

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> July 2020

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To deduce answers from a piece of text

# Activity

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- Read the following mystery and using your deduction skills, can you solve the case?
- Choose a level that you feel most comfortable with:
  - \* Support Sheets
  - \*\* Main Sheets
  - \*\*\* Challenge Sheets

## Whodunnit? The Mystery of the Missing Painting

Detective Dunit walked towards the art gallery. Despite it being the 1<sup>st</sup> June, the sun was hidden behind grey clouds. Earlier that morning, the gallery's manager, Carlos Cabrero, had discovered that a large painting had gone missing overnight. The painting was worth a lot of money so Carlos had called for Dunit's help.

Dunit walked through the door into the impressive gallery. Having no idea which room Carlos was in, they picked up a leaflet from a nearby stand.



Dunit found 'Scenes of Summer' and flipped over the leaflet to look at the map. They found Room 47 and made their way to Floor 4.

Carlos Cabrero was waiting at the unfinished exhibit. He greeted Dunit and pointed at the scene of the crime. The wall opposite the door was empty. "This is where the painting was last night," explained Carlos. "It was going to be revealed next week as part of our 'Scenes of Summer' exhibit."

"Earlier, you said that you have four suspects," said Dunit.

"Yes," replied Carlos. "Our security system keeps a list of everyone who enters and leaves the building. I saw the painting just before I left so I know the rough time that it was taken. There were four people who were in the gallery last night. Three of them are members of the security team. The other is Marlene, the manager of the gift shop."





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"In that case," replied Dunit, "I will speak to them now and ask them what they were doing in the gallery last night."

The first person to be interviewed was the head of security, Simone Serier. "I was in the basement packing up some paintings for another gallery to collect. It's an important job for the head of security – some of these pieces of art are extremely expensive!"

The second person to be interviewed was security guard, Tabitha Turret. "I was busy on Floor 2 all night," she explained. "I was moving paintings and sculptures for one of our upcoming exhibits, 'Jungle Fever'. It opens in a few days' time so there's lots to do."

The third security guard to be interviewed was Darren Davor. "I was on Floor 1 last night," he explained. "Simone and Tabitha told me that they were working on the other floors so I stayed there for my whole shift."

The last person to be interviewed was Marlene McDuff. "I'm so sorry to waste your time, detective," she explained. "I left my handbag in the gift shop when I was working yesterday. I came in to get it last night when the gallery was closed."

After the interviews, Dunit went to find Carlos in his office. "One of these people is lying to me," Dunit announced. "I know who took the painting."

**Who does Dunit suspect and why?**



## Whodunnit? The Mystery of the Missing Painting

Detective Dunit zipped up their coat. Although it was the first day of June, there was a wintry chill in the air. Earlier that morning, Carlos Cabrero – curator of the largest art gallery in town – had discovered that one of the paintings had been taken overnight. The oil painting, which showed a busy beach scene, was worth a large amount of money so Carlos had immediately called for Dunit's help.

Dunit walked into the gallery and was confronted by four large staircases. Having no idea which would lead to Carlos, they picked up a leaflet from a nearby stand.



Dunit found 'Scenes of Summer' and flipped over the leaflet to look at the map. They found Room 47 and made their way up the staircase on the far right.

Carlos Cabrero was waiting at the exhibit. He greeted Dunit with a quick handshake before indicating the scene of the crime. The wall opposite the door was empty. "This is where the painting was last night," explained Carlos. "It was due to be revealed next week as part of our 'Scenes of Summer' collection."

"Earlier, you mentioned that you have four suspects," said Dunit.



"Yes," replied Carlos. "When the gallery is locked, you can only get in using a staff swipe card. Our computer keeps a list of everyone who enters and leaves the building. I saw the painting just before I left so I know roughly when it was taken. There were four people who were in the gallery last night."





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Three of them are members of my security staff and the other is Marlene, the manager of the gift shop. The gift shop was closed at the time so I'm not sure what she was doing inside. They're all waiting in my office."

"In that case," replied Dunit, "I will speak to them now."

The first person to be interviewed was the head of security, Simone Serier. "I was in the basement preparing some paintings for another gallery to collect today. It's not unusual for the head of security to work on those sorts of jobs – some of these pieces of art are worth a lot of money!"

The second person to be interviewed was security guard, Tabitha Turret. "I was busy on Floor 2 all night," she explained. "I was setting up the artwork for our new 'Jungle Fever' exhibit. It opens in a few days' time so there's lots to do."

The third person to be interviewed was Darren Davor: another security guard. "I was on Floor 1 last night," he explained. "Simone and Tabitha told me that they were busy on other floors so I stayed there for my whole shift."

The last person to be interviewed was Marlene McDuff. "I'm so sorry to waste your time, detective," she spluttered. "I left my handbag in the shop when I was working yesterday so I popped back to get it when the gallery was closed. I'm so sorry."

After the interviews, Dunit went to find Carlos in his office. "Good news," Dunit announced. "One of your staff members is lying to me. I know who took the painting."

**Who does Dunit suspect and why?**



## Whodunnit? The Mystery of the Missing Painting

Detective Dunnit pulled their coat up against the harsh wind; despite it being the first day of June, the sun was nowhere to be seen. Dunnit had been called to the art gallery in the centre of town. Earlier that morning, the curator, Carlos Cabrero, had discovered that one of the largest paintings in the gallery had been taken. Rumoured to be worth a significant amount of money, the oil painting depicted a busy beach scene and was due to be unveiled as part of an upcoming exhibit.

Dunnit walked through the main doors and into a magnificent entrance hall. Having no idea which of the four staircases would lead to the exhibit in question, they picked up an information leaflet from a nearby stand.



Dunnit recognised 'Scenes of Summer' as the exhibit that they were due to meet at. Flipping over the leaflet to look at the map, they quickly located Room 47 and made their way up the staircase on the far right.



Carlos Cabrero was evidently flustered. He greeted Dunnit with a quick handshake before rushing them to the scene of the crime. A large space lay empty on the wall opposite the door. "This is where the painting was last night," explained Carlos. "It was due to be unveiled next week as part of our 'Scenes of Summer' collection. Worth a lot of money, too," he added.

"You mentioned on the phone that you have four suspects," said Dunnit.

"Yes," replied Carlos. "When the gallery





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is locked, you can only get in using a staff swipe card. Our system keeps a log of everyone who enters and leaves the building. As I saw the painting just before I left, I know roughly when it was taken. The four people who were in the building at that time are waiting in my office now. Three of them are members of my security staff and the other is Marlene, the manager of the gift shop. The gift shop had been closed for at least an hour when she entered so I'd be interested to hear the reason for her visit."

"In that case," replied Dunnit, "I will speak with each of them now."

The first person to be interviewed was the head of security, Simone Serier. "I assume that you're going to ask where I was last night," she quipped. Dunnit nodded and Simone continued, "I was in the basement preparing a shipment for another gallery to collect today. It's not unusual for the head of security to handle those sorts of jobs – some of these pieces of art are worth more than my house!"

The second person to be interviewed was security guard, Tabitha Turret. "I was busy on Floor 2 all night," she explained. "I was moving portraits into place for our new 'Jungle Fever' exhibit. Everything has to be set up at night when there are no visitors around. It opens in a few days' time so there's lots to do."

The third person to be interviewed was Darren Davor: another security guard. "I was patrolling Floor 1 last night," he explained. "Simone and Tabitha told me that they were busy on other floors so I stayed there for my whole shift. Knowing what happened, I wish that I had been more vigilant."

The last person to be interviewed was Marlene McDuff. "I'm so sorry to waste your time, detective," she spluttered. "I tried explaining to Carlos that I was just coming back to grab my handbag but he was so busy with all of this that he didn't hear me. I popped back into the shop to grab it and left immediately. I'm so sorry."

After the interviews had concluded, Dunnit went to find Carlos in his office. "Good news," Dunnit announced. "One of your staff members is lying to me. I know who took the painting."

**Who does Dunnit suspect and why?**

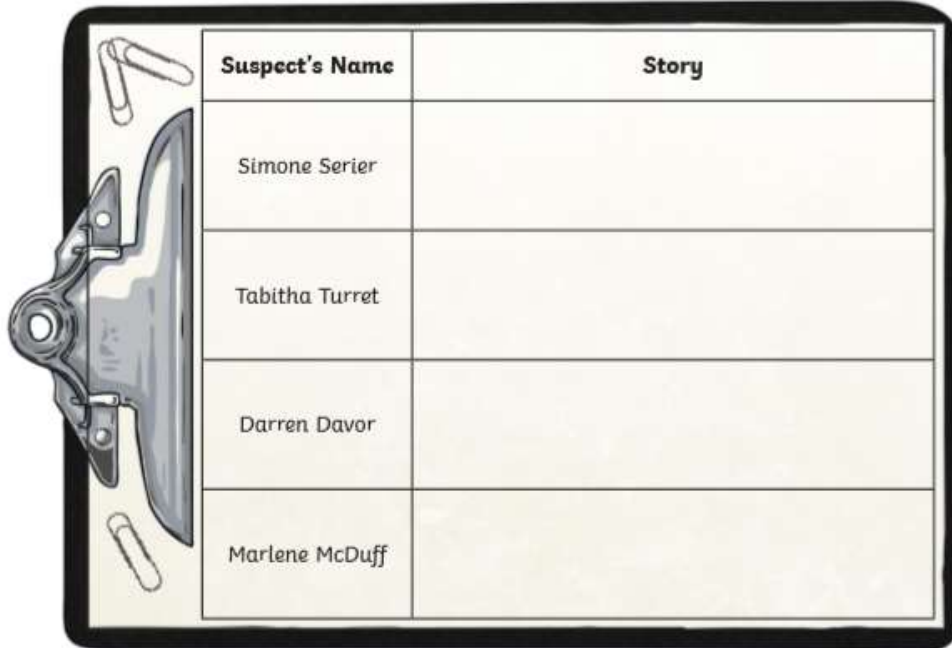




## Whodunnit? The Mystery of the Missing Painting

### Deductions

It's time to step into Detective Dunnit's shoes and solve the case of the missing painting. When you have carefully read through the text, make a note of each person's story in the table below. Think about where they said that they were at the time of the crime and what they said that they were doing.



Suspect's Name	Story
Simone Serier	
Tabitha Turret	
Darren Davor	
Marlene McDuff	

Who do you think took the painting? Tick one.

- Simone Serier     Tabitha Turret     Darren Davor     Marlene McDuff

Explain your choice.

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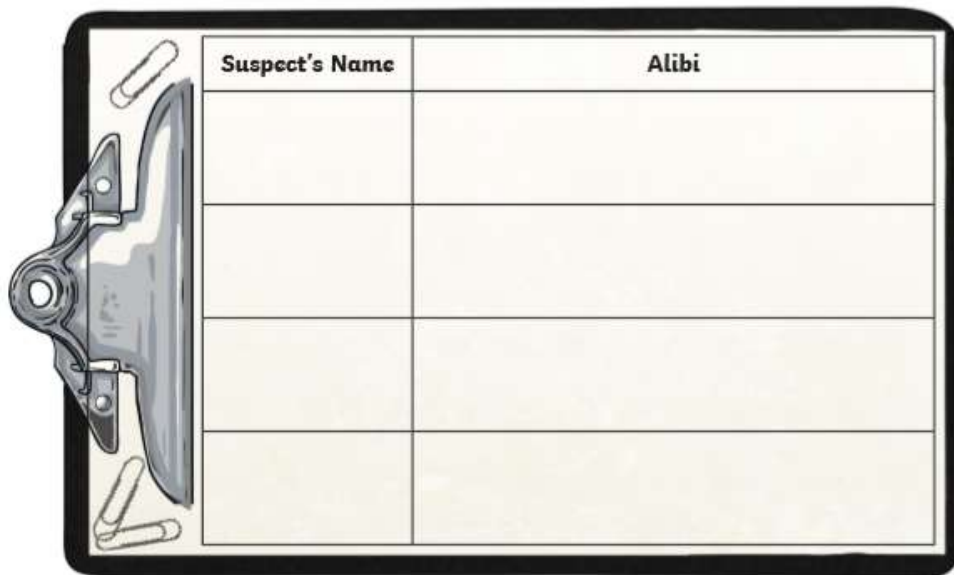
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# Whodunnit? The Mystery of the Missing Painting

## Deductions

It's time to step into Detective Dunnit's shoes and solve the case of the missing painting. When you have read through the text, make a note of each suspect in the table below. Then, make a note of their alibi. Think about where they said that they were at the time of the crime and what they said that they were doing.



Suspect's Name	Alibi

Who do you think took the painting?

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Fully explain your deduction.

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### Glossary

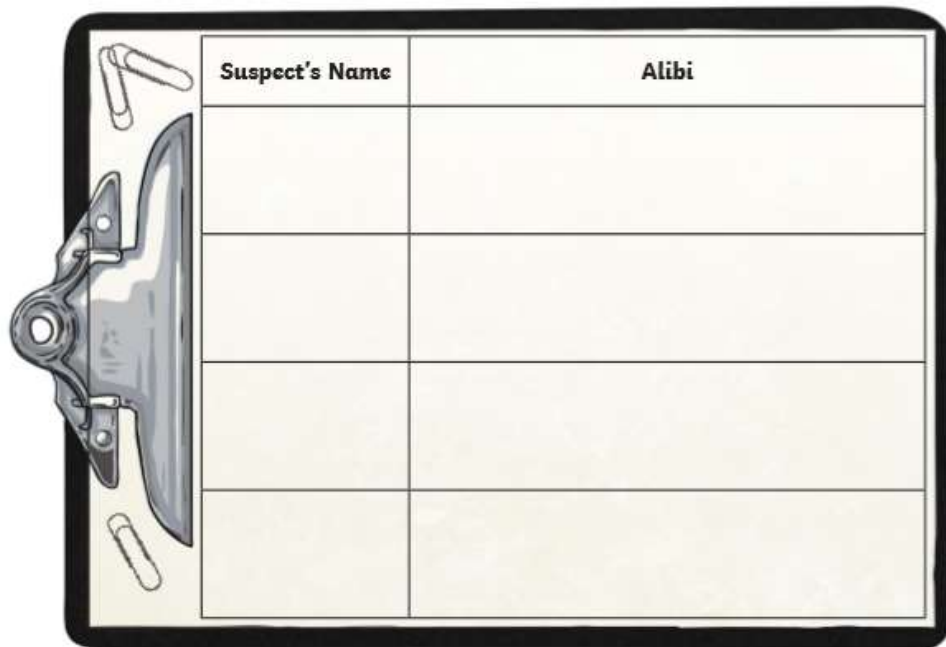
**alibi:** A reason given as to why someone was elsewhere when a criminal act was taking place.



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### Deductions

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Suspect's Name	Alibi

Who do you think took the painting?

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Fully explain your deduction using evidence from the text.

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