

Solution for 4.1 Sleuth (Answer = BILJARTKAMER)

(Solution by Andrew Kwok)

NOTE: At no point in this solution are you actually required to translate the languages into English. As a sleuth, it is up to you to determine what information is important and find ways of gaining that information. Irrelevant information was deliberately included in the puzzle for this purpose. Hence teams that were willing to persist (a little) without immediately attempting to translate the entire thing, wouldn't have had too much trouble with the puzzle, despite its intimidating appearance.

The first thing to identify is the reference to the game Cluedo, which has 6 suspects, 9 rooms and 6 weapons.

There seem to be more than 6 names mentioned, which are dependent on language.

At this stage, you should be thinking of finding a correspondance between these

characters by searching online. A quick perusal should lead you to the site

www.cluedofan.com/foreign.html

From the tables, you can quickly identify the nationalities of the characters.

Moreover, you should be able to determine the following clues provided by the suspects

by simply searching through the text for mentions of suspects, rooms and weapons.

CANDLESTICK DINING ROOM
WHITE LIBRARY
PLUM ROPE
PLUM BALLROOM
PEACOCK BILLIARDS ROOM
SCARLET KNIFE
PEACOCK CANDLESTICK
GREEN STUDY
WRENCH CONSERVATORY
WHITE WRENCH
REVOLVER LIBRARY
GREEN LEAD PIPE

Also, we can eliminate the identities of suspects by the names they refer to.

The following lists the identities each person cannot be.

CHINESE - White, Peacock, Plum, Green
DUTCH - Peacock, White, Green, Mustard
FRENCH - Mustard, Scarlet, Green, White
GERMAN - Scarlet, Peacock, Plum, Mustard
ITALIAN - White, Mustard, Scarlet, Green
JAPANESE - Plum, Peacock, Scarlet

From this we conclude that

DUTCH = Scarlet
CHINESE = Mustard

{FRENCH, ITALIAN} = {Plum, Peacock}
{JAPANESE, GERMAN} = {Green, White}

Since the English host notes that

- one person is lying
- each person was in exactly one of the rooms (like in the real game)
- he is still able to determine exactly what happened

we can soon determine that the one lying must be Scarlet.

In this case, we can determine which person was in which room with which weapon.

Scarlet Knife BILLIARDS ROOM
Peacock Candlestick Dining Room
White Revolver Library
Mustard Wrench Conservatory
Green Lead Pipe Study
Plum Rope Ballroom

The missing detail, which the others don't mention, is that Scarlet was in the Billiards Room.

This is the required answer, as the English host mentions

"Tell us the exact details, in your own words, especially the one I alluded to earlier."

which refers to

"Even though the rest of you did not provide the full details of what the culprit did, I still know what happened."

Since the host asks the liar to confess, naturally Scarlet would say Billiards Room in her own language, biljartkamer, which is actually mentioned in the puzzle!