



Operation Occupation: Unlock Your Potential

2025 Escape Room Answer Key

2025: Hospitality, Events, & Tourism

Lock Type	Answer
Lock 1 – 123	2020 Hint: number refers to vision (time stamp 1:04).
Lock 2 – ABC	POPCORN Hint: notice the three (3) popcorn related words in the clue; popcorn is shown (either the food item or the word) three (3) times in the video (time stamps 0:18, 0:33, 1:18)
Lock 3 – Colors	●●●●● Hint: at 0:51 of the video, workers in red aprons are shown in front of a fresh donut/bagel display case. Notice the flavors listed below the donuts on the first 2 racks and color or the color of the fruit to solve the puzzle. Apple - red (1st row, top left) Lemon – yellow (2nd row, middle left) Black Raspberry – black and red (2nd row, middle) Blueberry – blue (2nd row, middle rack)
Lock 4 – 123	29392312 Hint: at 0:22 of the video a lineup of green pedal boats are shown, each having their own number. Working from left to right, use the numbers displayed on the side of each boat.
Lock 5 – Shapes	▲★▲★● Hint: Around 1:36 Casie talks about her favorite aspects of her job – notice the wall behind her and use the shapes of the pennant banner with stars (2 rows, use shapes from each row 1 time = 1 triangle and 1 star per line); then moving into the least favorite parts of the job use the shape of the trampoline off to the side (time stamp 2:08)

2025: Arts, Entertainment, & Design

Lock Type	Answer
Lock 1 – ABC	PORTFOLIO (time stamp 1:02)
Lock 2 – 123	60 Hint: the narrator states that about 60% of photographers are self-employed (time stamp 0:26).
Lock 3 – 123	214 Hint: floral stores are preparing orders for Valentine's Day, use the month and date of this LOVE holiday to solve (2/14) (time stamp 1:08).
Lock 4 – Directional	↓ ↓ → ← ↑ ↓ ↓ ← ↓ Hint: using north, south, west, east directions based on the first letter of the bolded artist's name.
Lock 5 – Colors	● ● ● ● ● ● Hint: read the poem and use the colors in the order they are listed.

2025: Digital Technology

Lock Type	Answer
Lock 1 – Shapes	● ● ▲ ■ ● Hint: around 0:15 of the video a group of 3 people are featured sitting in a booth with a brainstorming wall covered with notes, shapes, etc. In the middle of the board is a “bubble” that has shapes. These are the shapes that will solve the lock. The “N2” reference could also be translated to “in to.”
Lock 2 – ABC	DATA Hint: the narrator tells us that data scientists use different techniques to extract information from large complex data sets and put them into a form that can be analyzed, a practice known as “data mining” (time stamp 0:47).
Lock 3 – ABC	BACHELORS Hint: the narrator references the educational degree held by IT Project Managers (time stamp 1:11).
Lock 4 – Colors	● ● ● ● ● Hint: Use the poem (specific color words) to determine the color combo. Note: Golden = Yellow
Lock 5 – Directional	↑ ↓ ← → ↓ ↑ Hint: using up, down, left, and right. Also focus on the words small and tall .

2025: Education

Lock Type	Answer
Lock 1 – ABC	ADJUNCT Hint: around 0:58 of the video the narrator speaks about part-time, or adjunct professors, often work in their field.
Lock 2 – Colors	● ● ● Hint: a Harold Washington Elementary School sign is displayed; there are some icons with words in the bottom left corner (time stamp 0:39): Green book – Read a book Red crayon - Mustangs Yellow pencil – A great place to learn
Lock 3 – 123	24 Hint: the numbers you are looking for are mentioned at 0:19 of the video when the narrator says “Preschool teachers educate and care for children ages 2-4.”
Lock 4 – Colors	● ○ ● Hint: Becky Hammon, Rapid City, SD native, is speaking into a microphone in front of a San Antonio Spurs media backdrop (time stamp 0:09). The microphone has the NBA logo; from left to right the colors are: Blue White (silhouette of player) Red
Lock 5 – ABC	LINK Hint: around 0:52 of the video the narrator says that interpreters are the LINK between those who have the information and those that need the information.

2025: Energy and Natural Resources

Lock Type	Answer
Lock 1 – ABC	GIS Hint: Geographic Information System is referred to as GIS (time stamp 0:04).
Lock 2 – Colors	● ○ ○ ● Hint: around 0:14 of the video four individuals in hard hats are looking off to the side. From left to right, use the color of the hard hats on a head to identify the color order.
Lock 3 – ABC	MATH Hint: the narrator says, high school science and MATH courses are helpful. The words 'add up' in the lock set-up should encourage students to pick math for the answer (time stamp 1:30)
Lock 4 – 123	41215 Hint: the numbers you are looking for are shown on the utility meter at 0:56 of the video when the narrator says, "Most operators work for local governments, while some work for utilities."
Lock 5 – ABC	GREEN Hint: around 0:53 of the video the narrator suggests that there will be a shift to GREEN energy in the coming decades.

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