

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.

I have included the clues in pdf format for those without Tarsia. The pieces of each jigsaw puzzle have a reverse side with the clue number on it. However, it is beyond my photocopying skills to produce perfect pieces with the edges for the front and back of each piece lined up exactly.

In order to avoid the classroom nightmare of hundreds of jigsaw pieces from different clues all mixed up, I would strongly suggest that each clue be photocopied on a different coloured paper. 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.

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

Clue	Shape of jigsaw	testing	answer
1	Hexagon	Matching antonyms	The killer did not play an instrument which you blow into.
2	Rhombus	Matching synonyms	The police found traces of fruit juice from the killer's favourite snack.
3	Rectangle	Matching halves of proverbs	The killer had not been with the orchestra for very long. It was the killer's third orchestra. The killer joined the orchestra less than three years ago. The killer's next orchestra may well be the prison orchestra!
4	square	Meaning of idioms	The killer's favourite composer was a man. The first letter of the composer's name is found In the first

			half of the alphabet that means a-m and not, absolutely not, n-z.
5	Parallelogram	Animal young/adult	Killer has clean hair which is neither brown nor black in colour.

This should lead to the killer being identified as Trevor Tenor.

Tarsia download:

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