

Deduction Mysteries

CASE 01

A staff payroll list was taken from the faculty lounge of Westbrook Academy during the overnight window between 01:45 and 04:00. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 7 suspects are under investigation: Lior (school counselor), Hasan (student council president), Theo (teacher), Yara (librarian), Quincy (principal), Leander (secretary), Mikael (substitute teacher). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who took the staff payroll list?

1. Yara lacks advanced restoration training – confirmed by personnel records.
2. The trace at the scene (a network certificate signed by senior staff) ties directly to inventory or systems uniquely accessible to Quincy.
3. Quincy has all four requirements: advanced restoration training, clean-room or vault clearance, knowledge of the seal serial pattern, and meets the temporal requirement (presence between 01:45 and 04:00).
4. Four independent requirements: advanced restoration training, clean-room or vault clearance, presence between 01:45 and 04:00, and knowledge of the seal serial pattern.
5. Theo has clean-room or vault clearance and knowledge of the seal serial pattern and advanced restoration training – initial suspicion was high.
6. However: Hasan is cleared – but two independent witnesses confirm a video call with them throughout the window.
7. Mikael had financial pressure – appears to have motive.
8. However: Mikael is cleared – but attendance log places them at the hospital with a family emergency during the entire window.
9. Hasan has advanced restoration training and knowledge of the seal serial pattern and clean-room or vault clearance – initial suspicion was high.

CASE 02

The client's car keys were taken from the main shop floor of Brightline Industrial during the overnight window between 00:45 and 03:45. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 7 suspects are under investigation: Iolanthe (apprentice), Juno (parts clerk), Zoltan (welder), Vera (customer service rep), Stellan (painter), Ines (master mechanic), Bao (quality inspector). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who took the client's car keys?

1. However: Iolanthe is cleared – but they were on a documented overnight flight, verified by airline records.
2. Bao was passed over for a recent promotion – appears to have motive.
3. Four independent requirements: clearance to the restricted archive, clean-room or vault clearance, presence between 00:45 and 03:45, and knowledge of the seal serial pattern.
4. Iolanthe has clean-room or vault clearance and clearance to the restricted archive – initial suspicion was high.
5. But: however the DHCP log shows their vehicle remained in the lot until well after 00:45.
6. Juno lacks clean-room or vault clearance – security audit confirms.
7. Bao has clean-room or vault clearance and knowledge of the seal serial pattern and clearance to the restricted archive – initial suspicion was high.
8. The theft involved a foam replica skillfully painted with restoration-grade spray paint.
9. Initial assumption pointed to Bao because of being seen near the building, but this has been independently ruled out.
10. Vera has clearance to the restricted archive and clean-room or vault clearance and knowledge of the seal serial pattern – initial suspicion was high.

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CASE 03

The prototype specifications were taken from the CEO office of Quartermaine & Associates during the overnight window between 00:15 and 04:45. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 8 suspects are under investigation: Tomas (executive assistant), Jules (HR director), Saoirse (legal counsel), Hattie (intern), Arjun (facilities coordinator), Mahdi (CFO), Idris (security officer), Jian (records clerk). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who took the prototype specifications?

1. However: Jian is cleared – but they were on a documented overnight flight, verified by airline records.
2. Saoirse's elevator log shows them off-site the entire window.
3. Four independent requirements: specialized engineering certification, a verified relationship with the donor, presence between 00:15 and 04:45, and knowledge of the seal serial pattern.
4. Mahdi has specialized engineering certification and knowledge of the seal serial pattern – initial suspicion was high.
5. Idris lacks specialized engineering certification – confirmed by personnel records.
6. But: however DHCP log records show they re-authenticated from an internal network at 2:20.
7. Hattie filed a grievance two weeks ago – appears to have motive.
8. The trace at the scene (a hand-machined tool stocked in only one closet) ties directly to inventory or systems uniquely accessible to Jules.
9. Tomas's VPN session log shows them off-site the entire window.
- 10 Mahdi was passed over for a recent promotion – appears to have motive.
- 11 Jian has knowledge of the seal serial pattern and a verified relationship with the donor and . specialized engineering certification – initial suspicion was high.
- 12 Arjun lacks specialized engineering certification – confirmed by personnel records.

CASE 04

The patient records were taken from the administrator office of Northgate Memorial during the overnight window between 02:45 and 05:45. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 7 suspects are under investigation: Daphne (attending physician), Akira (head nurse), Eleni (technician), Mauro (janitor), Tess (social worker), Cedric (volunteer), Ishaan (pharmacist). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who took the patient records?

1. Tess was passed over for a recent promotion – appears to have motive.
2. Eleni lacks specialized engineering certification – confirmed by personnel records.
3. The theft involved a seal cut with a serial pattern from a specific supply.
4. Daphne's badge log shows them off-site the entire window.
5. Ishaan claims to have exited the building at 23:00 – the official badge log confirms this.
6. However: Mauro is cleared – but their hospital badge was revoked the day before – confirmed in the security audit.
7. Four independent requirements: specialized engineering certification, after-hours building access, presence between 02:45 and 05:45, and authorization to handle the item.
8. Mauro filed a grievance two weeks ago – appears to have motive.
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 Ishaan.
- 10 Akira has authorization to handle the item and specialized engineering certification – initial . suspicion was high.
- 11 Ishaan has all four requirements: specialized engineering certification, after-hours building . access, authorization to handle the item, and meets the temporal requirement (presence between 02:45 and 05:45).

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CASE 05

The patient records were taken from the staff lounge of Saint-Clair Hospital during the overnight window between 02:15 and 06:30. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 8 suspects are under investigation: Mahdi (attending physician), Eira (head nurse), Mateo (technician), Roksana (volunteer), Ilya (pharmacist), Kasper (medical resident), Caelan (janitor), Indira (security officer). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who took the patient records?

1. But: however the unsecured pedestrian door doesn't require a badge to re-enter.
2. Ilya has a master key issued only to senior staff and possession of the specific tool used – initial suspicion was high.
3. Mahdi lacks clean-room or vault clearance – security audit confirms.
4. However: Ilya is cleared – but pharmacy CCTV places them at the hospital with a family emergency during the entire window.
5. Roksana was passed over for a recent promotion – appears to have motive.
6. However: Roksana is cleared – but pharmacy CCTV places them at the hospital with a family emergency during the entire window.
7. Indira their video call ended at 23:35 according to the system.
8. Mateo has possession of the specific tool used and a master key issued only to senior staff – initial suspicion was high.
9. However: Mateo is cleared – but they were on a documented overnight flight, verified by airline 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 Indira.
- 11 Eira has only a master key issued only to senior staff of the four requirements.

CASE 06

A sequencing chip was swapped from the prep bench of Helix Bioresearch during the overnight window between 02:45 and 05:45. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 7 suspects are under investigation: Cedric (equipment manager), Olive (clinical coordinator), Dimitri (safety officer), Idris (undergraduate volunteer), Dario (principal investigator), Gisela (visiting scientist), Rhys (postdoctoral researcher). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who swapped the sequencing chip?

1. Idris had financial pressure – appears to have motive.
2. Dimitri claims to have exited the building at 22:10 – the official badge log confirms this.
3. However: Cedric is cleared – but their biohazard clearance was revoked the day before – confirmed in the security audit.
4. However: Olive is cleared – but sample log places them at the hospital with a family emergency during the entire window.
5. The trace at the scene (a foam replica skillfully painted with restoration-grade spray paint) ties directly to inventory or systems uniquely accessible to Dimitri.
6. Gisela lacks administrator credentials – security audit confirms.
7. The sample tampering involved a foam replica skillfully painted with restoration-grade spray paint.
8. Four independent requirements: advanced restoration training, administrator credentials, presence between 02:45 and 05:45, and authorization to handle the item.
9. However: Idris is cleared – but sample log places them at the hospital with a family emergency during the entire window.
- 10 Dario's sample log shows them off-site the entire window.

Answer Key – Deduction Mysteries

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

Case 01 C) Quincy

- ☒ Four requirements (advanced restoration training, clean-room or vault clearance, presence between 01:45 and 04:00, knowledge of the seal serial pattern) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
 - ☒ Theo appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.
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Case 02 B) Stellan

- ☒ Four requirements (clearance to the restricted archive, clean-room or vault clearance, presence between 00:45 and 03:45, knowledge of the seal serial pattern) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
 - ☒ Bao appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.
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Case 03 undefined) Jules

- ☒ Four requirements (specialized engineering certification, a verified relationship with the donor, presence between 00:15 and 04:45, knowledge of the seal serial pattern) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
 - ☒ Hattie appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.
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Case 04 undefined) Ishaan

- ☒ Four requirements (specialized engineering certification, after-hours building access, presence between 02:45 and 05:45, 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 B) Indira

- ☒ Four requirements (a master key issued only to senior staff, clean-room or vault clearance, presence between 02:15 and 06:30, possession of the specific tool used) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
 - ☒ Mateo appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.
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Case 06 undefined) Dimitri

- ☒ Four requirements (advanced restoration training, administrator credentials, presence between 02:45 and 05:45, authorization to handle the item) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
 - ☒ Olive appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.
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