

Name _____

Date _____

Internet Dating Thief

Objective: You will use reasoning to decide who committed the theft.

Background Information

The superintendent of the Old Post Farm Condominium Complex found the unconscious body of 32 year old resident Chase Smith in his condo on Friday, April 10, at 7:45pm. He was found lying face down on the floor. A wound to his head was bleeding and the corner of the table was streaked with blood. He was rushed to a nearby hospital where he was treated for a concussion and high blood levels of the compound ketamine. Ketamine is an anesthetic drug often used in veterinary medicine. He suffered from amnesia (loss of memory) thought to be due to the blow to his head. The police were contacted and an investigation of his condo found the following:

- The dining room table was set for two and included partially eaten shrimp scampi, salad, and chocolate chip pecan pie.
- An open bottle of red wine and two partially-filled glasses of wine were on the table.
- One of the wine glasses had a smudge of pink lipstick on the rim.
- A recently smoked cigarette butt was in the ashtray in the living room.
- A wall safe had been broken into and emptied of its contents
- Mr. Smith's Himalayan cat, Max, was found hiding under the couch.
- Muddy footprints along the sidewalk leading to Mr. Smith's condo were those of a female, size 6.
- Mr. Smith's car was not in its assigned parking spot and the keys could not be located in the condo.
- Later that night, Mr. Smith's car was found abandoned in an empty parking lot in downtown Tyrone.

Neighbors reported that Mr. Smith frequented an internet dating site called chemistry.com. After reviewing emails and online chat rooms, it was discovered that Mr. Smith was dating six women who live in or near Tyrone. The women's names are Rachel, Lonna, Gretl, Jackie, Emma, and Payton. Investigators believe that one of the women was responsible for the theft.

Procedure

1. After reading the background information, sketch a picture of the crime scene.
2. Read the special notes below gathered by the police during their investigation.
Fill in the data table with important information to include or exclude the suspect.
3. Special notes gathered by the police investigation
 - Jackie works full time as a makeup artist
 - Emma and Gretl are school teachers
 - Payton and Emma live together in a two bedroom apartment in downtown Tyrone
 - Gretl lives in the nearby town of Alexandria
 - Rachel lives in a duplex 3 miles west of Tyrone
 - Emma and Jackie are petite women. They are under 5 feet tall.
 - Gretl and Jackie are non-smokers.
 - Jackie works part time as a pilates instructor at a health club in Altoona, a town 20 minutes from Tyrone. She teaches a class at 8pm, and has never been late to class.
 - Payton is severely allergic to grapes
 - Payton doesn't wear lipstick
 - Gretl attends Jackie's pilates class. She hasn't missed a Friday night since class started.
 - Lonna works as a veterinarian assistant
 - Rachel's father is a veterinarian
 - Lonna is severely allergic to cats
 - Rachel is a psychologist
 - Rachel doesn't wear lipstick
 - Jackie and Emma have never met
 - Jackie and Gretl hate shellfish
 - Lonna played center for a professional women's basketball team. She is 6 feet 2 inches tall.

Sketch of crime scene (use evidence from background information)

Data Table 1 Evidence from Notes Gathered from the Investigation

Suspect	Evidence to prove guilt (include)	Evidence to prove innocence (exclude)
Rachel		
Lonna		
Gretl		
Jackie		
Payton		
Emma		

Questions

1. Who do you think committed the theft?
2. How do you think Mr. Smith got the wound on his head?
3. Do you think the thief worked alone? If not, who helped?
4. What could Mr. Smith do differently on his next date to avoid getting robbed?
5. What precautions could Mr. Smith take on the internet to make his online dating experience safer?
6. Write a paragraph or two describing the story you believed happened on the night of the theft.