

Deduction Mysteries

CASE 01

A laptop was taken from the sports equipment room of Cedarvale High during the overnight window between 19:45 and 21:30. Investigators have narrowed the field to 5 suspects: Wren (janitor), Zinnia (substitute teacher), Hattie (teacher), Aleksandr (principal), Jian (secretary).

Q Who took the laptop?

1. Hattie's hallway camera places them at a documented training session from 19:45 to roughly 21:30.
2. Wren's attendance log places them at a public event with hundreds of attendees from 19:45 to roughly 21:30.
3. Aleksandr's printer log places them at a remote conference from 19:45 to roughly 21:30.
4. A discarded note near the scene briefly suggested Wren's involvement, but it was later traced to an unrelated incident.
5. Zinnia has no verifiable account of their whereabouts after 19:45.
6. Zinnia had a documented grievance, well-documented in HR records.
7. The theft required encryption key generation. Only Zinnia, Wren, Hattie have it among the suspects.
8. Jian's door sensor places them at a remote conference from 19:45 to roughly 21:30.
9. Zinnia's master key was activated at 19:45 at the sports equipment room.
- 10 Master key access to the sports equipment room is restricted to Hattie, Zinnia.

A) Wren	B) Jian	C) Hattie	D) Aleksandr	E) Zinnia
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CASE 02

A source code repository was extracted from the data archive of Meridian Data during the overnight window between 21:30 and 23:15. Investigators have narrowed the field to 6 suspects: Indira (contractor), Nizar (DevOps lead), Gisela (support lead), Quincy (data scientist), Bao (product manager), Gemma (site-reliability engineer).

Q Who extracted the source code repository?

1. SSH key access to the data archive is restricted to Gemma, Bao.
2. Gemma has no verifiable account of their whereabouts after 21:30.
3. The data theft required complex schematic knowledge. Only Gemma, Bao, Quincy have it among the suspects.
4. Bao's CCTV camera places them at a public event with hundreds of attendees from 21:30 to roughly 23:15.
5. Nizar's VPN session log places them at a remote conference from 21:30 to roughly 23:15.
6. Indira's SSH authentication log places them at a hospital visit from 21:30 to roughly 23:15.
7. Gemma's SSH key was activated at 21:30 at the data archive.
8. Gisela's witness colleague places them at a hospital visit from 21:30 to roughly 23:15.
9. Gemma had a documented grievance, well-documented in HR records.
- 10 Quincy's SSH authentication log places them at a documented training session from 21:30 to roughly 23:15.

A) Gisela	B) Gemma	C) Indira	D) Bao	E) Nizar	F) Quincy
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CASE 03

A research notebook was swapped from the cold-storage freezer of Coriolis Institute during the overnight window between 20:00 and 22:45. Investigators have narrowed the field to 6 suspects: Pavel (principal investigator), Katarina (operations manager), Zephyr (postdoctoral researcher), Ginevra (undergraduate volunteer), Yvonne (visiting scientist), Nizar (graduate student).

Q Who swapped the research notebook?

1. Nizar's witness sighting places them at a remote conference from 20:00 to roughly 22:45.
2. Yvonne's witness sighting places them at a hospital visit from 20:00 to roughly 22:45.
3. Ginevra's witness sighting places them at a remote conference from 20:00 to roughly 22:45.
4. Freezer key access to the cold-storage freezer is restricted to Katarina, Yvonne.
5. Pavel's witness sighting places them at an offsite location from 20:00 to roughly 22:45.
6. Katarina's freezer key was activated at 20:00 at the cold-storage freezer.
7. Katarina had passed-over promotion, well-documented in HR records.
8. The sample tampering required social-engineering skill. Only Katarina, Yvonne, Ginevra have it among the suspects.
9. A discarded note near the scene briefly suggested Ginevra's involvement, but it was later traced to an unrelated incident.
- 10 Katarina has no verifiable account of their whereabouts after 20:00.
- 11 Zephyr's clean-room entry log places them at a hospital visit from 20:00 to roughly 22:45.

A) Ginevra	B) Pavel	C) Zephyr	D) Yvonne	E) Katarina	F) Nizar
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CASE 04

A machine shop key set was taken from the main shop floor of Helix Restoration during the overnight window between 19:15 and 21:30. Investigators have narrowed the field to 6 suspects: Tomas (customer service rep), Bjorn (welder), Lior (quality inspector), Tariq (painter), Katarina (electrician), Meriel (master mechanic).

Q Who took the machine shop key set?

1. Tariq's door sensor places them at a public event with hundreds of attendees from 19:15 to roughly 21:30.
2. Bjorn has no verifiable account of their whereabouts after 19:15.
3. Katarina's witness coworker places them at a public event with hundreds of attendees from 19:15 to roughly 21:30.
4. Lior's shop camera places them at a remote conference from 19:15 to roughly 21:30.
5. Bjorn had a documented grievance, well-documented in HR records.
6. Manager key access to the main shop floor is restricted to Bjorn, Tariq, Meriel.
7. A discarded note near the scene briefly suggested Lior's involvement, but it was later traced to an unrelated incident.
8. Bjorn's manager key was activated at 19:15 at the main shop floor.
9. Meriel's witness coworker places them at an offsite location from 19:15 to roughly 21:30.
- 10 Tomas's door sensor places them at a documented training session from 19:15 to roughly 21:30.
- 11 The theft required social-engineering skill. Only Bjorn, Tariq, Tomas have it among the suspects.

Deduction Mysteries

CASE 05

The tip jar contents were taken from the staff break room of Saint-Clair Café during the overnight window between 20:30 and 22:00. Investigators have narrowed the field to 5 suspects: Kalinda (dishwasher), Kerensa (server), Penelope (sous chef), Oren (manager), Frida (sommelier).

Q Who took the tip jar contents?

1. Kerensa has no verifiable account of their whereabouts after 20:30.
2. Kalinda's reservation system places them at a hospital visit from 20:30 to roughly 22:00.
3. Oren's reservation system places them at a documented training session from 20:30 to roughly 22:00.
4. Frida's POS log places them at a remote conference from 20:30 to roughly 22:00.
5. Kerensa had outstanding financial debt, well-documented in HR records.
6. The theft required medical sedative protocols. Only Kerensa, Frida, Penelope have it among the suspects.
7. Penelope's POS log places them at an offsite location from 20:30 to roughly 22:00.
8. Master key access to the staff break room is restricted to Penelope, Kerensa, Oren.
9. Kerensa's master key was activated at 20:30 at the staff break room.

A) Frida	B) Kerensa	C) Penelope	D) Kalinda	E) Oren
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CASE 06

A sealed parts shipment was taken from the tool crib of Helix Restoration during the overnight window between 19:30 and 21:30. Investigators have narrowed the field to 6 suspects: Renata (apprentice), Rhys (customer service rep), Ezra (master mechanic), Hattie (shop manager), Lana (painter), Zinnia (electrician).

Q Who took the sealed parts shipment?

1. Hattie's shop key was activated at 19:30 at the tool crib.
2. Lana's parts-room audit places them at an offsite location from 19:30 to roughly 21:30.
3. Rhys's time-clock log places them at an offsite location from 19:30 to roughly 21:30.
4. Shop key access to the tool crib is restricted to Hattie, Zinnia.
5. Zinnia's door sensor places them at a remote conference from 19:30 to roughly 21:30.
6. Renata's parts-room audit places them at a hospital visit from 19:30 to roughly 21:30.
7. Hattie has no verifiable account of their whereabouts after 19:30.
8. The theft required encryption key generation. Only Hattie, Zinnia, Rhys have it among the suspects.
9. Hattie had a documented grievance, well-documented in HR records.
10. Ezra's tool-checkout log places them at a hospital visit from 19:30 to roughly 21:30.

A) Zinnia	B) Renata	C) Hattie	D) Ezra	E) Rhys	F) Lana
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Answer Key – Deduction Mysteries

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

Case 01 E) Zinnia

- ❑ The theft required encryption key generation, master key, and a motivating reason.
 - ❑ Wren has the skill but no master key – cleared.
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Case 02 B) Gemma

- ❑ The data theft required complex schematic knowledge, SSH key, and a motivating reason.
 - ❑ Indira lacks the required complex schematic knowledge – cleared.
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Case 03 E) Katarina

- ❑ The sample tampering required social-engineering skill, freezer key, and a motivating reason.
 - ❑ Pavel lacks the required social-engineering skill – cleared.
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Case 04 D) Bjorn

- ❑ The theft required social-engineering skill, manager key, and a motivating reason.
 - ❑ Tomas has the skill but no manager key – cleared.
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Case 05 B) Kerensa

- ❑ The theft required medical sedative protocols, master key, and a motivating reason.
 - ❑ Kalinda lacks the required medical sedative protocols – cleared.
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Case 06 C) Hattie

- ❑ The theft required encryption key generation, shop key, and a motivating reason.
- ❑ Renata lacks the required encryption key generation – cleared.