

In Part 2 of the story, Malone explains how he solved the crime. Before you read or listen to what he says, here is your chance to be a good detective.

Read Part 1 of the story again. See if you can find answers to the following questions; they will help you to find the thief.

- 1 Do you think John Howard had a motive for stealing the designs himself? Explain your answer.
- 2 Did the thief open more than one envelope? What does this tell you?
- 3 Did someone really break into the office? How can the glass from the broken window help you to answer this?
- 4 How many people knew which envelope the new designs were in? How many people had keys to the office? How many people knew the combination to the office safe?

So who do you think stole the designs?

Now read or listen to Part 2 and find out how Malone solved the crime. Were you right?

Part 2

'If you want to be a good detective, you have to be able to recognize important facts when you see them. You also have to be able to make correct deductions from these facts. In the case of the stolen computer designs, it didn't take me long to deduce who the thief was.'

'What were the important facts of the case? The first thing I noticed was that the glass from the broken window was *outside* the office. So the thief must have broken the window from *inside* the room. The office hadn't been broken into at all. The person who stole the designs must have had a key to the room. Whoever it was had simply broken the window to make it look like someone had broken in. Also, the safe hadn't been forced open, so the thief must have known the combination. Now, only three people had a key to the office and knew the combination to the safe: John Howard, Gerald Wilson and Linda Perkins. Therefore, I knew that one of them must have stolen the designs.'

'Another important fact was that a number of the envelopes in the safe had been opened, although only the designs had been stolen. So whoever the thief was can't have been sure which envelope contained the designs. I knew therefore that it couldn't have been John Howard or Gerald Wilson because they both knew which envelope the designs were in. And that meant only one thing: Mr Howard's personal secretary, Miss Linda Perkins, must have stolen the designs!'

'It didn't take long to search Miss Perkins' flat and find the stolen designs hidden there. And it took only a few minutes more to get a full confession from Miss Perkins.'

D Notice how we can express certainty and impossibility in deductions about the past:

Certainty	Impossibility
<i>must have + past participle</i>	<i>can't/couldn't have + past participle</i>

Write down the examples from Part 2 of Malone's story under these two headings. Include the **reason** for each deduction.

Example

Certainty

The thief must have broken the window from inside the office because the broken glass was outside the room.

E Now make more deductions. Answer the questions in box A. Use *must have . . .* or *can't/couldn't have . . .* and a reason from box B.

Example

- 1 *She can't have been at home at nine o'clock that night because John Howard rang her at nine and there was no reply.*

A

- (1) Was Linda Perkins at home at nine o'clock that night?
- (2) Was someone in her flat at ten o'clock?
- (3) Did she drive back to the office after work that evening?
- (4) Did she go back to the office by taxi?
- (5) Did she wear gloves when she opened the safe?
- (6) Was she nervous when Malone started questioning her?

B

There was a taxi strike that evening.

Her fingerprints weren't found on the safe.

She was shaking like a leaf.

John Howard rang her again at ten and the line was engaged.

Her car was outside her flat all evening.

John Howard rang her at nine and there was no reply.

