented hands-on history with the item, presence between 00:30 and 03:15, and knowledge of the seal serial pattern.
9. Katarina was passed over for a recent promotion – appears to have motive.
- 10 Maeve has documented hands-on history with the item and clearance to the restricted archive and knowledge of the seal serial pattern – initial suspicion was high.

Answer Key – Deduction Mysteries

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

Case 01 undefined) Renata

- ☒ Four requirements (clearance to the restricted archive, administrator credentials, presence between 01:30 and 05:00, possession of the specific tool used) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
 - ☒ Gisela appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.
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Case 02 undefined) Ishaan

- ☒ Four requirements (specialized engineering certification, documented hands-on history with the item, presence between 02:45 and 06:00, possession of the specific tool used) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
 - ☒ Lucia appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.
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Case 03 F) Zinnia

- ☒ Four requirements (a master key issued only to senior staff, clean-room or vault clearance, presence between 02:00 and 06:30, authorization to handle the item) 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 04 F) Ginevra

- ☒ Four requirements (clearance to the restricted archive, clean-room or vault clearance, presence between 01:30 and 04:15, knowledge of the seal serial pattern) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
 - ☒ Quincy appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.
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Case 05 E) Gemma

- ☒ Four requirements (elevated system privileges, clean-room or vault clearance, presence between 00:00 and 03:30, authorization to handle the item) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
 - ☒ Florian appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.
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Case 06 A) Sami

- ☒ Four requirements (clearance to the restricted archive, documented hands-on history with the item, presence between 00:30 and 03:15, knowledge of the seal serial pattern) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
- ☒ Kalinda appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.