

Deduction Mysteries

CASE 01

A jade figurine was taken from the main exhibition hall of Metropolitan Gallery during the overnight window between 00:00 and 04:30. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 8 suspects are under investigation: Zephyr (archivist), Simeon (curator), Stellan (security guard), Noor (night security), Sigrid (exhibition designer), Emiko (janitor), Nadia (docent), Kiran (art restorer). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who took the jade figurine?

1. Zephyr clashed publicly with management – appears to have motive.
2. Sigrid has all four requirements: specialized engineering certification, clean-room or vault clearance, authorization to handle the item, and meets the temporal requirement (presence between 00:00 and 04:30).
3. However: Simeon is cleared – but two independent witnesses confirm a video call with them throughout the window.
4. Stellan lacks clean-room or vault clearance – security audit confirms.
5. However: Zephyr is cleared – but security camera places them at the hospital with a family emergency during the entire window.
6. Simeon filed a grievance two weeks ago – appears to have motive.
7. But: however the pedestrian-door sensor shows their vehicle remained in the lot until well after 00:00.
8. However: Emiko is cleared – but they were on a documented overnight flight, verified by airline records.
9. Initial assumption pointed to Zephyr because of public friction with management, but this has been independently ruled out.
- 10 Four independent requirements: specialized engineering certification, clean-room or vault clearance, presence between 00:00 and 04:30, and authorization to handle the item.

CASE 02

A restricted donor file was taken from the cataloging room of Pemberton Genealogy Center during the overnight window between 01:15 and 05:00. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 8 suspects are under investigation: Mira (intern), Cassia (conservation specialist), Phaedra (genealogist), Sigrid (researcher), Saoirse (records administrator), Isolde (volunteer), Ezra (head archivist), Lior (security officer). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who took the restricted donor file?

1. Mira has possession of the specific tool used and a verified relationship with the donor and clearance to the restricted archive – initial suspicion was high.
2. Lior lacks clearance to the restricted archive – confirmed by personnel records.
3. The theft involved an encryption signature tied to the internal training network.
4. Four independent requirements: clearance to the restricted archive, a verified relationship with the donor, presence between 01:15 and 05:00, and possession of the specific tool used.
5. Saoirse claims to have exited the building at 23:25 – the official badge log confirms this.
6. However: Mira is cleared – but their research-room pass was revoked the day before – confirmed in the security audit.
7. But: however DHCP log records show they re-authenticated from an internal network at 2:10.
8. However: Cassia is cleared – but they were on a documented overnight flight, verified by airline records.
9. The trace at the scene (an encryption signature tied to the internal training network) ties directly to inventory or systems uniquely accessible to Saoirse.
- 10 Phaedra's reading-room sign-in shows them off-site the entire window.
- 11 Isolde has a verified relationship with the donor and clearance to the restricted archive and possession of the specific tool used – initial suspicion was high.

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CASE 03

The prototype specifications were taken from the records vault of Atlas Group during the overnight window between 00:00 and 03:00. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 7 suspects are under investigation: Aleksandr (executive assistant), Marisol (legal counsel), Hattie (CFO), Selene (intern), Elara (senior engineer), Kai (security officer), Idris (records clerk). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who took the prototype specifications?

1. Elara 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 00:00 and 03:00).
2. Aleksandr's door access record shows them off-site the entire window.
3. Four independent requirements: specialized engineering certification, a verified relationship with the donor, presence between 00:00 and 03:00, and knowledge of the seal serial pattern.
4. Hattie has specialized engineering certification and a verified relationship with the donor – initial suspicion was high.
5. The corporate theft involved a hand-machined tool stocked in only one closet.
6. Elara their video call ended at 23:45 according to the system.
7. Kai filed a grievance two weeks ago – appears to have motive.
8. But: however pedestrian-door sensor records show they re-authenticated from an internal network at 1:45.
9. Marisol has a verified relationship with the donor and specialized engineering certification – initial suspicion was high.
- 10 However: Hattie is cleared – but they were on a documented overnight flight, verified by airline records.

CASE 04

A prototype assembly was taken from the employee locker area of Northgate Workshop during the overnight window between 00:00 and 04:15. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 8 suspects are under investigation: Hiroshi (welder), Tarek (apprentice), Meriel (parts clerk), Thora (electrician), Xanthe (shop manager), Arjun (painter), Polina (machinist), Mei (quality inspector). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who took the prototype assembly?

1. However: Mei is cleared – but two independent witnesses confirm a video call with them throughout the window.
2. Four independent requirements: advanced restoration training, a verified relationship with the donor, presence between 00:00 and 04:15, and possession of the specific tool used.
3. The trace at the scene (a network certificate signed by senior staff) ties directly to inventory or systems uniquely accessible to Polina.
4. However: Arjun is cleared – but two independent witnesses confirm a video call with them throughout the window.
5. Mei clashed publicly with management – appears to have motive.
6. However: Hiroshi is cleared – but two independent witnesses confirm a video call with them throughout the window.
7. Arjun has possession of the specific tool used and a verified relationship with the donor and advanced restoration training – initial suspicion was high.
8. Mei has possession of the specific tool used and a verified relationship with the donor – initial suspicion was high.
9. Xanthe lacks a verified relationship with the donor – security audit confirms.
- 10 Polina has all four requirements: advanced restoration training, a verified relationship with the donor, possession of the specific tool used, and meets the temporal requirement (presence between 00:00 and 04:15).

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CASE 05

The prototype specifications were taken from the server room of Brightline Holdings during the overnight window between 01:45 and 04:30. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 7 suspects are under investigation: Mahdi (legal counsel), Pavel (records clerk), Klaus (intern), Omari (facilities coordinator), Polina (senior engineer), Etienne (executive assistant), Hattie (CFO). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who took the prototype specifications?

1. Etienne has only possession of the specific tool used of the four requirements.
2. Initial assumption pointed to Pavel because of proximity to the scene earlier, but this has been independently ruled out.
3. Omari has possession of the specific tool used and a master key issued only to senior staff and after-hours building access – initial suspicion was high.
4. Polina has after-hours building access and possession of the specific tool used and a master key issued only to senior staff – initial suspicion was high.
5. Pavel has possession of the specific tool used and a master key issued only to senior staff and after-hours building access – initial suspicion was high.
6. But: however the unsecured side stairwell doesn't require a badge to re-enter.
7. Klaus has all four requirements: a master key issued only to senior staff, after-hours building access, possession of the specific tool used, and meets the temporal requirement (presence between 01:45 and 04:30).
8. Polina filed a grievance two weeks ago – appears to have motive.
9. However: Polina is cleared – but VPN session log places them at the hospital with a family emergency during the entire window.
- 10 Klaus was officially signed out at 22:05 via the front-desk register.

CASE 06

A signed playbill collection was taken from the rehearsal hall of Argent Theatre during the overnight window between 00:45 and 04:00. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 8 suspects are under investigation: Joren (prop master), Finnegan (lead actor), Kenji (box-office manager), Kiran (musical director), Enzo (stage manager), Olive (costume designer), Wilder (understudy), Akhil (stagehand). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who took the signed playbill collection?

1. Enzo lacks advanced restoration training – confirmed by personnel records.
2. Olive their video call ended at 23:45 according to the system.
3. The theft involved a foam replica skillfully painted with restoration-grade spray paint.
4. Finnegan lacks clean-room or vault clearance – security audit confirms.
5. Akhil has advanced restoration training and clean-room or vault clearance – initial suspicion was high.
6. Kenji's dressing-room sign-in shows them off-site the entire window.
7. Four independent requirements: advanced restoration training, clean-room or vault clearance, presence between 00:45 and 04:00, and authorization to handle the item.
8. Wilder was passed over for a recent promotion – appears to have motive.
9. Olive has all four requirements: advanced restoration training, clean-room or vault clearance, authorization to handle the item, and meets the temporal requirement (presence between 00:45 and 04:00).
- 10 Wilder has advanced restoration training and authorization to handle the item – initial suspicion was high.
- 11 Akhil was passed over for a recent promotion – appears to have motive.

Answer Key – Deduction Mysteries

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

Case 01 F) Sigrid

- Four requirements (specialized engineering certification, clean-room or vault clearance, presence between 00:00 and 04:30, authorization to handle the item) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
 - Emiko appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.
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Case 02 C) Saoirse

- Four requirements (clearance to the restricted archive, a verified relationship with the donor, presence between 01:15 and 05:00, possession of the specific tool used) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
 - Isolde appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.
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Case 03 undefined) Elara

- Four requirements (specialized engineering certification, a verified relationship with the donor, presence between 00:00 and 03:00, 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) Polina

- Four requirements (advanced restoration training, a verified relationship with the donor, presence between 00:00 and 04:15, possession of the specific tool used) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
 - Mei appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.
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Case 05 A) Klaus

- Four requirements (a master key issued only to senior staff, after-hours building access, presence between 01:45 and 04:30, possession of the specific tool used) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
 - Pavel appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.
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Case 06 undefined) Olive

- Four requirements (advanced restoration training, clean-room or vault clearance, presence between 00:45 and 04:00, authorization to handle the item) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
- Wilder appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.