

The spare-key receipt

A visiting archivist must collect the spare key from one of three envelopes: 126, 246 or 375. Only one envelope satisfies ALL the keeper's rules. Which one?

Rule 1: the last digit is even. Rule 2: the sum of the first two digits equals the last digit. Rule 3: the three digits are all different.

Use just this page, a pencil and paper. This puzzle is separate from The Lighthouse File and reveals no answer to the full game. Stop before page 2 if you want to solve it first.

Envelope	Last digit even?	Sum matches?
126		
246		
375		

My choice and reasoning:

Free puzzle / answer

Envelope 246. Its last digit, 6, is even; $2 + 4 = 6$; all three digits differ. Envelope 126 has an even last digit but $1 + 2$ is 3, not 6. Envelope 375 ends with an odd digit and $3 + 7$ is 10, not 5.

Hint 1: test each rule separately. Hint 2: two envelopes end with an even digit; compare their sums.

Want a full investigation? The Lighthouse File is an original cooperative printable case with six linked puzzles, English and Spanish files, progressive hints and a final letter. It needs 10 printed player pages and no special equipment.

Pilot: independent playtests are pending; full-game duration is not measured. Early pilot kit: US\$5. See the creator website for the current offer. This sample may be shared free of charge in its complete, unchanged form.