

A FREE CASE FILE

A clock. A key. An impossible alibi.

The clock that never rang

Settle in with a pencil. Everything you need is inside the case. Use the hint if you need a nudge, then turn to the separate solution when you are ready.

02 / Your case and a small hint

03 / The solution, with the reasoning

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The clock that never rang

ALLOW ABOUT 2 MINUTES

At nine, a museum key vanished. Three visitors gave statements. One statement contradicts a fact in the maintenance log. Can you find it?

01 A power cut lasted from 8:57 until 9:06 that evening.

02 The hall's electric clock can chime only with mains power. It has no battery or mechanical backup.

03 All three visitors refer to that same hall clock and that same evening.

04 Iris: 'I waited in the courtyard at nine.'

05 Tomas: 'I heard the hall clock chime nine during the power cut.'

06 Mei: 'I used my torch to read the guest book.'

Whose statement cannot be true?

Iris / Tomas / Mei

YOUR NOTES

A little hint: Compare the outage times with the clock's power source.

The clock that never rang

A GENTLE HINT

Compare the outage times with the clock's power source.

Tomas

01 Tomas's statement is impossible. Nine falls inside the power cut, and this clock cannot chime without mains power. Nothing in the clues contradicts Iris or Mei. This identifies a false statement; it does not prove who took the key.

The useful habit: test your answer against every clue, including the ones you did not use to find it.