

Deduction Mysteries

CASE 01

A final exam answer sheet was taken from the computer lab of Brierfield Prep between 00:45 and 02:45. The operation required specific qualifications and access. 7 suspects: Esme (school counselor), Cyrus (principal), Joaquin (substitute teacher), Leander (librarian), Ulla (student council president), Emiko (janitor), Elspeth (department head).

Q Who took the final exam answer sheet?

1. Elspeth has all three required qualifications.
2. Cyrus had the qualifications but family was visiting during the window – third-party verified.
3. Joaquin was at a documented training during the window – verified by witness statement.
4. A trace at the scene – a stamped seal serial number from a controlled supply closet – matches inventory accessible only to Elspeth.
5. The theft required a stamped seal serial number from a controlled supply closet.
6. Elspeth stated they left the building at 22:05, but the door sensor history shows their master key active at 00:45.
7. Three independent requirements: professional certification, staff key access, and presence at the computer lab during the 00:45-02:45 window.
8. Leander's staff key was revoked two weeks prior; archived access list confirms.
9. Esme's staff key was revoked two weeks prior; archived access list confirms.
- 10 Leander was seen near the principal's office earlier that evening, but they had left the building by 21:00 and never returned.
- 11 Emiko had the qualifications but was hospitalized during the window – third-party verified.
- 12 Ulla had the qualifications but family was visiting during the window – third-party verified.

CASE 02

A signed binary release was extracted from the testing lab of Brightline Software between 02:30 and 04:30. The operation required specific qualifications and access. 7 suspects: Eitan (intern), Cosima (site-reliability engineer), Ishaan (product manager), Polina (security analyst), Hiroshi (contractor), Ezra (DevOps lead), Marisol (data scientist).

Q Who extracted the signed binary release?

1. Eitan's VPN session log shows continuous presence in a separate building.
2. A trace at the scene – a unique encryption signature traceable to internal-only training – matches inventory accessible only to Ezra.
3. Polina's CCTV camera shows continuous presence in a separate building.
4. The data theft required a unique encryption signature traceable to internal-only training.
5. Ishaan was at a documented conference during the window – verified by MFA token log.
6. Ezra stated they left the building at 22:40, but the elevator log shows their MFA device active at 02:30.
7. Cosima's SSH authentication log shows continuous presence in a separate building.
8. Marisol's badge swipe shows continuous presence in a separate building.
9. Ezra has all three required qualifications.
- 10 Hiroshi had the qualifications but family was visiting during the window – third-party verified.
- 11 Marisol was seen near the code review room earlier that evening, but they had left the building by 20:50 and never returned.
- 12 Three independent requirements: professional certification, badge access, and presence at the testing lab during the 02:30-04:30 window.

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CASE 03

The sealed wills were taken from the staff break room of Pemberton Genealogy Center between 00:00 and 02:45. The operation required specific qualifications and access. 7 suspects: Galina (genealogist), Finnegan (volunteer), Cyrus (administrator), Penelope (head archivist), Joren (conservation specialist), Saoirse (researcher), Pavel (intern).

Q Who took the sealed wills?

1. Saoirse was at a documented conference during the window – verified by badge swipe.
2. Pavel's archive log shows continuous presence in a separate building.
3. Joren's vault entry record shows continuous presence in a separate building.
4. The theft required a digital certificate issued only to senior staff.
5. A trace at the scene – a digital certificate issued only to senior staff – matches inventory accessible only to Penelope.
6. Penelope stated they left the building at 23:20, but the parking-lot camera shows their vault key active at 00:00.
7. Saoirse was seen near the staff break room earlier that evening, but they had left the building by 21:15 and never returned.
8. Cyrus's badge swipe shows continuous presence in a separate building.
9. Galina's research-room pass was revoked two weeks prior; archived access list confirms.
- 10 Finnegan had the qualifications but was hospitalized during the window – third-party verified.
- 11 Penelope has all three required qualifications.
- 12 Three independent requirements: professional certification, research-room pass access, and . presence at the staff break room during the 00:00-02:45 window.

CASE 04

A donor list was taken from the rare books vault of Northgate Library between 00:45 and 02:00. The operation required specific qualifications and access. 6 suspects: Phaedra (reference librarian), Quincy (research assistant), Iolanthe (intern), Tatum (head librarian), Dimah (rare-books curator), Klaus (cataloger).

Q Who took the donor list?

1. Tatum was seen near the curator office earlier that evening, but they had left the building by 20:35 and never returned.
2. The theft required a digital certificate issued only to senior staff.
3. Dimah stated they left the building at 23:55, but the network authentication record shows their staff key active at 00:45.
4. A trace at the scene – a digital certificate issued only to senior staff – matches inventory accessible only to Dimah.
5. Three independent requirements: professional expertise, vault key access, and presence at the rare books vault during the 00:45-02:00 window.
6. Dimah has all three required qualifications.
7. Iolanthe was at a documented training during the window – verified by witness patron.
8. Tatum had the qualifications but family was visiting during the window – third-party verified.
9. Phaedra had the qualifications but was hospitalized during the window – third-party verified.
- 10 Quincy was at a documented conference during the window – verified by book-checkout record.
- 11 Klaus's vault key was revoked two weeks prior; archived access list confirms.

Deduction Mysteries

CASE 05

A customer credit-card list was extracted from the testing lab of Solstice Labs between 02:30 and 04:15. The operation required specific qualifications and access. 7 suspects: Kalisa (security analyst), Daphne (product manager), Cyrus (CTO), Yara (contractor), Mateo (DevOps lead), Zinnia (senior engineer), Hiroshi (data scientist).

Q Who extracted the customer credit-card list?

1. Hiroshi had the qualifications but was on a flight during the window – third-party verified.
2. Yara's CCTV camera shows continuous presence in a separate building.
3. The data theft required a stamped seal serial number from a controlled supply closet.
4. Mateo was seen near the DevOps room earlier that evening, but they had left the building by 21:10 and never returned.
5. Daphne stated they left the building at 22:30, but the network authentication record shows their admin token active at 02:30.
6. Daphne has all three required qualifications.
7. A trace at the scene – a stamped seal serial number from a controlled supply closet – matches inventory accessible only to Daphne.
8. Mateo's VPN session log shows continuous presence in a separate building.
9. Three independent requirements: professional expertise, admin token access, and presence at the testing lab during the 02:30-04:15 window.
10. Kalisa's admin token was revoked two weeks prior; archived access list confirms.
11. Cyrus's CCTV camera shows continuous presence in a separate building.
12. Zinnia's CCTV camera shows continuous presence in a separate building.

CASE 06

A customer credit-card list was extracted from the network closet of Atlas Cloud between 03:30 and 05:15. The operation required specific qualifications and access. 6 suspects: Ezra (data scientist), Elspeth (senior engineer), Mikael (site-reliability engineer), Dimah (product manager), Alejandro (support lead), Theo (CTO).

Q Who extracted the customer credit-card list?

1. Ezra lacks the required professional certification – confirmed by personnel records.
2. Dimah lacks the required professional certification – confirmed by personnel records.
3. Theo's SSH key was revoked two weeks prior; archived access list confirms.
4. A trace at the scene – a unique encryption signature traceable to internal-only training – matches inventory accessible only to Mikael.
5. The data theft required a unique encryption signature traceable to internal-only training.
6. Three independent requirements: professional certification, SSH key access, and presence at the network closet during the 03:30-05:15 window.
7. Mikael has all three required qualifications.
8. Ezra was seen near the data archive earlier that evening, but they had left the building by 21:00 and never returned.
9. Elspeth's badge swipe shows continuous presence in a separate building.
10. Alejandro was at a documented hospital appointment during the window – verified by badge swipe.
11. Mikael stated they left the building at 23:55, but the elevator log shows their badge active at 03:30.

Answer Key – Deduction Mysteries

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

Case 01 C) Elspeth

- ☒ Three requirements (professional certification, staff key, presence at the computer lab during the 00:45-02:45 window) plus a technical trace narrow this case.
 - ☒ Esme eliminated by alibi or missing qualification.
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Case 02 A) Ezra

- ☒ Three requirements (professional certification, badge, presence at the testing lab during the 02:30-04:30 window) plus a technical trace narrow this case.
 - ☒ Eitan eliminated by alibi or missing qualification.
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Case 03 A) Penelope

- ☒ Three requirements (professional certification, research-room pass, presence at the staff break room during the 00:00-02:45 window) plus a technical trace narrow this case.
 - ☒ Galina eliminated by alibi or missing qualification.
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Case 04 B) Dimah

- ☒ Three requirements (professional expertise, vault key, presence at the rare books vault during the 00:45-02:00 window) plus a technical trace narrow this case.
 - ☒ Phaedra eliminated by alibi or missing qualification.
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Case 05 E) Daphne

- ☒ Three requirements (professional expertise, admin token, presence at the testing lab during the 02:30-04:15 window) plus a technical trace narrow this case.
 - ☒ Kalisa eliminated by alibi or missing qualification.
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Case 06 B) Mikael

- ☒ Three requirements (professional certification, SSH key, presence at the network closet during the 03:30-05:15 window) plus a technical trace narrow this case.
- ☒ Ezra eliminated by alibi or missing qualification.