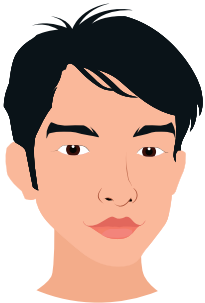


Read the case below to find evidence to identify the innocent and guilty suspects.
Remember, the story and suspects' statements are true.

The Boat Thief

¹On Friday afternoon, one of the four suspects below stole a dark blue and black speed boat on a trailer from the parking lot next to O'Neil Street at Godinez Lake. ²The owner had parked and left it there with a for-sale sign at 1 p.m. ³He returned to show someone the boat at 3 p.m. and discovered that it had been stolen. ⁴The police found the stolen boat and trailer parked on Gray Street, between Tate Street and Slyter Street. ⁵The boat was not connected to a vehicle, but there were four men standing around it. ⁶A witness said she was certain that one of the four men around the boat dropped it off. ⁷Police questioned the four men who gave the statements below. ⁸None of the men knew each other or the boat owner. ⁹After listening to the statements, police arrested one of the suspects, who confessed to stealing the boat without anyone's help.



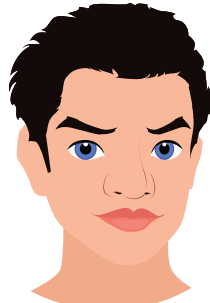
Dave Taft

¹⁰I saw the boat on the trailer at 1:30 p.m. ¹¹I then drove the short distance to my red home on McDonald Street across from the Keaten Building. ¹²I didn't leave my house until I walked to Gray Street and talked to the police.



Tom Zomerschoe

¹³I saw the boat in the parking lot, but I hate boating. ¹⁴When I left the lake, I drove down O'Neil, Slyter, Gray, Tate, Abbey, and McDonald streets. ¹⁵After I got to my home in the Baker Building, I walked north back to Gray Street.



Matt Goucher

¹⁶I was at the lake this afternoon. ¹⁷The only thing I pulled with my car today was my new boat. ¹⁸I parked my boat in front of the August Building. ¹⁹After that, the only time I was north of Slyter Street was when I was walking.

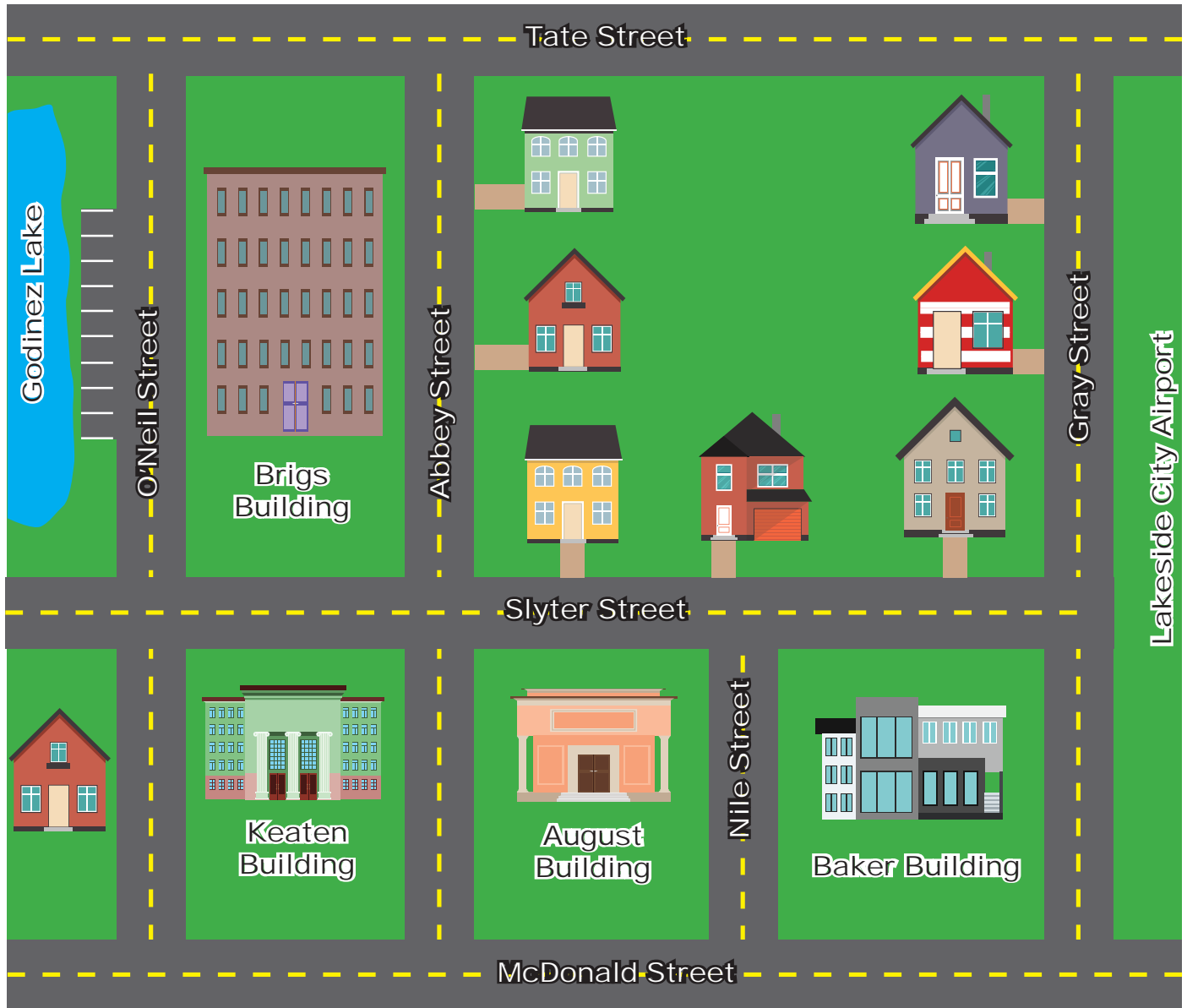
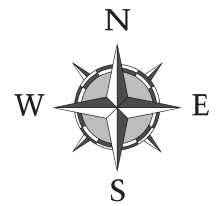


Ron Crowder

²⁰I only towed one boat today. ²¹It was light blue and black, and I parked it on Gray Street in front of another boat. ²²Next, I started comparing the two boats, and that is when the police showed up.

Circle the Boat Thief.

The Boat Thief



Answers

The Boat Thief (pages 6-7)



Dave Taft



Tom Zomerschoe



Matt Goucher



Ron Crowder

The Innocent

Dave Taft: In sentence 4, we learn that the stolen boat was found parked on Gray Street. Sentence 11 tells us that Taft left the lake and drove the shortest distance to his home on McDonald Street across from the Keaten Building. The shortest driving route to Taft's home would not take him to Gray Street where the boat was found. In sentence 12, Taft tells us that once he got home, he did not leave his home until he walked to Gray Street and talked to the police. In sentence 9, we learn that the thief confessed to stealing the boat without anyone's help. This proves Dave Taft is innocent.

Matt Goucher: In sentence 4, we learn that the stolen boat was found parked on Gray Street. In sentence 19, we learn that Goucher never drove north of Slyter Street the day of the theft. In sentence 9, we learn that the thief confessed to stealing the boat without anyone's help. This proves Matt Goucher is innocent.

Ron Crowder: In sentence 1, we learn that the stolen boat is dark blue and black. In sentence 20, we learn that Crowder only towed one boat today. In sentence 21, we learn that the boat he towed was light blue and black. This proves Ron Crowder is innocent.

The Boat Thief

Tom Zomerschoe is the boat thief because the other suspects can be proven innocent and sentence 9 tells us that the thief was one of the four suspects. In addition to this evidence, sentence 14 tells us that Zomerschoe drove down Gray Street after leaving the lake.

Note: In sentence 13, Zomerschoe tells police that he hates boating, but that does not prove he didn't steal the boat. He might hate boating but stole the boat so he could sell it or trade it for something.