



Operation Occupation: Unlock Your Potential

2024 Escape Room Answer Key

2024: Advanced Manufacturing

Lock Type	Answer
Lock 1 – Colors	● ○ ● Hint: the flag on the wall over Derek DeGeest's shoulder holds the "50 stars" referred to in the hint. Jobs are in HIGH demand (look high – to the ceiling – to see the flag) (time stamp: 1:18).
Lock 2 – 123	1840140 Hint: the numbers you are looking for are in the 'lock story' (time stamps 0:40, 1:00). <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 18 years of employment• Benefits: 401k• 40 hours a week
Lock 3 – ABC	SIGNS Hint: ESCO Manufacturing is an outdoor electric sign manufacturer (time stamp 0:50).

2024: Agriculture

Lock Type	Answer
Lock 1 – ABC	POLLINATOR Hint: the McCrory Garden Horticulturist talks about "buzzing around these plants" (time stamp 1:58).
Lock 2 – 123	29008 Hint: this is a sum of numbers that are shared specific to the number of employees, plants, species, etc. Information starts around 1:40 of the video and concludes about 2:15 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 6 Horticulturists• 6000 plants• 2000 species• 2 greenhouses 21,000 square foot butterfly garden
Lock 3 – ABC	ENGINEER (time stamp 0:24)

2024: Arts, Entertainment, and Design

Lock Type	Answer
Lock 1 – 123	3157 Hint: the numbers you are looking for are in the 'story'. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 3 floors of sets, costumes, and props• 15 different sets• 7 clients (groups) can be photographed at the same time
Lock 2 – Directional	↑→↑↓→→←↑↑ Hint: using north, south, west, east directions based on the first letter of the ALL CAPS words.
Lock 3 – ABC	PROGRAM (time stamp 0:35)
Lock 4 – 123	1490 Hint: refer to the AM numbers on the sign (time stamp 0:40).
Lock 5 – Colors	● ● ● ● ● ○ Hint: the words in the lock story should be put in alphabetical order which will provide the color arrangement.

2024: Construction

Lock Type	Answer
Lock 1 – 123	1919100 Hint: the lock story has the following words or phrases italicized: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Serving the greater Sioux Falls area Century Use the numbers that follow that phrase (time stamp 0:23) or convert the word to a number, in the case of century.
Lock 2 – ABC	FAMILY Hint: Brooks talks about how KPI is family oriented and puts family first – like having Breakfast with Santa (time stamp 3:25).
Lock 3 – 123	19340 Hint: use the number of fans the new stadium will seat. The word BUTTS and fans in the clue should help you identify the blue bubble of information around 1:53 of the video when talking about the new SDSU football stadium.
Lock 4 – ABC	EVERYWHERE Hint: the featured interior designer shares that she worked on projects for private jet companies and worked in the cruise ship and yacht industry after college. She said “we truly are needed everywhere” at 0:43 of the video.
Lock 5 – ABC	PUZZLE Hint: Jeff said what he does is a lot like building a puzzle (time stamp 1:55).
Lock 6 – ABC	MINNESOTA Hint: the featured stadium at 2:05 of the video is part of the University of Minnesota campus.
Lock 7 – ABC	WEATHER (time stamp 0:48)

2024: Education

Lock Type	Answer
Lock 1 – ABC	CATALOG (time stamp 0:50)
Lock 2 – ABC	AVIATION Hint: this major allows you to FLY HIGH (time stamp 0:16).
Lock 3 – ABC	COJO Hint: Heather Solberg introduces the college and offers the nickname at the start of the video (time stamp 0:10).
Lock 4 – 123	100000 Hint: Heather tells us how many times her games and activities have been downloaded (time stamp 1:07).
Lock 5 – 123	700000 Hint: the narrator tells us that there are more than 700,000 jobs supported by museums (time stamp 1:45).

2024: Energy and Natural Resources

Lock Type	Answer
Lock 1 – 123	247 Hint: wind turbines are monitored electronically 24/7 from a central office (time stamp 0:15).
Lock 2 – ABC	UNDERSTAND Hint: Charles specifically says “Understanding” not only what to do but why to do it , is one of the biggest challenges (time stamp 1:30).
Lock 3 – 123	70 Hint: Broc mentions a warmer temperature (time stamp 2:01).

2024: Financial Services

Lock Type	Answer
Lock 1 – ABC	PILLARS Hint: pillars are discussed (time stamp 2:21).
Lock 2 – 123	7107 Hint: a computer screen displays the NASDAQ Composite (time stamp 0:38). The actual number includes a decimal; remove the decimal and use the whole number.
Lock 3 – Colors	● ● Hint: the narrators indicates that employees may not work with gold (yellow) and rubies (red) while 2 pie charts are being displayed on the screen (time stamp 1:14). Refer to the pie chart on the left side of the display board and then place the yellow and red slices in order from smallest to largest.
Lock 4 – 123	9461014 Hint: notice the time and date on the computer screen behind the first speaker, around 0:09 of the video (there will be other instances of this same time/date display). Use the numbers of the time and convert the month (October) to a number (10) and use the date (14). A similar scene will appear later in the video (time stamp 1:28) with a different time displayed.

2024: Healthcare and Human Services

Lock Type	Answer
Lock 1 – ABC	CLARK (NICU nurse towards the end of the video (time stamp 1:00).
Lock 2 – Directional	↓ → ← ↓ ← Hint: the word travel encourages you to refer to the bolded words and connect the first letter of the word with a direction – North, South, East, West).
Lock 3 – ABC	SUPPORT (time stamp 0:40)
Lock 4 – ABC	GROWTH (time stamp 2:25)
Lock 5 – Colors	● ● ● ● ● ● ● Hint: color code follows the numbered list; look for those items in the video.
Lock 6 – 123	1200 Hint: Listen to the speaker as they talk about this topic (time stamp 1:39).
Lock 7 – ABC	VOCATIONAL (time stamp 0:20)

2024: Hospitality, Events, and Tourism

Lock Type	Answer
Lock 1 – 123	19 Hint: listen to the speaker as they address this job (dialing in the espresso) (time stamp 3:50).
Lock 2 – ABC	GROWTH (time stamp 0:08)
Lock 3 – ABC	FARE (referring to cost) (time stamp 0:23)
Lock 4 – 123	4 Hint: there is a group kayaking, how many paddles are in the air? (time stamp 1:04).

2024: Management and Entrepreneurship

Lock Type	Answer
Lock 1 - 123	50726100 Hint: the numbers you are looking for are in the 'story'. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50-pound bag of flour (0:46) • 7 state region (1:20) • 26 different bagel varieties (1:35) • 100 pounds of flour in a mixer at one time (1:48)
Lock 2 - ABC	SD
Lock 3 - 123	1100006 (time stamp 0:50) Hint: Add the numbers to reach the answer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (2) Fashion Industry >>> Polluter (2nd largest) • (3) USD Students >>> Love Fashion • (1) Hult Prize >>> One [of the most] Prestigious Competition • (1,000,000) [thrifting is a] Sustainable Enterprise >>> Impact People 1,000,000 • (100,000) Top Recipient >>> CASH PRIZE of 100,000
Lock 4 - Shapes	● ▲ ★ ◆ Hint: arrange words by shape in the order they are written in the lock story (circular, trio, superstars, diamond).

2024: Marketing and Sales

Lock Type	Answer
Lock 1 - ABC	PRODUCT (time stamp 0:35)
Lock 2 - ABC	VIRAL (time stamp 1:00)
Lock 3 - ABC	BITTERS Hint: notice the letter board with Honest John Bitters (time stamp 0:26).
Lock 4 - Colors	● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● Hint: color code follows the list of puns.

2024: Public Service and Safety

Lock Type	Answer
Lock 1 - ABC	DRONE Hint: use the capitalized words to find the "means" in which Sarah Schumacher is utilizing to increase public safety. She is UAS Drone Program Coordinator; drone rhymes with the ALL CAPS words (time stamp 0:25).
Lock 2 - 123	13164 (time stamp 1:35) Hint: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 - crime event • 3 - crime scenes (outdoor, house, car) • 16 - Car took 16 hours to process • 4 - Car contained 4 different forms of evidence (blood, fingerprints, DNA, physical items)
Lock 3 - Directional	↑ ↓ ↓ → ↑ → ↓ Hint: using north, south, west, east directions based on the bolded letter within the bulleted list.
Lock 4 - ABC	HUNTING

2024: Supply Chain and Transportation

Lock Type	Answer
Lock 1 – ABC	TUITION (time stamp 0:27)
Lock 2 – 123	047511 Hint: Chad addresses the camera in front of this truck that has numbers on the door. “Look over his shoulder” to reveal the truck number and the “511” logo. The number combo works from the top down (time stamp 0:31).
Lock 3 – 123	3156 Hint: air traffic control trainees must be enrolled in the training program by the age of 31 and retirement is mandatory at age 56 (time stamps 0:54 and 1:07).
Lock 4 – ABC	WYOMING Hint: the “Wyoming Welcomes You” sign at 0:15 in the video identifies the proper state name to solve this lock.
Lock 5 – Directional	→↓←↑ Hint: consider the order cities are being named and placed on the map, thinking about EAST (→), SOUTH (↓), WEST (←), and NORTH (↑) (time stamp 1:37).
Lock 6 – ABC	CDL Hint: Commercial Driver's License (time stamp 0:53)

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