

Notes and answers for teachers.

The 5 clues for this murder mystery were made using a free programme called Tarsia. This is an easy-to-download programme which is popular with Secondary School Maths teachers but can be used for other subjects and in Primary schools as well. Children match up pairs or answers to questions. A geometric shape is formed and the clue is read anti-clockwise on the outside of the shape starting with an underlined word.

I have included the clues in pdf format. In order to avoid the classroom nightmare of hundreds of jigsaw pieces from different clues all mixed up, I would strongly suggest that different coloured paper is used when photocopying the clues. Clues 1 & 4 could be copied onto white paper. They have different shaped pieces. Clues 2 & 5 could be copied onto a second colour (yellow?). Clue 3 should be copied onto a third colour (pale blue?).

This sort of activity is often done by pairs or groups. Each pair or group only needs one clue at a time. As soon as the clue answer has been written down, the pieces can be scrambled ready for another group.

Clue	Shape of jigsaw	testing	answer
1	Triangle	Jobs	The murderer wears expensive designer glasses preferring them to contact lenses.
2	Rhombus	Time There are 2 levels. 2A has simpler 12hr times, 2AA has harder times some using the 24 hour clock– both give the same answer.	The killer does not have the latest Samsung but owns an iPhone.
3	Hexagon	French for foods	The home town of the killer is definitely not on the coast.
4	Rectangle	House vocabulary	The killer's favourite fruit has just one stone in each fruit and no more.
5	Square	Common phrases	The killer has recently visited her hair stylist and loves her glossy long not short hair.

The pieces for clues 1, 2 & 3 are equilateral triangles and for clues 4 & 5 squares. If you are really keen, the puzzles can be laminated.

The suspects list should be printed landscape and can be photocopied back to back with the story.

For clue 3 you could put a simple map of France on the board or provide atlases to enable pupils to find out which French towns are on the coast.

In applying clue 4 to the suspects list, knowledge of fruit vocabulary is tested.

The killer is **Celine Beaumont**

Tarsia download (not needed for this exercise):

http://www.mmlsoft.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=11&Itemid=12