# Lesson 86: A perfect alibi.

A perfect alibi.

What was wrong with the man's story?

“At the time the murder was committed, I was travelling on the 8 o'clock train to London," said the man.

“Do you always catch such an early train?" asked the inspector.

“Of course I do," answered the man.

I must be at work at 10 o'clock.

My employer will confirm that I was there on time.

“Would a later train get you to work on time?" asked the inspector.

“I suggest you are not telling the truth." “I suppose it would, but I never catch a later train.” “At what time did you arrive at the station?" “At ten to eight.

I bought a paper and waited for the train.” “And you didn't notice anything unusual?" “Of course not." “I suggest," said the inspector, that you are not telling the truth.

I suggest that you did not catch the 8 o'clock train but that you caught the 8.25, which would still get you to work on time.

You see, on the morning of the murder, the 8 o'clock train did not run at all.

It broke down at Ferngreen station and was taken off the line. At the time of the murder, the man claimed that he had been traveling on the 8 o'clock train to London and had arrived at work on time.

When the inspector asked if a later train would get him to work on time, the man agreed it would but said that he always traveled early.

The inspector suggested that he was lying because, that morning, the 8 o'clock train broke down, so the man must have caught the 8.25.

"I'm sorry.”

I was mistaken.

“I remember now that I caught the later train, as the 8 o'clock train did not come at the usual time," said the man.

“Did you notice anything unusual?" asked the inspector.

“I don't think it's unusual for a train to be late,” answered the man.

“Then how did you spend the time?" asked the inspector.

“I just waited on the platform for 25 minutes, reading a newspaper.” “It suggests," said the inspector, “that you are lying again.”

A neighbor, one of the witnesses, saw you leave the house at 8.15, just after the murder, so you are the one to be suspected.

Now come to the police station with us. Finally, the man was proven to be the murderer and was arrested.

The man said that he was traveling on the 8 o'clock train to London at the time the murder was committed.

The inspector asked him if he always caught such an early train.

The man said that he did because he had to be at work at 10 o'clock and that his employer would confirm that he was there on time.

The inspector then asked him if a later train would get him to work on time.

The man supposed that it would, but said that he never caught a later train.

The inspector asked at what time he had arrived at the station.

The man said that he had arrived at the station at ten to eight.

He added that he had bought a paper and waited for the train.

When the inspector asked him if he had noticed anything unusual, the man said he hadn't.

The inspector suggested that he was not telling the truth and that he did not catch the eight o'clock train but caught the eight twenty-five, which would still get him to work on time.

The inspector pointed out that on the morning of the murder, the eight train did not run at all, as it had broken down at Ferngreen station and had been taken off the line.

The man thought his alibi was perfect because he arrived at work on time.

The 8 o'clock train broke down that morning, so the inspector knew the man was lying.

He was traveling to London.

He works in London.

He catches an early train.

He always does it every day.

The man wasn't telling the truth.

He was telling a lie.

He didn't catch the train that leaves at 8 o'clock.

It broke down, so the man couldn't have caught it.

“Of course I do," the man replied.

My employer will certify that I was there on time.

He didn't notice anything unusual.

He didn't notice anything out of the ordinary.

“And you didn't notice anything unusual? Certainly not."

He didn't catch the 8 o'clock train.

He missed it.

I suggest that you are not telling the truth.