

Writing Activity: Investigating the Clues

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Investigation Notes	Suspect 1 _____	Suspect 2 _____	Suspect 3 _____
Evaluation of Suspect			

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Directions: In most mysteries, more than one person is a suspect in the crime. Select one story from this cluster and investigate the suspects in the story. Investigate by listing each suspect's alibi, possible motive for the crime, opportunity, and the facts of the case. Write a summary of your investigation, citing evidence of both the guilt and innocence of your suspects.

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Use the organizer on the following screens to record your observations about each suspect. In the first row, fill in the name of each suspect. Use the last row to record your own opinion of that suspect.

Story _____

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Investigation Notes	Suspect 1 _____	Suspect 2 _____	Suspect 3 _____
Possible Motive			

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Investigation Notes	Suspect 1 _____	Suspect 2 _____	Suspect 3 _____
Alibi			

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Investigation Notes	Suspect 1 _____	Suspect 2 _____	Suspect 3 _____
Opportunity			

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Investigation Notes	Suspect 1 _____	Suspect 2 _____	Suspect 3 _____
Related Facts			

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Use your evaluations to write a summary report explaining your conclusions. Remember, a strong summary

- provides an overview of the topic
- highlights important information
- restates the information in your own words