

# Your Instant Detective Game

**Number of Players:** 4

**Total Printed Pages:** 8

The last 1 page will be cards.

**Date Created:** October 18, 2016



## Getting Ready to Play:

- **Do not look at any other pages** except the first 2 pages, which are the instructions you are reading now. Put the rest of the printed pages face-down in a pile.
- (as noted in the header) The last one or a few pages are cards (now on top of the face down pile of pages). Look at these pages now, and as you do, remember which corner of the pile of page is the top-left corner (of the front of the page).
- Cut each page of cards in half, so there is a left half and a right half, which are the same. Each player in the game gets one half. It is not necessary to separate the individual cards. The second page of the printed document (now on the bottom of the pile) is also an identical page of cards. It is printed as the second page only to help protect the private information on the third page. So now each player has 1 strip of cards.
- Next, carefully lift the top-left corner of the next page on top of the pile. Just peel back that corner until you can see the player's name. Your name is the very first word printed on the top-left, when you look at your page of clues. This page of clues is top-secret information only for this one player to see! In this way, make sure each player gets his or her own page of clues, and not to let the other players see. A player may look at his or her own clues as soon as they get them.
- Each player will need a pencil or pen.

## How to Play (read aloud to everyone):

- When the game begins, all players should split up around the house or area that is designated for the game, and engage in short private meetings with the other players. As a player, you want to meet up with another player, and trade some, but not all, of your clues. It works like this:
  - Two players meet up in private, or they agree to meet, and head off to a place where they will not be overheard. If the game has from 10-14 players, then three players may meet together, 15-19 then four may meet, and 20 or more then five may meet.
  - First, the players must agree upon how many questions they will each get to ask. This can be 1, 2 or 3 questions. Each player can not ask more than 3 questions.
  - Ask each question, by reading aloud from any of your cards, and filling in each blank with either a Time, a Place, or a Person, as specified on the card. Two example questions: (1) Where were you at 8 O'clock? (2) Do you know if anyone was at the **Arcade** last night? If you are meeting with more than two people, you must direct your question at one specific person.
  - When you are asked a question, ***you should only answer the question with the information you started the game with.*** You should not reveal any information you have gathered by asking questions of other players. In other words, only reveal the information that was printed on you page of clues by the printer.
  - You must give an honest and accurate answer to the question, and not attempt to mislead anyone during the game. In fact, It is very important to make double sure you are giving the correct

information. This means you can trust the information you get from the other players, and the game will be fun and fair for everyone.

- After the players in the meeting have each asked their equal number of questions, and everyone has made notes of the new information gained, the meeting is over. Each player will then want to seek out another meeting with DIFFERENT players.
- It is necessary and normal to meet with the same person more than once during the game, and ask more questions. However, you may not meet with the same person twice in a row, without meeting someone else in between.
- Evesdropping on someone else's meeting, or spying on someone's clue sheet is not allowed (unless the players agree beforehand it shall be allowed).
- The game continues in this manner, until one player declares that she or he has solved the case. In order to do so, you must be able to answer these three questions:
  - Where was the **crime committed** and what time? (you need to know both the Location and Time)
  - Where did the criminal **stash the loot**, and what time? (you need to know both the Location and Time)
  - Where did the criminal **hide out**, and what time? (you need to know both the Location and Time)
- Since none of the players are suspects in the crime, and actually all have excellent alibis, If you are a good detective, you can solve the crime by filling out missing information on your clue sheet (by adding more letters and Xs to the empty squares). If you gain enough information about what everyone saw and did between 5pm and 9pm, you will find there are 3 locations (at 3 different times) on your chart which nobody knows anything about!
- It is known that the criminal committed the crime at a certain location and time. Then, an hour or more later, he stashed the loot at a different location, and then also at least 1 hour after that, he hid out at some third location.
- If you think you can solve the crime, you should declare it out loud. All of the players should gather together. Then you begin answering the three questions (above) in order, pausing after each one. If any player has (printed) evidence that your solution is wrong, he or she must declare it, and the game will continue. However, the same player may not attempt to solve the crime twice in a row, and so may not try again yet. If nobody has evidence that the crime did not happen the way you say, then you are correct and have won the game.

#### Optional Rules and Variations:

- IDG with Cards - Each player separates the individual cards, and when you ask a question, you must give that card to the other player. When that other player asks the same number of questions back, he or she must also give you the cards. However, if you each ask each other different questions, you won't get the same cards back. This variation adds more strategy for groups of players who have mastered the game, or for games with (older) kids who want to strategize more.
- Scheduled Breaks - After each 15 minutes of game time, there is a required 5 minute break, where no meetings are allowed. The kids can use this 'desk time' to organize their notes and strategy.

**Where were you at (time) \_\_\_\_ O'Clock last night?**

You do not have to tell if you saw anyone there.

**Where were you at (time) \_\_\_\_ O'Clock last night?**

You do not have to tell if you saw anyone there.

**Did you know if anyone went into, or was at (location) \_\_\_\_\_ at (time) \_\_\_\_ O'Clock last night?**

You must also tell me if you know that nobody was there.

**Did you know if anyone went into, or was at (location) \_\_\_\_\_ at (time) \_\_\_\_ O'Clock last night?**

You must also tell me if you know that nobody was there.

**Tell me about any vacant places, where you know that nobody was, at (time) \_\_\_\_ O'Clock last night.**

**Tell me about any vacant places, where you know that nobody was, at (time) \_\_\_\_ O'Clock last night.**

**Tell me everyone you saw at (time) \_\_\_\_ O'Clock, and where they were.**

Do not tell where you were, only who you saw.

**Tell me everyone you saw at (time) \_\_\_\_ O'Clock, and where they were.**

Do not tell where you were, only who you saw.

**Tell me everything you know about (location) \_\_\_\_\_ , at all times during the night.**

You should also include if you know nobody was there, at some time.

**Tell me everything you know about (location) \_\_\_\_\_ , at all times during the night.**

You should also include if you know nobody was there, at some time.

**One** (Professor)  
for Your Eyes Only

Your Personal Clues

**List of Witnesses**

(A) One (C) Three

(B) Two (D) Four

(X) nobody

<b>5 PM</b>	At 5 O'clock you were at the School. There was nobody else at the School at 5 O'clock.
<b>6 PM</b>	At 6 O'clock you were at the Library. There was nobody else at the Library at 6 O'clock. You saw Professor One go into the Library at 6 O'clock.
<b>7 PM</b>	At 7 O'clock you were at the Arcade. You saw Chief Two at the Arcade at 7 O'clock. You know that nobody was at the School at 7 O'clock.
<b>8 PM</b>	At 8 O'clock you were at the Gym. You saw Inspector Four at the Gym at 8 O'clock. You also saw Chief Two go into the Library at 8 O'clock.
<b>9 PM</b>	At 9 O'clock you were at the Arcade. You saw Reporter Three at the Arcade at 9 O'clock. You know that nobody was at the Library at 9 O'clock.

	Gym	Library	Cafe	Arcade	School
<b>5 PM</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> me <input type="checkbox"/> X
<b>6 PM</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> me <input type="checkbox"/> X	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>7 PM</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> me <input type="checkbox"/> B	<input type="checkbox"/> X <input type="checkbox"/> X
<b>8 PM</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> me <input type="checkbox"/> D	<input type="checkbox"/> me <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>9 PM</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> X <input type="checkbox"/> X	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> me <input type="checkbox"/> C	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>

**Two** (Chief)  
for Your Eyes Only

Your Personal Clues

**List of Witnesses**

(A) One (C) Three

(B) Two (D) Four

(X) nobody

<b>5 PM</b>	At 5 O'clock you were at the Gym. You saw Inspector Four at the Gym at 5 O'clock. You know that nobody was at the Cafe at 5 O'clock.
<b>6 PM</b>	At 6 O'clock you were at the School. There was nobody else at the School at 6 O'clock.
<b>7 PM</b>	At 7 O'clock you were at the Arcade. You saw Professor One at the Arcade at 7 O'clock.
<b>8 PM</b>	At 8 O'clock you were at the Library. You saw Reporter Three at the Library at 8 O'clock. You know that nobody was at the Arcade at 8 O'clock.
<b>9 PM</b>	At 9 O'clock you were at the School. There was nobody else at the School at 9 O'clock. You saw Chief Two go into the School at 9 O'clock.

	Gym	Library	Cafe	Arcade	School
<b>5 PM</b>	me D	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	X X	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>6 PM</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	me X
<b>7 PM</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	me A	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>8 PM</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	me C	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	X X	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>9 PM</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	me X

**Three** (Reporter)  
for Your Eyes Only

Your Personal Clues

**List of Witnesses**

- (A) One (C) Three
- (B) Two (D) Four
- (X) nobody

<b>5 PM</b>	At 5 O`clock you were at the Arcade. There was nobody else at the Arcade at 5 O`clock.
<b>6 PM</b>	At 6 O`clock you were at the Cafe. You saw Inspector Four at the Cafe at 6 O`clock. You know that nobody was at the Gym at 6 O`clock.
<b>7 PM</b>	At 7 O`clock you were at the Cafe. There was nobody else at the Cafe at 7 O`clock. You saw Reporter Three go into the Cafe at 7 O`clock. You know that nobody was at the Gym at 7 O`clock.
<b>8 PM</b>	At 8 O`clock you were at the Library. You saw Chief Two at the Library at 8 O`clock. You also saw Professor One go to the Gym at 8 O`clock.
<b>9 PM</b>	At 9 O`clock you were at the Arcade. You saw Professor One at the Arcade at 9 O`clock.

	Gym	Library	Cafe	Arcade	School
<b>5 PM</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	me X	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>6 PM</b>	X X	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	me D	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>7 PM</b>	X X	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	me X	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>8 PM</b>	D <input type="checkbox"/>	me B	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>9 PM</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	me A	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>

**Four** (Inspector)  
for Your Eyes Only

Your Personal Clues

**List of Witnesses**

- (A) One (C) Three  
(B) Two (D) Four  
(X) nobody

<b>5 PM</b>	At 5 O`clock you were at the Gym.You saw Chief Two at the Gym at 5 O`clock.
<b>6 PM</b>	At 6 O`clock you were at the Cafe.You saw Reporter Three at the Cafe at 6 O`clock.
<b>7 PM</b>	At 7 O`clock you were at the Library.There was nobody else at the Library at 7 O`clock. You saw Inspector Four go into the Library at 7 O`clock.
<b>8 PM</b>	At 8 O`clock you were at the Gym.You saw Professor One at the Gym at 8 O`clock. You know that nobody was at the School at 8 O`clock. You know that nobody was at the Cafe at 8 O`clock.
<b>9 PM</b>	At 9 O`clock you were at the Gym.There was nobody else at the Gym at 9 O`clock.

	Gym	Library	Cafe	Arcade	School
<b>5 PM</b>	me B	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>6 PM</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	me C	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>7 PM</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	me X	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>8 PM</b>	me A	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	X X	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	X X
<b>9 PM</b>	me X	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>

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You must also tell me if you know that nobody was there.

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