Mrs. Diana Dogge, Dr. C. D. Spaniel, and Owen Rottweiler were having tea on the Dogge patio and examining some diamonds that Mr. Rottweiler was showing in the hope of selling. The diamonds were on the small, dark platter near the center of the table when someone inside the house yelled “Fire!” and the three fled the patio. The fire, which had been set, damaged a curtain but was easily extinguished, and it was not determined who had given the alarm. When the trio returned, the diamonds were gone.

When the trio was questioned, all of them gave similar answers to the effect that at the alarm they had jumped up and ran into the house and that no one had noticed what the others did.
DIRECTIONS: Your group is an investigative team that must determine who most likely stole the diamonds.

1. Find all the evidence you can that indicates who most likely stole the diamonds. Make a list of all the evidence. Evidence includes concrete, observable information; personal testimony; written documents; and material objects and their condition or appearance.

2. Next write a warrant for each piece of evidence: explain how the evidence supports your claim. Each explanation will be a generally accepted rule, which may begin with a phrase such as, “As a rule…” If other members of your team disagree with you, find evidence that will convince them.

3. Be prepared to explain why your evidence supports your case.

4. Using your three strongest pieces of evidence, write a forensic report that makes your case.

CONSIDER:

- Where did Mrs. Dogge sit?
- Where did the doctor sit?
- Where did Mr. Rottweiler sit?
- Was the doctor nervous?
- Does Mrs. Dogge’s wealth eliminate her as a suspect?
- Had all three people left the table after making similar movements?
- Who most likely stole the diamonds?