



## Who Owns the Canary?

A simple problem-solving exercise that requires delegates to collaborate if they are to succeed in working out Who Owns the Canary?

There are a number of ways to facilitate this:

- Distribute the clue sheets to different people, and place no restrictions on how this is shared.
- Distribute the clue sheets to different people, and tell them it can only be shared verbally.
- Tell people individually one piece of information (V tricky – but handy if you're discussing reliability of information etc)
- You can also add further questions e.g. Who has a blue door?

Cut out the information slips, and distribute them randomly and then set a time for completion (around 15 minutes as a guide).

You can link to problems-solving, communication, collaboration, leadership, conflict etc.



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The English person lives in the house with the red door

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The Spaniard owns the cat

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Coffee is drunk in the house with the green door

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The Belgian drinks tea

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The Frenchman lives in the first house on the left

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A Ford is parked at the house with the yellow door

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Milk is drunk in the middle house

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The house with the green door is immediately to the right (your right) of the house with the black door

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The person who drives the Rover lives in the house next to the man with the horse

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The Peugeot driver drinks lemonade

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The Dutchman drives a Volvo

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The Frenchman lives next door to the house with the blue door

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The Ford is parked at the house next door to where the dog is kept

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The Vauxhall driver owns fish

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## The Answer...

The table below contains the complete solution to the problem.

<b>Position</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Front doors</b>	Yellow	Blue	Red	Black	Green
<b>Inhabitants</b>	French	Belgian	English	Spanish	Dutch
<b>Pets</b>	Horse	Dog	Fish	Cat	Canary
<b>Drinks</b>	Water	Tea	Milk	Lemonade	Coffee
<b>Cars</b>	Ford	Rover	Vauxhall	Peugeot	Volvo

From it we can see that the Frenchman drinks water, and that the Dutchman owns the canary!