

Deduction Mysteries

CASE 01

A custom engine part was taken from the tool crib of Saint-Clair Machining during the overnight window between 02:45 and 06:15. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 8 suspects are under investigation: Wilder (shop manager), Pavel (welder), Meriel (machinist), Aaliyah (painter), Alessio (customer service rep), Tatum (master mechanic), Lior (apprentice), Nizar (quality inspector). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who took the custom engine part?

1. Meriel's shop camera shows them off-site the entire window.
2. Wilder lacks clean-room or vault clearance – security audit confirms.
3. Pavel has advanced restoration training and clean-room or vault clearance and possession of the specific tool used – initial suspicion was high.
4. Tatum has possession of the specific tool used and advanced restoration training – initial suspicion was high.
5. Alessio was officially signed out at 22:45 via the front-desk register.
6. However: Tatum is cleared – but door sensor places them at the hospital with a family emergency during the entire window.
7. Initial assumption pointed to Wilder because of public friction with management, but this has been independently ruled out.
8. However: Aaliyah is cleared – but they were on a documented overnight flight, verified by airline records.
9. The theft involved a hand-machined tool stocked in only one closet.
- 10 Aaliyah has clean-room or vault clearance and possession of the specific tool used – initial suspicion was high.
- 11 Pavel had financial pressure – appears to have motive.

CASE 02

A tournament prize money was taken from the locker room of Saint-Clair Field House during the overnight window between 01:00 and 05:15. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 8 suspects are under investigation: Pavel (head coach), Joaquin (facilities manager), Maeve (star player), Eira (athletic trainer), Saoirse (team statistician), Galina (referee), Darya (equipment manager), Vidal (assistant coach). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who took the tournament prize money?

1. Joaquin lacks administrator credentials – security audit confirms.
2. Saoirse has a master key issued only to senior staff and administrator credentials and knowledge of the seal serial pattern – initial suspicion was high.
3. 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 Pavel.
4. However: Saoirse is cleared – but two independent witnesses confirm a video call with them throughout the window.
5. Galina has knowledge of the seal serial pattern and a master key issued only to senior staff – initial suspicion was high.
6. But: however parking-lot camera records show they re-authenticated from an internal network at 1:05.
7. Maeve lacks a master key issued only to senior staff – confirmed by personnel records.
8. Galina had financial pressure – appears to have motive.
9. Eira lacks administrator credentials – security audit confirms.
- 10 Saoirse clashed publicly with management – appears to have motive.
- 11 Four independent requirements: a master key issued only to senior staff, administrator credentials, presence between 01:00 and 05:15, and knowledge of the seal serial pattern.

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CASE 03

A wine collection inventory was taken from the staff break room of Saint-Clair Café during the overnight window between 02:45 and 06:30. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 7 suspects are under investigation: Jules (dishwasher), Esme (pastry chef), Aiko (line cook), Aaliyah (sous chef), Ula (bartender), Diallo (head chef), Vera (server). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who took the wine collection inventory?

1. However: Aaliyah is cleared – but their master key was revoked the day before – confirmed in the security audit.
2. Diallo has only familiarity with the security routing of the four requirements.
3. Vera clashed publicly with management – appears to have motive.
4. Ula claims to have exited the building at 22:20 – the official badge log confirms this.
5. Aaliyah has after-hours building access and familiarity with the security routing – initial suspicion was high.
6. However: Vera is cleared – but they were on a documented overnight flight, verified by airline records.
7. But: however the DHCP log shows their vehicle remained in the lot until well after 02:45.
8. The trace at the scene (a foam replica skillfully painted with restoration-grade spray paint) ties directly to inventory or systems uniquely accessible to Ula.
9. Jules has familiarity with the security routing and after-hours building access – initial suspicion was high.
- 10 The theft involved a foam replica skillfully painted with restoration-grade spray paint.
- 11 Aaliyah was passed over for a recent promotion – appears to have motive.
- 12 Jules filed a grievance two weeks ago – appears to have motive.

CASE 04

An archive password log was taken from the reference desk of Helix Reading Room during the overnight window between 02:00 and 06:15. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 8 suspects are under investigation: Olive (intern), Akhil (custodian), Lana (volunteer), Leander (visiting scholar), Diallo (rare-books curator), Akira (research assistant), Daphne (reference librarian), Helena (head librarian). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who took the archive password log?

1. However: Olive is cleared – but two independent witnesses confirm a video call with them throughout the window.
2. The theft involved an encryption signature tied to the internal training network.
3. Daphne lacks a master key issued only to senior staff – confirmed by personnel records.
4. Akhil has after-hours building access and a master key issued only to senior staff – initial suspicion was high.
5. The trace at the scene (an encryption signature tied to the internal training network) ties directly to inventory or systems uniquely accessible to Lana.
6. Lana their video call ended at 22:55 according to the system.
7. Four independent requirements: a master key issued only to senior staff, after-hours building access, presence between 02:00 and 06:15, and possession of the specific tool used.
8. Akhil was passed over for a recent promotion – appears to have motive.
9. However: Akhil is cleared – but two independent witnesses confirm a video call with them throughout the window.
- 10 Akira's door sensor shows them off-site the entire window.
- 11 Olive has after-hours building access and a master key issued only to senior staff and possession of the specific tool used – initial suspicion was high.

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CASE 05

An original script was taken from the green room of Helix Repertory during the overnight window between 02:30 and 06:30. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 7 suspects are under investigation: Theo (director), Galina (lead actor), Kasimir (box-office manager), Helena (musical director), Bram (costume designer), Frida (lighting tech), Olive (prop master). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who took the original script?

1. However: Olive is cleared – but props inventory log places them at the hospital with a family emergency during the entire window.
2. Theo's props inventory log shows them off-site the entire window.
3. But: however elevator override log records show they re-authenticated from an internal network at 1:45.
4. The theft involved an encryption signature tied to the internal training network.
5. The trace at the scene (an encryption signature tied to the internal training network) ties directly to inventory or systems uniquely accessible to Helena.
6. However: Frida is cleared – but witness crew member places them at the hospital with a family emergency during the entire window.
7. Frida clashed publicly with management – appears to have motive.
8. Olive has familiarity with the security routing and a verified relationship with the donor and elevated system privileges – initial suspicion was high.
9. Initial assumption pointed to Theo because of proximity to the scene earlier, but this has been independently ruled out.
10. Kasimir has familiarity with the security routing and elevated system privileges and a verified relationship with the donor – initial suspicion was high.

CASE 06

A sequencing chip was swapped from the PI office of Aldermarsh Laboratory during the overnight window between 01:15 and 05:45. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 8 suspects are under investigation: Ezra (undergraduate volunteer), Eleni (safety officer), Enzo (visiting scientist), Ramona (graduate student), Amari (clinical coordinator), Jacinta (principal investigator), Bao (lab technician), Xanthe (equipment manager). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who swapped the sequencing chip?

1. But: however the unsecured service entrance doesn't require a badge to re-enter.
2. However: Ezra is cleared – but two independent witnesses confirm a video call with them throughout the window.
3. However: Jacinta is cleared – but two independent witnesses confirm a video call with them throughout the window.
4. Xanthe has only clearance to the restricted archive of the four requirements.
5. Initial assumption pointed to Jacinta because of public friction with management, but this has been independently ruled out.
6. The sample tampering involved an encryption signature tied to the internal training network.
7. Eleni claims to have exited the building at 23:10 – the official badge log confirms this.
8. Jacinta was passed over for a recent promotion – appears to have motive.
9. Amari has documented hands-on history with the item and knowledge of the seal serial pattern and clearance to the restricted archive – initial suspicion was high.
10. Ezra has 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 A) Alessio

- Four requirements (advanced restoration training, clean-room or vault clearance, presence between 02:45 and 06:15, possession of the specific tool used) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
 - Tatum appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.
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Case 02 B) Pavel

- Four requirements (a master key issued only to senior staff, administrator credentials, presence between 01:00 and 05:15, knowledge of the seal serial pattern) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
 - Galina appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.
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Case 03 A) Ula

- Four requirements (advanced restoration training, after-hours building access, presence between 02:45 and 06:30, familiarity with the security routing) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
 - Aaliyah appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.
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Case 04 D) Lana

- Four requirements (a master key issued only to senior staff, after-hours building access, presence between 02:00 and 06:15, possession of the specific tool used) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
 - Akhil appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.
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Case 05 C) Helena

- Four requirements (elevated system privileges, a verified relationship with the donor, presence between 02:30 and 06:30, familiarity with the security routing) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
 - Frida appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.
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Case 06 B) Eleni

- Four requirements (clearance to the restricted archive, documented hands-on history with the item, presence between 01:15 and 05:45, knowledge of the seal serial pattern) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
- Jacinta appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.