

Deduction Mysteries

CASE 01

A company's backup server was wiped between 10 PM and 10:30 PM. The wipe required physical access to the server room and admin-level credentials. Four employees were still in the building: Aisha (engineering), Derek (security), Tomoko (system admin), and Raj (sales). Case file MEDIUM-001.

Q Who wiped the server?

1. Only Aisha and Tomoko have admin-level server credentials.
2. Aisha was on a recorded video call with a client from 9:45 PM to 10:20 PM. Her screen was shared the entire time.
3. Derek was stationed at the lobby front desk. Lobby camera footage confirms he didn't leave until 10:35 PM.
4. Raj claims he was in the parking garage, but the garage key-card log shows no entry between 9 PM and 11 PM.
5. Tomoko says she was in the third-floor break room. The break room is next door to the server room.
6. The server room door requires a key card. Only admin-credentialed employees have server room access.

A) Aisha	B) Derek	C) Tomoko	D) Raj
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CASE 02

A fragile package was found damaged and wet on the warehouse loading dock at 4 PM. It started raining at 2 PM. Four couriers made deliveries to the dock that day: Clara (11 AM), Ben (1:30 PM), Omar (2:45 PM), and Maria (3:30 PM). Case file MEDIUM-002.

Q Which courier is responsible for the damaged package?

1. The fragile package was dry when it left the sender at 10 AM.
2. Rain started at exactly 2:00 PM and continued through the afternoon.
3. Clara delivered at 11 AM. All her packages were checked in dry and placed in the indoor bay.
4. Ben delivered at 1:30 PM. His delivery log matches the warehouse intake sheet exactly.
5. Omar delivered at 2:45 PM during the rain. He says he left the fragile package under the partially covered awning.
6. Maria arrived at 3:30 PM and says the fragile package was already sitting wet on the exposed part of the dock.

A) Clara	B) Ben	C) Omar	D) Maria
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CASE 03

Someone pulled up the community garden's prize tomato plants overnight Tuesday. The garden is behind a coded gate. Four neighbors had a reason to be near the garden: Helen, Frank, Greta, and Phil. Case file MEDIUM-003.

Q Who uprooted the tomato plants?

1. The garden gate code was changed at Monday morning's HOA meeting. Only attendees received the new code.
2. Helen and Greta both attended Monday's HOA meeting.
3. Frank was on vacation all week. Phil stayed home sick Monday and Tuesday.
4. Helen's personal garden borders the community patch. She's been in the garden competition for three years.
5. Greta has never entered the garden competition and volunteered to water the community patch last month.
6. Soil from the community garden was found on garden gloves in Helen's shed.

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CASE 04

At a team dinner, someone over-salted Vera's soup while she was in the restroom. Four people sat near her: Luis (seat 1), Kim (seat 2), Dante (seat 3), and Vera (seat 4). The table is long and narrow. Case file MEDIUM-004.

Q Who over-salted Vera's soup?

- Vera's soup was at seat 4. The salt shaker sat between seats 3 and 4.
- Luis was at seat 1, at the far end of the table. He'd have to lean across two people to reach the salt.
- Kim sat at seat 2. She spent the entire time Vera was away talking to Luis.
- Dante sat at seat 3, directly next to the salt shaker.
- Dante and Vera had a disagreement about the team project earlier that day.
- Kim told investigators she saw Dante reach for something on the table while Vera was gone.

A) Luis	B) Kim	C) Dante	D) Vera
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CASE 05

Money went missing from the restaurant safe during a three-hour power outage (8 PM to 11 PM). The safe uses an electronic keypad. Four employees were scheduled: Yuki (manager), Ava (hostess), Marcus (line cook), and Sonia (server). Case file MEDIUM-005.

Q Who took money from the safe?

- The safe's electronic keypad does not function during a power outage.
- The safe has an emergency mechanical key override. Only the manager, Yuki, has this key.
- Ava was at the front desk. The battery-powered CCTV confirms she stayed there from 7:30 PM to 11:30 PM.
- Marcus was reorganizing the walk-in cooler with a flashlight. Another employee saw him there at 9 PM.
- Sonia clocked out at 7:45 PM, before the outage. The battery-backed door log confirms she left.

A) Yuki	B) Ava	C) Marcus	D) Sonia
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CASE 06

A company's backup server was wiped between 10 PM and 10:30 PM. The wipe required physical access to the server room and admin-level credentials. Four employees were still in the building: Aisha (engineering), Derek (security), Tomoko (system admin), and Raj (sales). Case file MEDIUM-006.

Q Who wiped the server?

- Only Aisha and Tomoko have admin-level server credentials.
- Aisha was on a recorded video call with a client from 9:45 PM to 10:20 PM. Her screen was shared the entire time.
- Derek was stationed at the lobby front desk. Lobby camera footage confirms he didn't leave until 10:35 PM.
- Raj claims he was in the parking garage, but the garage key-card log shows no entry between 9 PM and 11 PM.
- Tomoko says she was in the third-floor break room. The break room is next door to the server room.
- The server room door requires a key card. Only admin-credentialed employees have server room access.

Deduction Mysteries

CASE 07

A fragile package was found damaged and wet on the warehouse loading dock at 4 PM. It started raining at 2 PM. Four couriers made deliveries to the dock that day: Clara (11 AM), Ben (1:30 PM), Omar (2:45 PM), and Maria (3:30 PM). Case file MEDIUM-007.

Q Which courier is responsible for the damaged package?

1. The fragile package was dry when it left the sender at 10 AM.
2. Rain started at exactly 2:00 PM and continued through the afternoon.
3. Clara delivered at 11 AM. All her packages were checked in dry and placed in the indoor bay.
4. Ben delivered at 1:30 PM. His delivery log matches the warehouse intake sheet exactly.
5. Omar delivered at 2:45 PM during the rain. He says he left the fragile package under the partially covered awning.
6. Maria arrived at 3:30 PM and says the fragile package was already sitting wet on the exposed part of the dock.

A) Clara	B) Ben	C) Omar	D) Maria
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CASE 08

Someone pulled up the community garden's prize tomato plants overnight Tuesday. The garden is behind a coded gate. Four neighbors had a reason to be near the garden: Helen, Frank, Greta, and Phil. Case file MEDIUM-008.

Q Who uprooted the tomato plants?

1. The garden gate code was changed at Monday morning's HOA meeting. Only attendees received the new code.
2. Helen and Greta both attended Monday's HOA meeting.
3. Frank was on vacation all week. Phil stayed home sick Monday and Tuesday.
4. Helen's personal garden borders the community patch. She's been in the garden competition for three years.
5. Greta has never entered the garden competition and volunteered to water the community patch last month.
6. Soil from the community garden was found on garden gloves in Helen's shed.

CASE 09

At a team dinner, someone over-salted Vera's soup while she was in the restroom. Four people sat near her: Luis (seat 1), Kim (seat 2), Dante (seat 3), and Vera (seat 4). The table is long and narrow. Case file MEDIUM-009.

Q Who over-salted Vera's soup?

1. Vera's soup was at seat 4. The salt shaker sat between seats 3 and 4.
2. Luis was at seat 1, at the far end of the table. He'd have to lean across two people to reach the salt.
3. Kim sat at seat 2. She spent the entire time Vera was away talking to Luis.
4. Dante sat at seat 3, directly next to the salt shaker.
5. Dante and Vera had a disagreement about the team project earlier that day.
6. Kim told investigators she saw Dante reach for something on the table while Vera was gone.

A) Luis	B) Kim	C) Dante	D) Vera
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Answer Key – Deduction Mysteries

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

Case 01 C) Tomoko

- ☒ The server was wiped between 10 PM and 10:30 PM.
 - ☒ Aisha was on a video call with a client from 9:45 to 10:20 PM – her screen was shared and recorded. Cleared.
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Case 02 C) Omar

- ☒ The package labeled 'FRAGILE' was delivered dry, but found wet and damaged at 4 PM.
 - ☒ Clara delivered at 11 AM – well before rain. Her packages were verified dry and indoors.
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Case 03 A) Helen

- ☒ The gate code was changed Monday morning. Only residents who attended Monday's HOA meeting got the new code.
 - ☒ Helen attended the meeting – she has the new code.
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Case 04 C) Dante

- ☒ The extra-salted soup was at seat 4, belonging to Vera.
 - ☒ Vera was seated at seat 4. The salt shaker was between seats 3 and 4.
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Case 05 A) Yuki

- ☒ The power went out from 8 PM to 11 PM. The safe uses an electronic keypad that doesn't work without power.
 - ☒ However, the safe also has an emergency mechanical key override.
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Case 06 C) Tomoko

- ☒ The server was wiped between 10 PM and 10:30 PM.
 - ☒ Aisha was on a video call with a client from 9:45 to 10:20 PM – her screen was shared and recorded. Cleared.
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Case 07 C) Omar

- ☒ The package labeled 'FRAGILE' was delivered dry, but found wet and damaged at 4 PM.
 - ☒ Clara delivered at 11 AM – well before rain. Her packages were verified dry and indoors.
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Case 08 A) Helen

- ☒ The gate code was changed Monday morning. Only residents who attended Monday's HOA meeting got the new code.
 - ☒ Helen attended the meeting – she has the new code.
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Case 09 C) Dante

- ☒ The extra-salted soup was at seat 4, belonging to Vera.
- ☒ Vera was seated at seat 4. The salt shaker was between seats 3 and 4.