L Isolation Strategy Analysis And Rebunk

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Colour chart:
FSIQ + intelligence
EI + SI + psychology
AC + adaptability
Thinking + reasoning
Planning + strategy + judgement
Sensory + Foresight
Deception + Manipulation

Notes:

This analysis will deviate from the order of the events shown slightly, but still follow the order of events chronologically.

L isolation strategy is characterised by the information leak Light performs to sow distrust between the NPA and L, but also encompasses different moves such as the bus hijacking plan and killing the FBI agents.

It is often referred to as a massive anti feat for Light, so this analysis will be slightly different. Rather than only analysing the strategy, I'll attempt to rebunk it. But don't expect too much, I'm an analyser, not a debater.

Light and L are operating in a non fixed situation, which is much more chaotic and has a bigger opportunity sphere for influence. L has narrowed down the suspect pool for Kira from the entire world down to the Kanto region. Death note starts in late 2003. Meaning, L narrowed down the suspect pool to over 40 million people.

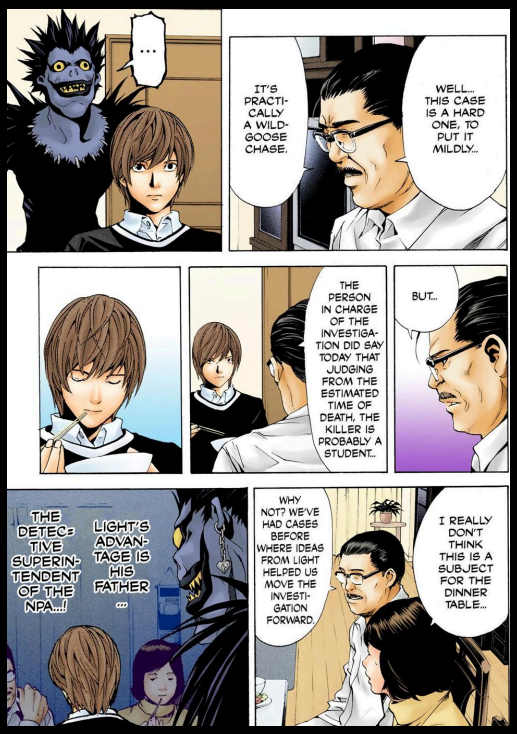
Light's goals are seemingly inconsistent throughout the deployment of this scheme, furthermore, his personality is seen as a hindrance to his actual strategies, so I'll be attempting to explain all of this.

Some explanations in the distrust strategy used Meczewicz comments as a foundation.

Analysis

"Isolate L by causing distrust between him and the police."

Manipulating Soichiro



Soichiro pulls up to his house and is greeted by Light. The Yagami household has dinner and Light perceives and reasons out his father's fatigue. Light's advantage is that he's the son of the detective superintendent of the NPA, Soichiro casually states that talking about the Kira case is fine because Light's ideas always help with previous cases. Light leaves the dinner table, asking his mother to not come in his room, simply shielding his next tactics.

Light Yagami recognises the advantage of being the son of the detective superintendent of the NPA, it's another resource that he's willing to exploit and utilise for his own gain, showing his engagement with his goals to be willing to basically manipulate his own family. He's perfectly calm and composed with the entire situation, demonstrating his adaption velocity from getting ensnared by L's Lind L Taylor trap, concealing his identity from his family as if he didn't suffer a huge loss. His father raised him up for 17 years, parents obviously know their children well and the Yagami household is a normal one, showing how well Light Yagami is acting, portraying himself as a normal high school student. His social intelligence here is really good, emotionally perceiving Soichiro's distress and pointing it out to indirectly manipulate him to lead the conversation and unknowingly leak information of the Kira case.

This information supply is crucial for Light as he's able to monitor the NPA's movements and effectively use this connection to isolate L. Letting his father lead the investigation under the guise of a helpful son, he knows that the police have suspected Kira being a student, his next tactic causes an inconsistency between L and the police force regarding the suspect pool. Although his mother tries cutting Soichiro off, he responds by saying it's fine and

instead praises Light due to his ideas helping previous cases. This obviously indicates Light's intelligence of how the police work, how different cases work and his reasoning ability, drawing from this knowledge bank to implement his strategy.

Light is completely unsuspected by his family. Soichiro is a detective, meaning he's incredibly smart, even though he is tired his senses would still be sharp. On top of this, Light stays under the radar of his family even whilst his father literally states that Kira is probably a student. Light fits that profile (which he led the police to conclude, owing to his leadership and manipulation), however, even at this dinner table whilst being a suspect, he still effortlessly guides the conversation indirectly and controls the suspicions against himself. (EU, EM, Social Skills, Formulation)

Distrust strategy

This is the pivotal tactic that the entire strategy lies upon. Light Yagami utilises the death note in a creative manner and purposefully kills criminals every hour, effectively destroying the previous suspicion that Kira is a student. Even L admits that Kira possibly isn't a student.

Three days pass and criminals die every hour, amounting to 69 criminals killed. This completely throws off the police as their original theory of Kira being a student is proven wrong, showing his unpredictability. How would a student be able to kill criminals every hour, when he has to go to school and study. L deduces that Kira can manipulate the time of deaths, and that he has access to police information. Light forces L to conceal his second deduction. Light knows that with this tactic, L is forced to address the sudden shift, and he also reasons that L will reason that Kira can control the time of deaths, hence portraying his understanding of L emotionally and cognitively.

After they have discussed that Kira is a student, the killing pattern changes, L from this observation concludes that Kira is someone with ties to the police force. However, the reason he's forced to conceal this deduction is because it would cause distrust amongst the police, the investigation wouldn't be efficient and a lot of investigators would quit out of fear and terror of seemingly being in close proximity to Kira. Light anticipates this. The reason why L has to doubt the police is because Kira is among either the police force or connected with them. Light is guiding L to look inward with the people he's working with. L's suspicions now lie with the people he's supposedly investigating with.

Light would obviously be keeping track of this information on his father's computer.

Due to L concealing his second deduction, the police are unaware that Kira is possibly amongst them. The police also are starting to distrust L because of the unfairness in the approach of the investigation. The police' morale starts to chip away as they fear that Kira isn't a student but something greater. However, this could've been avoided if L had revealed Kira was connected to the police. Light's tactic here conceals his connection to the police force whilst cutting off both avenues for L. If L had revealed Kira was connected to the police, the consequences I previously outlined would occur. The police would suspect themselves, and suspect L alongside it. Meaning Light's strategy succeeds if L carries out this decision. L however decides to conceal his deduction, which is also bad since it doesn't

ground the police into thinking they're up to a non-supernatural being. This demoralises them, and cuts off L's influence slightly through the emotional manipulation of the police, drawing attention to the unfairness of the approach towards catching Kira, effectively decreasing the investigation manpower on the Kira case whilst simultaneously placing suspicion upon L. Light's main tactic is pretty complex, requiring him to reason and forecast every possibility and emotionally track L and the police during the distrust period.
(EU, EF, Social Engineering, Indirect Manipulation, Emotional Manipulation, Information Control, Strategy Fortitude, Strategy Effectiveness)

Light tests out the notebook with fire. Stating that he has 50 reserved criminals which show his preparation.

L thinks over the implication of Kira's challenge, which directly tells him that Kira can set the time of deaths and has access to police information. Light directly challenges L, seemingly leaking important information to L. The suspect pool inconsistency forces the detectives to wonder if Kira had been misleading them into believing he's a student. Pushing the suspect pool back up to the entirety of Kanto. However, the fact that he has information from the police shows his connection to them, yet again narrowing the suspect pool even further. The police currently have the first suspect pool (the entirety of Kanto), whilst L has the second suspect pool. Light and L are both egotistical and engage in potentially risky tactics to outsmart and deceive the other, this is just their nature. This is literally how they operate, though the feats they show they're still highly impressive.

So now, L is investigating the police and is pressured by the information leak that only he's aware of, whilst the police are trying to track down L. If L's identity is uncovered during this period, it would naturally be stored in Souichiro's computer. And since Light has access to his father's computer, he would be able to kill L that way. If Light manages to kill L this way, he achieves several goals, including eradicating L, destabilising the police force' moral and hiding himself in the first suspect pool.

Light and L are effectively emotionally perceiving each other without even truly knowing each other's identity, which is why their EP is insanely high. L calls up Watari to contact the FBI.

Light tells Ryuk that L is starting to suspect the police, showing his reasoning and emotional perception. He assesses L's point of view (whilst having no idea of his identity) and the emotions associated with it. He understands the stress that L would be under now, as the original suspect pool is blown out the water whilst a new suspect pool arises. This is a momentary misdirection by Light, as he's obviously a student with ties to the police, but due to the pivotal three day killings, it misdirects L into believing that Kira is not a student but only someone linked with the police.

Light understands the implications of his killings, it's an untraceable murder weapon. He can only be proved as Kira through a confession or usage of the Death Note in front of detectives. He's very engaged with his grand plan of becoming the 'God of the New World', and he recognises that he will never confess. Therefore, he fortifies the cover up of the death note, that way both methods of proving Light as Kira are cut off.

Light recognises his own resources and intellect, knowing he can be up to date with the investigation through hacking into his father's computer. Ryuk asks the major question that all critics ask, "But why did you deliberately do something to make L suspect people involved within the investigation?". Light responds that he wants to find L and eliminate him. Owing back to my previous Ego argument.

Light understands human psychology, knowing that few people trust each other even within the police. Light emotionally perceives literally both the task force and L. The domino effect of the three day killings lets Light understand that the police and L would become suspicious of each other. L is suspicious of the police force because Kira has connections within the police force. And that the police force are suspicious of L due to L hiding his face and name, indirectly manipulating the police to associate L as Kira as both of these profiles have ambiguous identities. Light effectively uses Kira's image to catalyse the distrust between L and the task force. Light explains his thought process to Ryuk, he's perfectly assessed the situation of the task force and L, on the surface they're working together but secretly they're both spying on each other. Emotionally perceiving the tension, fear and suspicions both parties have of each other. This is effective indirect manipulation from Light's part, as Light doesn't do any heavy lifting, whilst the police actually track down L, allowing Light to kill L.

Light's main goal with L isolation strategy is genuinely just in the name, to isolate L through neutralising his influence.



Light completely adapts from his previous ensnarement, effectively turning the tables against L. As anticipated, the police start to resign in fear of losing their lives from attempting to

catch Kira. It's obvious that Light emotionally perceived the implications of hunting down Kira, and reasoned out the actions a few police officers would take.

Kira is a criminal, of course criminals want to evade capture, however Kira has methods of killing possibly above human means. The criminals he killed all had their information, name and face, broadcasted. L is keeping his identity hidden whilst the police officers have their faces and names out in the open. This is just further indirect and emotional manipulation by light. He effectively is mind reading the entire conflict between L and the police force through his knowledge of human psychology and reasoning. He facilitates the police' fear of capturing Kira, whilst also pointing suspicion onto L due to how unfair the situation is. Although L had marvellously deduced Kira's identity from a suspect pool of the whole world down to 40 million people, he is still suspected and the officers who resigned claim that they're doing all the heavy lifting. Light emotionally manipulated these officers through exploiting their fear so much so that they completely disregarded L's efforts.

The distrust strategy allows L to narrow down his list of suspects, luring him in closer to kira, whilst minimising L's influence over the police force.

Light concealment tactics were carried out by L, causing an information imbalance between L and the police force, leading each party to doubt and distrust each other.
(EU, EF, Social Engineering, Abductive Reasoning, Associative Thinking, Convergent Thinking, Indirect Manipulation, Emotional Manipulation, Information Control, Strategy Fortitude, Strategy Effectiveness, Short Term Planning, Planning Formulation, Planning Coverage)

Drawer trap

Back to Light in his bedroom, he explains in depth about the death note fire trap.

Light Yagami needs to solve the problem of hiding the death note for several reasons. Firstly, to completely conceal its existence, especially from his family members, as it would be troublesome if someone would unsuspectingly touch the note book since they'll see Ryuk. Secondly as mentioned before, it's to fortify his strategy to block L from both ways of proving Light as Kira. This is by destroying the murder weapon if it ever gets uncovered.

The death note is hidden in his drawer. When someone would open up the drawer, they would stumble across his diary. He understands that people would get bored of reading his diary and would just be satisfied with it. This indicates Light writing his day to day experiences in the diary to make it seem authentic, he definitely would be omitting and fabricating his days written in the diary to hide that he's Kira. This is constantly updated every day, meaning that Light is basically multi-tasking to uphold his model student persona (by extension through the diary) and effectively, his double life as a student and the most wanted criminal on earth. This underscores the efforts he's willing to put in to uphold his clean reputation, to think of a way to make the entries written in the diary uninteresting and fabricate the real days he lives.



The way to get the death note is through an ink cartridge from a pen, which is disguised as normal stationery on his desk, which people wouldn't suspect. Furthermore, the key hole of the ink cartridge is underneath the drawer which most people would miss. Using the ink cartridge, it uncovers the death note by lifting the false bottom. Ryuk compliments Light, however he's extremely cautious here and uses several layers to conceal the death note, he thinks as far as somebody suspecting the drawer having a false bottom, there are other insurances in place. The ink reservoir is pushed in between the two metal pieces, when not in use, there's a rubber piece in place. If neither of these pieces are not in place, the metal plates connect and ignite the gasoline stored. That way, anyone attempting to force their way into the false bottom, the gasoline is ignited, causing a fire to completely destroy all the evidence of the death note. And if questioned, Light would respond that his real diary was in there. Light is a model student with a perfect image, he understands this social perception of himself and created an excuse matching with his image. This would cause people to think that Light was hiding some rather inappropriate things that wouldn't match his image, hence it being quite dramatic. It's efficient as the fire would burn the notebook, and Light has an excuse ready for it.

To create such an elaborate trap demonstrates his knowledge of insulators and different mechanisms that can be used to conceal the notebook. The Death Note is hidden by several layers.

Hidden in drawer -> Diary as deterrent -> ink reservoir as key -> false bottom -> insulation constant

And without proper retrieval of the notebook, the evidence of Light being Kira is completely eradicated. Light's creativity here is top notch, whilst also demonstrating his interpersonal intelligence of how people think of him.

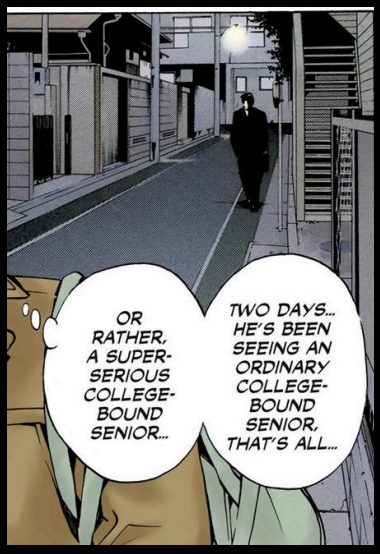
(FRI, VSI, Composure, Misdirection, Fabrication, Strategy Effectiveness, Strategy Fortitude, Strategy Foresight, Linear Thinking, Creative Thinking, Setting Traps)

Third party

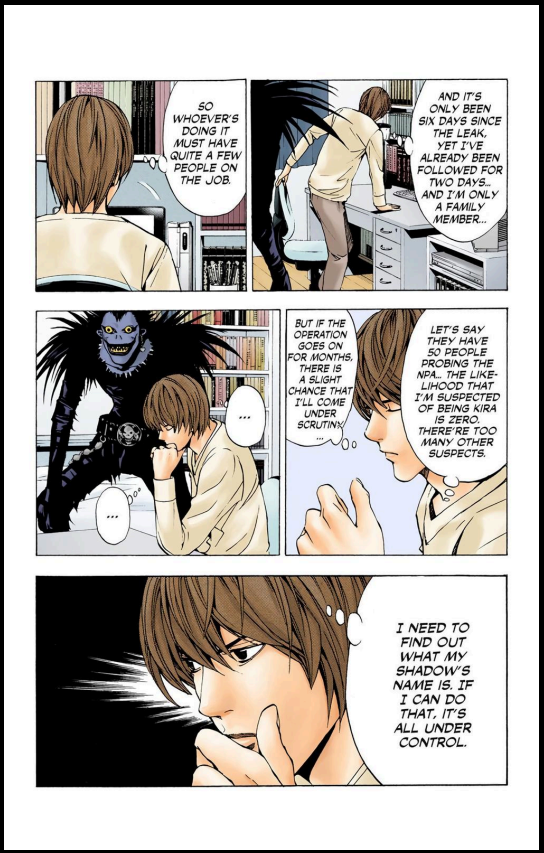
As expected, L starts to conduct a thorough investigation of the NPA and related connections (close friends and family) with the help of the FBI. He looks through these files. There are 141 people working for the police force, L is sure that Kira is amongst these 141 or someone very close. Lets take on average 4 family members for each NPA officer including themselves, that would amount to 141 x 4 = 564 people suspected only by L. L is unable to use his influence over the NPA for an internal investigation, hence the benefit of the inconsistency between the suspect pools both L and the NPA have.

Ryuk admits that he's neutral, Light already understood this, indicating that he accurately assessed his relationship with Ryuk. Naturally, an individual would think Ryuk would side with the person who's picked up his Death Note, however Light instead understands Ryuk on an emotional level and his motivations.

Ryuk tells Light there's someone following him, Light is shocked but immediately manages his emotions carefully, he's shocked most probably due to how far this stalker is stalking him. However, it's clear that Light knew this person was stalking him for 2 days.



Light enters his room, observing that it hasn't been entered due to the paper still being in the door, and thinks over about the stalker.



P1 - L reasoned that Kira is connected to the Task Force
P2 - My father is under surveillance
P3 - Subsequently, I'm under surveillance
P4 - L wouldn't use the Japanese Police to probe the NPA
C1 - L is using a third party to survey the Task Force

P5 - 6 days have passed since the leak
P6 - I've been followed for 2 days and I'm only a family member
C2 - The third party has a lot of people on the job

P7 - Let's say there are 50 people on the job
P8 - There are too many suspects for me to come under suspicion
P9 - If the surveillance carries on for months, I'll eventually be suspected
Final conclusion: I need to find out who the stalker is and which party they work for

This showcases that the progression of his distrust strategy was under his foresight, he reasons out the third party involvement. Even being in a smaller suspect pool, he manages himself fine and doesn't portray any feelings of nervousness over being in the suspect pool. (EM, EU, Deductive Reasoning, Linear Thinking, Critical Thinking, Analytical Thinking)

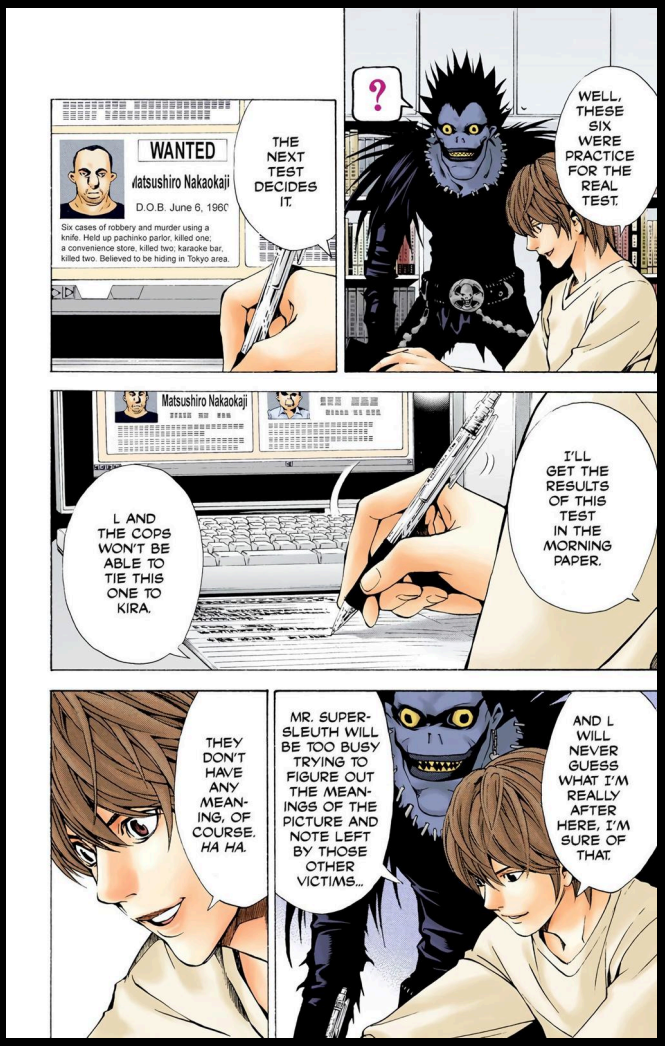
Bus hijacking formulation

Ryuk effectively mind reads Light here (EP) and proposes the shinigami eyes deal. Ryuk would award Light with shinigami eyes for half of Light's lifespan. Light thinks over the deal,

as it is tempting since it would let him easily figure out his stalker's identity. Light's decision making skills are tested here, where he rejects Ryuk's offer, as he wants to reign over his new world for a long time, not a short one. As they discuss over shinigami's, Light Yagami formulates a plan extremely quickly, he has an outline of how to lure out his stalker, and tests his plan on criminals. However, he's cautious enough to misdirect L whilst carrying out these killings for his hypothesis.

L infers that Kira could control the victims actions before they die. When the news spreads around in the police, Light tracks the information entered into his father's computer. He explains his testing to Ryuk. From his test, he concluded that the death note can control actions of the victim that are possible, this strengthens his preparation of the bus hijacking plan, whilst also heuristically understanding the death note even more, allowing him to wield the murder weapon with more knowledge of its advantages and limitations.

Light forecasts the bus hijacking plan, predicting that L would be misdirected by the pictures and notes left by the previous victims. The note has a fake undernote reading 'L do you know', directly addressing L to mislead him from the bus jacking plan. Hinting at Light's verbal comprehension. The reason why Light does this is to shield the bus jacking plan, so that he can extract his stalker's identity without tying the bus jacking to Kira, effectively to conceal Kira's involvement within the plan.



Light starts to deploy his plan, he rings up a couple of girls, not caring who. Paired with Light's statement that he's 'popular with the ladies', suggests his charisma to be talking to a lot of girls to entice them into a date, broadening out to his social intelligence.
(EU, EE, Social Skills, Charisma, Indirect Manipulation, Misdirection, Bluffing, Strategy Effectiveness, Planning Invincibility, Formulation Speed)

Bus hijacking plan implementation

Light predicts that his stalker will follow him on the weekends to clear him out of suspicion. Light acts as if he's going on a normal date. Raye Penber (stalker) thinks that Light isn't suspicious, but still decides to board the same bus as them. Light casually guides Yuri (his date) to the second last row of the bus, allowing for Raye to stalk him by sitting on the last row. Upon observing the criminal Osoreda boarding the bus, Light still remains calm, showcasing his clarity with the death note and his plan. As the bus gets hijacked, Light passes a note to Yuri, on the surface it seems like he's trying to protect his date, effectively inter-managing her emotions. But the paper serves a hidden purpose, and that's to lure out Raye.

Raye sees this, and he advises Light not to go ahead with his action. Light observes that Raye has a 'slight' accent, and reasons he isn't Japanese, owing to his perceptiveness and observation.

Light then proposes that perhaps Raye is an accomplice, using sophistry to add weight behind his claim. Saying that it's common for criminals in this situation to mislead the victims into believing there's only one criminal and not multiple. This way, Light is forcing Raye to reveal himself to clear suspicion that he isn't an accomplice. This indirectly manipulates Yuri to be further panicked, which pressures Raye to make a quick decision to dispel the suspicion cast upon him. Light logically and indirectly manipulates Raye to reveal his identity to him.

Raye provides proof that he's not an accomplice, Light realises that L is using the FBI to probe the NPA. Although shocked, he composes himself to cover up that he's actually Kira. Light acts like he trusts Raye. Because of the detail he went into describing the events leading up to the bus hijacker's death, he's managing his emotions well during a literal crime. Light drops a piece of the death note, but Raye believes this to be Light's fake plan of jumping the jacker. The content of the note misdirects Osoreda into thinking there isn't any threat.

Light understands as a criminal, during a crime the culprit feels heightened feelings such as stress and adrenaline, Osoreda, who's in the middle of a bus hijacking, is completely caught off guard by Ryuk's appearance. Light deliberately chooses Osoreda because he's a drug addict, it indirectly manipulates Raye into believing that he's on drugs and hallucinating, concealing Ryuk's existence verbally through a plausible explanation that was led on by Light. After emptying his revolver on Ryuk, Osoreda dashes out onto the road, where he's run over by a car. Light sees his death, and is still maintaining his perfect composure. Yes, Light has been Kira for quite some time now, however I want to compare this version of Light

to the one at the start of the Manga. After killing his second victim (who died similarly in front of him), he was completely distraught at the prospects of being a literal murderer. Now, seeing the bus hijacker die in a similar fashion, Light is rather indifferent to his death, and even throughout the deployment of his plan, he self manages himself accordingly.

Raye asks Light to keep his appearance at the crime scene a secret, which he agrees to. This is the final knot to Light's plan, as it covers up Light meeting an FBI agent.

These were the predetermined steps of Light's bus hijacking plan:

Go on a date with Yuri -> Lead Raye onto the bus -> Osoreda hijacks the bus -> Light proposes to take down Osoreda, which Raye tells him not to -> Argues that Raye could be an accomplice -> Gains his ID -> Leads Osoreda to perceive Ryuk -> Osoreda runs onto the road out of fear and gets runned over -> Raye and Light agree to keep their meeting a secret

With the bus hijacking plan, he retrieved Raye Penber's name and gained insight into how L was operating within the investigation, which is probing the NPA with the FBI. And due to the shielding of the plan, nobody suspects that Kira now has information on the FBI's involvement yet.
(Predictions, Deductive, Abductive, Logical thinking, Divergent Thinking, EF, EU, EE, EP, Trap Setting, Indirect Manipulation, Direct Manipulation, Emotional Manipulation, Strategy Building, Mental Fortitude)

Killing the FBI agents

Light is wearing a disguise in Shinjuku underground station, however carefully chooses what clothes to wear to not draw too much suspicion onto himself. Due to his heuristic testing of the death note, he learns that if he writes the cause of death first and writes a name in front of it later, the death note would work. Even Ryuk is surprised at this, showing Light's engagement with his learning of the death note and utilising it in creative manners.

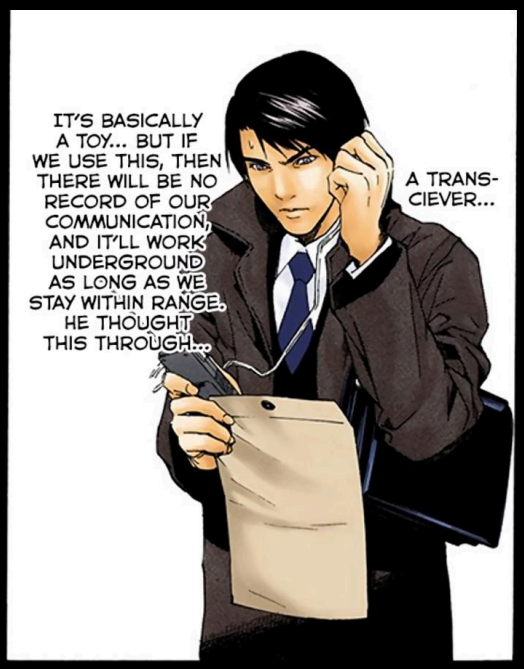
He finds Raye amongst the several passengers passing by and sneaks up behind him, claiming to be Kira. He understands that as the world's most wanted criminal, to Raye he needs to cement the idea that he really is Kira, so he kills a nearby store employee. This presses fear onto Raye, coercing him to obey Light's orders. Light has emotionally and cognitively read aspects of how L operates, and correctly states that 'L has probably told you this, but I can't kill someone unless I've seen their face'. However, Light plays upon the lack of information around the killing method, and leaves out that he needs a name to kill. This is for 2 reasons, firstly to further impress fear onto Raye by threatening to kill everyone in the station, and secondly it's to conceal his entire motivation for Raye writing down the names of the FBI agents down, as obviously Raye would know that he would be in the process of killing his own co-workers.

Light, through abductive reasoning, concludes that Raye has someone with an emotional attachment to, and uses it to threaten Raye even further, ensuring that Raye complies no matter what. Light smirks after seeing Raye's reaction, and he adapts his approach by threatening to kill Raye, his lover and his family. Light, although right behind Raye, isn't

actually looking right at his face, and instead observes Raye's body language and pitch of voice, emotionally perceiving the distress that is overwhelming Raye after killing the employee and mentioning his lover. This is a more simple reading of Raye for Light here, however it's necessary to measure whether Raye is affected by Light's coercive tactics or not. Light is emotionally manipulating Raye through threatening to kill him and the people close to him and by providing evidence that he really is Kira through killing the employee. Killing the employee was to disorient Raye's mental state, and then he exploits it through threatening his family and lover, allowing it to become easier for Light to emotionally manipulate and coerce him.
(EU, Critical Thinking, Abductive Reasoning, Direct Manipulation, Logical Manipulation, Emotional Manipulation)



Light gives Raye an envelope with a transceiver inside, that way he doesn't need to be in close proximity with Raye whilst still being in communication. Furthermore, it helps him avoid the cameras in the Yamanote line, owing to his Yamanote line visualisation feat (I'm not explaining it here). The use of the transceiver has other benefits too, such as muffling Light's voice, ensuring there aren't any records of their communication, and it working underground. Even Raye, as an FBI agent, is impressed by the intricacies of Kira's planning.

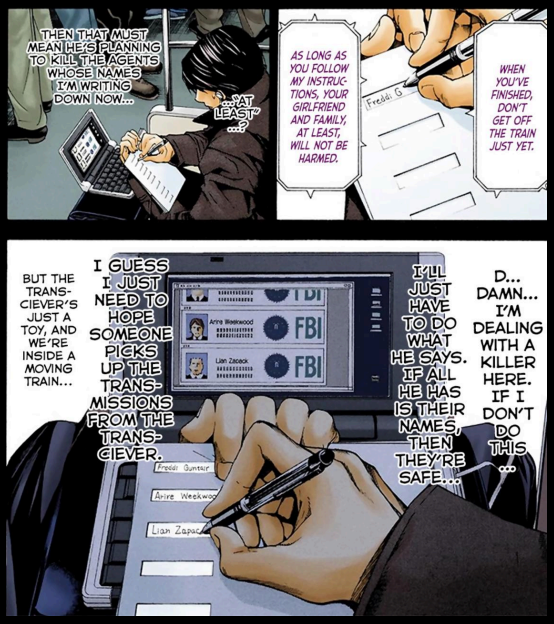


Light orders him to get onto the Yamanote line, reminding him about the risks of disobeying him and interrogates him over the transceiver. Even whilst this, Light is in another train carriage to observe Raye, confirming visually if Raye is following his orders, and of course he has the audible communication with him through the transceiver. Light finds out that there are in total 12 FBI agents. He commands Raye to call someone to send a file containing all of the FBI agents' names and faces to his computer. His coworker suggests asking the chief, Light quickly adapts and tells Raye to say that the file keeps getting corrupted. Showing his processing speed, quick thinking and adaptability.

After retrieving the file, Raye's forced to write the names down unknowingly into pages of the death note. Light deliberately says 'As long as you follow my instructions, your girlfriend and family at least won't be harmed'. Due to previously concealing the other half of the killing method being that he needs a name, Light purposely says this to momentarily misdirect Raye into suspecting that the 11 other FBI agents will be killed. Light is logically manipulating Raye here. Let me explain.

Light firstly claims that all he needs is a face to kill, omitting that he also needs a name. Light knows that his lover and family are very precious to him, and leverages that to threaten Raye. Raye now has received a file containing the other 11 FBI agents' names and faces, however Kira cannot see these faces. Raye believes that Kira only needs a face, not a name. So, him writing down the names into the slots means that Kira's planning to retrieve the envelope to learn the names of all of the FBI agents. From getting the names, he can research and figure out their faces, and then kill them.

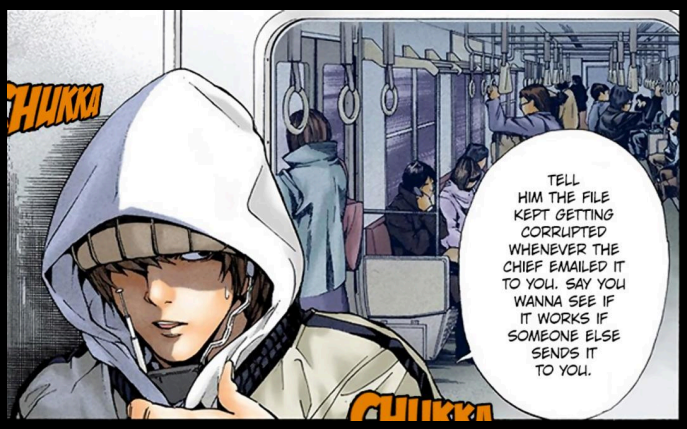
Raye is subconsciously glad that perhaps the people close to him would be spared, but is misdirected to think of Kira's next actions, which is retrieving the envelope to kill the 11 FBI agents.



Light forecasts this entire plan, and predicts Raye's thought processes, effectively mind reading him just through reasoning, and restricted observations. Light is observing the change of tone/points of hesitation within Raye's voice, whilst also observing him visually through spying from another carriage. Of course, Light can only visually observe him a couple of times to minimise the risk of Raye seeing his face. Light's emotional perception here is very impressive, and later I'll detail another layer about the entire implementation of the plan.

Light's final order is to put the slots and transceiver back into the envelope and leave the train and exit the train after 30 minutes. Raye does so, still trying to remember the voice and dies of a heart attack. Looking back into the train he sees Kira's identity, and it's Light Yagami. Light planned Raye to write down all the FBI agents' names, this was a creative plan that solved the problem of Light not knowing the faces of the FBI agents but still having to eliminate them. Light is very detailed in the way he writes the deaths, concealing the order of the file reception.

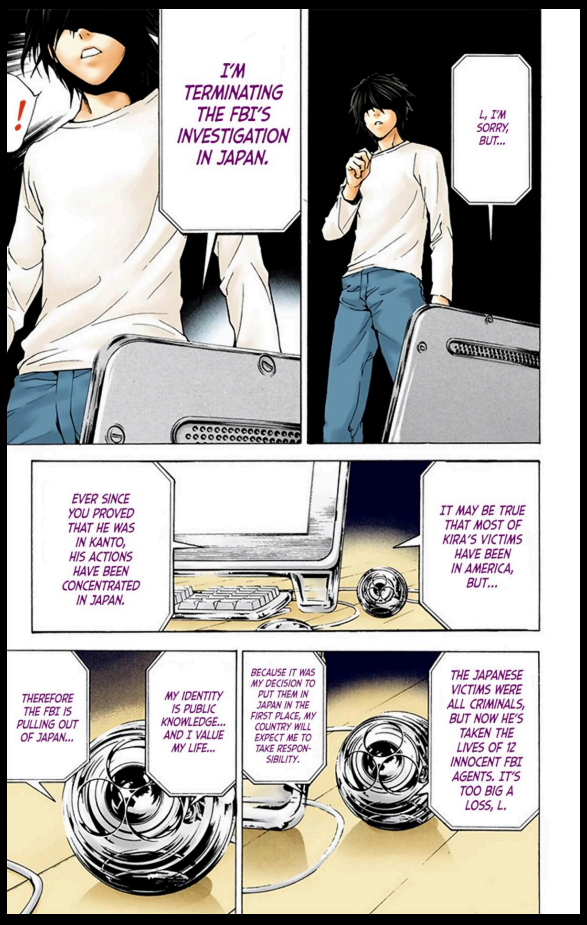
Now, one last layer during the execution of this scheme is Light's emotional management. The implementation of killing the 12 FBI agents scheme took roughly 1.5 hours, and for 30 minutes he wasn't in audible contact with Raye. Light firstly went behind Raye, threatened him, and observed him during the file reception and distribution. Light was managing his emotions well as an extremely wanted criminal by dealing with literal FBI agents, all whilst concealing his presence by utilising blind spots from the Yamanote line cameras, quickly adapted to any developments and staying focused on Raye to ensure that Raye doesn't deviate from his plan. Imagine trying to pull this off. This is a very high stakes and arguably risky plan, and Light manages his emotions well throughout it, the highest amount of stress during the plan only caused him to sweat slightly. Making the execution of his scheme, adaption velocity and emotional perception even more impressive.



Killing the FBI agents plan achieved many goals and is a major part in the cohesive strategy that is L isolation.

The obvious goal is that Light was able to kill off Raye Penber, and subsequently the other 11 FBI agents. The reason he had to kill the other agents was that if Raye was the only one killed, the suspect pool would drastically shrink down to 8 people, including himself.

The next goal was isolating L. L has a huge network, and the FBI was backing him. However, after the loss, the FBI withdrew their aid from L. This forces L to work with the NPA, however they're already distrusting of him.



The NPA are outraged finding out that L was probing them with the FBI, and now that the 12 agents died, they're further emotionally manipulated to fear Kira and distrust L.



Souchiro discusses with the NPA about what next steps they should take. As now the risk of pursuing Kira is apparent, their lives are at huge risk. Especially since their identities are easy to grasp in comparison to L's identity's ambiguity. Before, this specific task force had 141 members, but now significantly reduced to 6 members. Light has effectively neutralised L's influence. L previously had the FBI backing him, and was leading the NPA; overall, he had influence over 153 people. And because of Light cornering L (whilst not even directly confronting him), that influence and trust was almost entirely lost. And even among these 6, some still do not trust L.



Light shielded this strategy by misdirecting L to focus on the notes criminals left behind rather than the FBI agents, completely concealing his involvement in the bus hijacking plan. Even L himself is frustrated, recognising he should've focused on the agents. During this uproar, Light has perfectly assessed the tension and emotionally perceives every party involved and their thought processes.



The final knot in this strategy is Light's declaration to his father at the dinner table after Soichiro reveals that FBI agents entered Japan to aid in the Kira investigation and that they were killed. Soichiro states that he'll continue pursuing Kira, Light agrees with his decision, and instead, adds on by saying that 'if anything happens to you dad, then I'll make sure Kira is executed, I promise'. Demonstrating Light Yagami's genuinely insane foresight horizon. He, in my opinion, didn't perfectly predict his own father's death here, but he definitely knew that the possibility of Soichiro dying existed. Light again acts like a supportive son, concealing that the most wanted criminal is literally across from Soichiro at the dinner table. Again, fooling his family. And now, Soichiro is definitely much more alert, and still fails to see through Light's deception. Ryuk compliments Light on his acting skills and killing the 12 FBI agents' plan.
(VSI, Divergent, Creative, Critical, Logical Thinking, Direct Manipulation, EE, EM, EU, Strategy Concealment, Strategy Adaptability)



One final clue

The remaining members admit their distrust of L, so L cautiously arranges for them to meet him at a hotel. At the hotel, L is thinking about what has happened so far, and states that it's okay that he's revealing his identity for the first time. Whilst this, Light Yagami is thinking over his previous moves, frustrated at himself for thinking like he would be suspected.

The task force meets L, and they discuss what to do next. L lists out a timeline.

December 14 - 12 FBI agents entered Japan
December 19 - Kira uses criminals for tests

L states that Kira found out about the presence of the FBI during these 5 days, however the deduction isn't airtight. Light did find out about Raye stalking him, but gained information about the FBI during the bus hijacking plan, on the 20th. This is just a minute detail that is more so a byproduct of Light's scheme, which concealed Light finding out that the third party was the FBI. He knew of the presence of a third party, but not precisely that it was the FBI. This small detail is very important, but due to the infrastructure of the scheme Light carried out, this detail is by consequence concealed. L resumes the timeline.

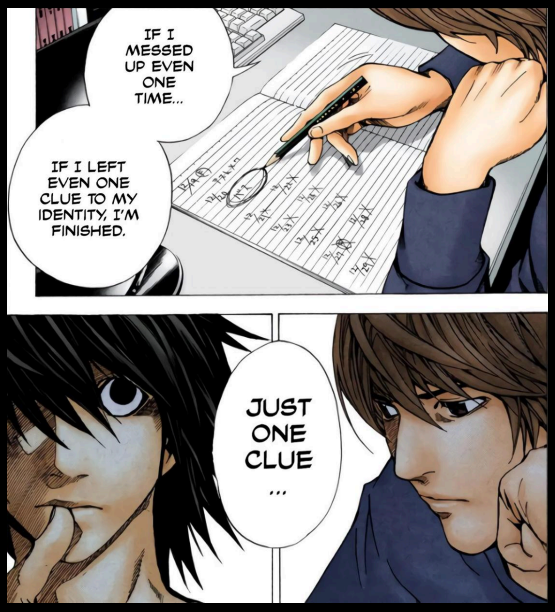
December 27 - Kira kills all 12 FBI agents

During the 8 day period between December 19-27, Kira targets 23 individuals that are unlike his previous targets, the point of these 23 criminals is to conceal the true people he had to kill. This layer of Light's scheme serves as further shielding and misdirection. L confirms that Kira is amongst the people that the FBI were probing.

Soichiro, after the explanation, asks if L hates losing, him showing his face is an indirect admission that he lost to Kira. L responds that indeed, him showing his face and the death of the FBI agents were a loss.

L goes back to the window, thinking to himself. He needs one clue. Light Yagami is analysing the past few days as well, going through his memories and sequences of events to

remember or recognise if he made any mistakes. Knowing that with one clue, his identity would be uncovered. Light is effectively mind reading L here, as they both think about one final clue. L needs to find one clue to uncover Light's identity, however Light needs to find one clue to further conceal his identity.



Light Yagami's scheme, dare I say, has no holes. Light Yagami's shielding of the entire scheme was to conceal his involvement in the bus hijacking plan. The 'one clue' that both L and Light are looking for is that Light and Raye were on the same bus. Because it makes Light heavily suspicious. L would then realise that Kira knew the presence of a third party, however he found out about the FBI on the 20th. L already suspects Kira to kill with a face and name, control the time of death and also manipulate his victim's actions before death to an extent. L, through finding out Light was on the bus, would place immediate suspicion onto him and reason out the bus hijacking plan. That's why I outlined why L's deduction isn't airtight. The clue he's searching for is within this loose deduction. This is also the reason why Light was forced to kill Naomi Misora (Queen) because Naomi grasped upon the one clue that Light wanted to conceal.

Review

Overall, Light's scheme was very robust and well shielded. His learning of the Death Note allowed him to utilise it creatively, ultimately cornering L. L's influence was neutralised, leaving L with the remaining 6 NPA members, and without aid from the FBI. L is a detective who has kept his identity anonymous for an extremely long time, the fact that Light was able to force L out of anonymity portrays how successful L isolation strategy was.

I'll now detail other reasons why L isolation is a good strategy.

The death note is a weapon with restrictions. A lot of people often say that L was very disadvantaged during his intellectual battle with Light. But I personally believe that both characters' advantages and disadvantages made them neutral, and honestly slightly disadvantageous for Light. The death note itself has a lot of restrictions and due to the method of how Light isolates L, subsequently information is leaked to L. This being Kira can control the victims actions before death and the time of death. Furthermore, the death note can kill only within plausible reason. This is shown during Light's tests, for example when he tried making a criminal draw L's face. Of course, the criminal couldn't do it because he didn't know L's face, so drawing L's face before his death would be unnatural.

Another restriction Light had in comparison to a shinigami is the lack of shinigami eyes. Although he did decline Ryuk's offer, without the eyes it was harder for him to find out Raye's name. Light is not invincible with the death note, and this is apparent considering L's perceptiveness. The death note itself has rules on how it can be used, and of course Light needs to account for these rules. Alongside this comes with the heavy responsibility and insane adversity capacity wielding the Death Note itself. I outlined it already when making my comparison from L isolation Light to Chapter 1 Light. The Death Note brings about bad luck and misfortune, so the fact that Light was able to basically evade the misfortune whilst orchestrating schemes resilient enough to withstand the death note's bad luck. Buffing Light Yagami's strategy, trap evasion and adversity capacity.



Another aspect where Light was heavily disadvantaged against L was the immense gap in crystallised intelligence between them, which I see a lot of people gloss over. Light was only 17 during the implementation of L isolation strategy, whilst L was 25. Furthermore, L had solved many cases before, and basically had a huge knowledge bank regarding how criminals operate. This is evident in his psychological profiling of Kira and manages to trap him with the Broadcast strategy. However, even whilst this gap of 8 years Light managed to outmanoeuvre L and seriously damage his influence. Light was literally the smartest high school student in Japan (still impressive) facing the world's greatest detective.

Counter arguments

1) **“L isolation was not necessary”**

Light needed to kill L as soon as possible. L managed to narrow down Kira through the broadcast strategy from the entire world to the Kanto region in a very short span of time. He also managed to prove that Kira is not a deity but that he exists. L has mass influence all over the police, evident in his leadership of the NPA and gaining cooperation with the FBI. L was a constant threat to Light. The desire for Light to kill L subsequently helps him in cementing himself as the God of the New World. Even if L didn’t oppose a significant threat after narrowing him down to the Kanto region (which shows his intelligence), L would certainly be a threat in the future, and that future would be very near. Light led L closer to himself so he could outsmart and kill him. Through L isolation, Light would’ve been able to eradicate the intellectual threat that was L, which would let Light move more freely. L is literally a detective, the best in the world that is on Kira’s every move, it was necessary for Light to corner L now before letting L corner him in the future.

Light had nothing on L strategically, L would eventually find Light, and force him out of hiding. L had narrowed down who Kira was a substantial amount, but Light had not much of an idea of who L is. Yes, Light does have such a weapon, but this weapon is still restricted, and it’s obvious that Light doesn’t know L’s name or face. The point of L isolation is to force him out of anonymity, neutralise his influence and gain knowledge of L’s face and name to actually use his murder weapon. He isn’t stating that he would be safe by hiding, L would eventually force him out of hiding, which Light wants to avoid.

Ego does play a role within Light’s decision to implement the scheme, but it is a smaller factor in comparison to preventing L from forcing him out of hiding.

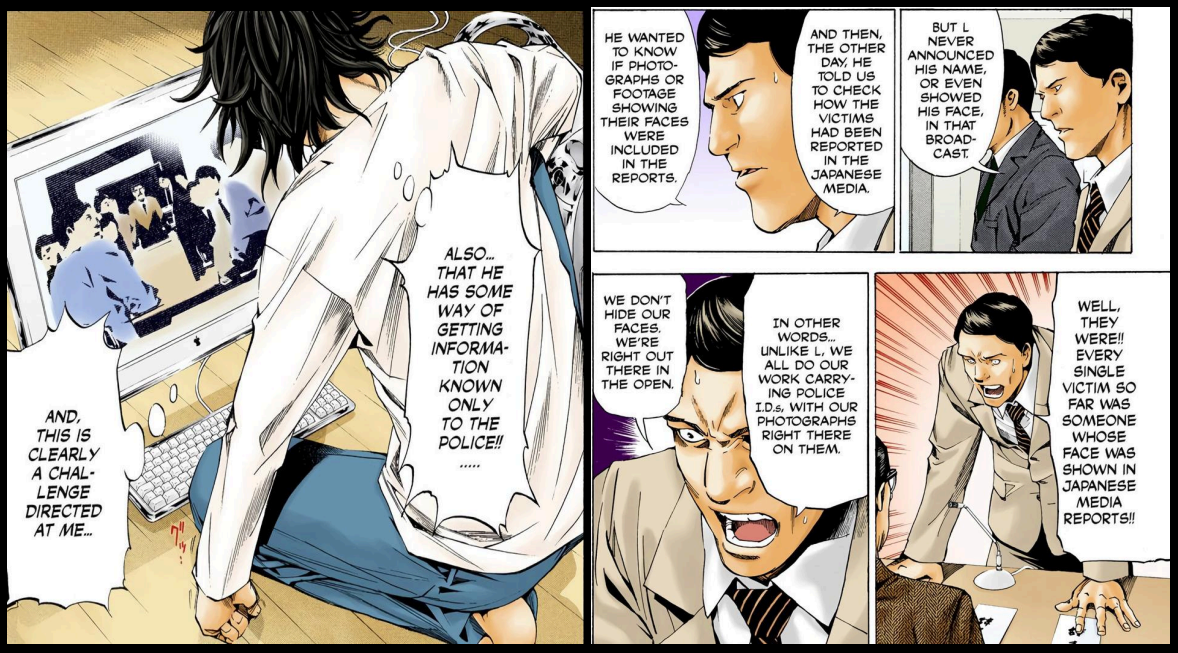
2) **“Light’s scheme ignores how real dynamics within institutions work”**

It’s a fictional world. (I just wanted to say that). Institutions are regulated by both trust and authority. Without one or the other, the structure collapses. There’s trust in the authority for them to carry out their responsibility properly. A government governs people, the people trust that the government meets their responsibilities. Without this trust, the support for governments would collapse, and be overridden with a new authority. Institutions itself, such as the NPA here are regulated by authority officially, but there is the emotional personal aspect which is the trust factor, which Light exploits. Light manipulates the trust factor, which subsequently questions the authority.

3) **“Due to the information leak, the police would suspect each other, not L.”**

Firstly, L is the only person who’s identity they don’t know, and the criminal they’re pursuing has an ambiguous identity. Light manipulates the fear the NPA officers feel, where they illogically suspect L as Kira. This illogical suspicion was orchestrated by Light. But even aside that…they don’t know about the leak?

Light's distrust strategy forced L to conceal his second deduction, that being Kira is connected with the NPA. However, the NPA only believe that Kira is not a student and an actual higher being, and are manipulated emotionally to fear for their lives as they're hunting him down. The officers have their identities public, whereas L's identity is obscure and that's where they get manipulated. L concealed his second deduction, and the officers were led to fear for their lives, which Light exploited so they would resign from the investigation. They have no knowledge of the information leak, only L does.



Argument: "Light's prediction of L's moves are wrong, L would suspect people around the police and not the police themselves"

L received files of all 141 NPA members that included the members themselves and their 'immediate' family. Why would L not spy on the NPA members themselves? This would've been a terrible oversight by L, since he wouldn't be thorough. The leak itself can be interpreted in a reverse psychological sense, where L could reason that Kira is attempting to misdirect him.

There was a data leak within the NPA. -> Kira is connected with the NPA -> What if Kira is one of the 141 NPA members? -> No, it would be illogical to do a move that points directly to themselves -> But what if Kira wants me to only suspect the immediate family because he actually is within the NPA.

This would most likely be the thought process of L if he viewed the data leak in a reverse psychological sense. Therefore, causing him to spy on the NPA themselves.

Due to the data leak, only a couple of officers left. It's still plausible to think that Kira is among the officers who haven't left the investigation. There were 141 members of the NPA. Following the calculations later presented in the debunk document, there are overall 564 suspects. 141 of these suspects are the NPA. Why would L not thoroughly go through all of

the 564 suspects, when there's a huge chance of Kira hiding in the NPA itself. That's ¼ of the suspect pool.

I honestly don't really understand the 4th point of the argument. L obviously isn't going to spy on 564 people himself and instead use a third party to probe the suspects. This third party being the FBI which L called to spy on the suspects on his behalf.

4) **"The police would not track down L"**

This entire argument is honestly nonsensical. Let me decipher why. The police would track down L because they would associate him with Kira. They would either think that he's Kira, or at the very least distrust him. The association of L with Kira would be derived from the lack of identity of both the criminal and detective. The police wouldn't think L is 'incompetent', that isn't shown through Light's predictions nor the police's thoughts about L. If anything, the police recognised L as intelligent. Although this recognition was before L isolation strategy, it still breaks down the first option, that the police would track down L because he is incompetent.



The second option is that L is Kira/pro Kira. Obviously, this is illogical. But Light's foresight did encompass this as a factor to why the police would track L down. The police are emotionally manipulated into fearing Kira and associating Kira with L due to the lack of identity, as I've stated countless times before. But the true essence of Light's foresight and why the police would even begin to 'track down L' is to get a log of his identity. To gain L's identity is to make the police investigation fair. The police are manipulated to think L could be Kira, but also recognise that L has a major advantage over them, that being he's currently safe from Kira's harm. The three officers who resigned stated how L is hidden. And other people commented on the unfairness. Ultimately, the fact that the police and L were not level in the sense of equality in the investigation, is why the police would "track down L". The words are exaggerated by Light here for dramatic effect, but the meaning remains the same. The police are obviously not going to figure out L's identity to kill him, but to reestablish trust and equality. This was literally why the NPA numbers drastically fell from 141 down to 5. Proof of this is shown in the panels I've already linked, but here's just some more evidence.



5) "Thus, Light's foresight is canonically wrong"

No. Light foresight on the police tracking down L is correct, due to the emotional manipulation of the police officers. The police would obviously keep tabs on L especially since a lot of the members are expressing their dissatisfaction with the progression of the case. It's just that it's harder to track down L due to his anonymity, it's easier for L to probe the NPA due to his influence. The NPA themselves don't have this sort of influence. And although the police tracking down L wasn't as successful as L probing the NPA, Light canonically predicted accurately, as the 5 NPA members including his father did eventually grab at L's identity. The scale of the NPA "tracking down L" does not match with the influence of L investigating the NPA. Thereby, an inaccurate conclusion is formed here, which is what the argument presented. Light's foresight is canonically correct.

Calculations:

There were 141 members in the NPA, if we average it down to immediate family interpreted as a spouse and 2 kids, that makes 141 x 4 = 564. It can be argued that L requested information on the NPA's immediate family, that being siblings, parents etc. Because plausibly, L was looking through this information and we see a huge stack of papers. On the first page, there's a lot of information in comparison to Soichros's page. But, this is not necessary to widen the suspect pool above 564 if we include immediate family of the NPA being siblings, parents etc, so it's up to you the reader to decide. I honestly don't really mind if the suspect pool is 564 suspects because these calculations are much cleaner.

But there's something that is much more important than this. A lot of people downplay Light for L isolation due to it allowing L to narrow down who Kira is by a significant margin. L is just too perceptive. But even aside that, L firstly narrowed down Kira from 6.4 billion to 40 million. And then, he narrowed it down from 40 million to 564 suspects. This seemingly is a massive antifeat for Light. But again, L only had knowledge of the second suspect pool, whilst the

NPA thought kira to be within 40 million people, making L unable to lead the NPA. Even whilst this, 564 suspects is still a massive suspect pool.

Light himself understands that he wouldn't be suspected directly even amongst being the 564, his moves did not identify nor reveal him to be the culprit within the 564. Nor did he intend for L to suspect solely him. This is also another part where a lot of people say that Light's goals are inconsistent. That Light purposefully does moves that point to him being Kira.

Light purposefully does move to make solely L suspect the 564, however his scheme has tactics which misdirect/shield his identity from L. When he formulates his plan on getting rid of Raye, he recognises that he will eventually fall under suspicion amongst the massive suspect pool which is 564 suspects. Light wants to eliminate that inevitable suspicion. L literally confirms that the FBI have started their "probe". Probe means to thoroughly investigate a matter. This thorough investigation from the FBI (with 12 individual FBI agents who need to complete the probing in absolute secrecy from the NPA) who need to investigate 564 different individuals would definitely take a long time.

1 FBI = 8 x 3 = 24
12 FBI = 12 x 24

One FBI agent would stalk 8 individuals. This stalking would take 24 days (8 x 3).
12 FBI agents are simultaneously doing this, so in 24 days, they would have investigated 96 people. (12 x 8).

There are 564 suspects. 564/96 = 5.875 = rounded to 6 sets. 6 sets x 24 days = 144. It would take nearly 5 months for the FBI agents to probe everyone.

This goes to show just how massive the suspect pool really is. Yes, it isn't as big as what it was previously, however only L had the second suspect pool, and even then Light was among many others. Therefore, Light's scheme operated on him without being directly suspected. The scale of the suspect pool is too big. And, this also explains the apparent inconsistency of Light's goal, he did not want to be directly suspected by L.

6) **"Light relied upon Raye not remembering his voice."**

Raye couldn't remember Light's voice. Raye was stalking Light for 2 days, on the second day, the day of the bus jacking incident was the one where Raye directly interacted with Light. He was only in very close proximity to light for a short amount of time, and was distracted by the bus jacking, therefore his focus was more on Osoreda during that time frame rather than Light. As Yuri meets Light at the bus station, it's too far away for Raye to have an accurate hearing of Light's voice. Lets say that Yuri and Light roughly boarded the bus at 11:30, they met 5 minutes before. So Raye would hear Light's voice (at a further distance) for 5 minutes (even then, it's likely that the two weren't talking for the entirety of the 5 minutes). Raye is now behind Light. Light and Raye only exchange a few lines of dialogue to each other during the bus jacking, exactly 4 points of interest where Light directly talks with Raye in the bus (in whispers).

Firstly, asking if he's Japanese. Secondly, asking if he's an accomplice and his reasoning. Thirdly, his decision to trust Raye. And lastly, asking Raye if he would step up in case of extremity (Osoreda shooting up the bus).

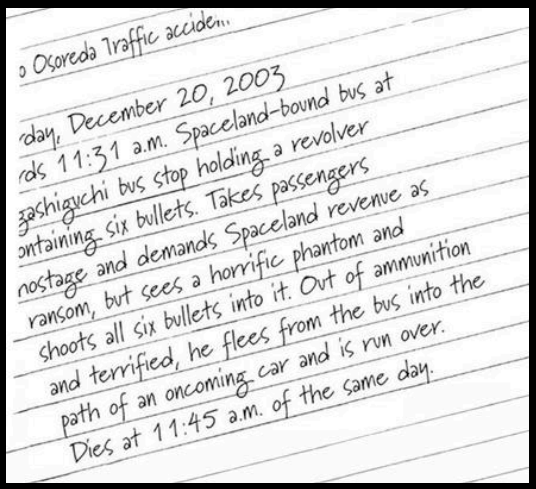
Raye is an FBI agent, so dealing with criminals is his nature, that doesn't mean he's immediately desensitised from dealing with live criminals. Osoreda is a huge threat, he's dangerous because he's most probably under the influence of some drugs and recently killed 3 people. Raye's focus is momentarily derailed from observing Light to protecting the people in the bus. His attention is on Osoreda, not Light.



During the bus hijacking, it's clear that Raye is dealing with stress and has to manage himself accordingly (as indicated by his sweat drops and reaching for his breast pocket assuming that Osoreda would start shooting). When Osoreda runs out the bus, Raye follows after him. After his exchange with Light to gain his trust, he doesn't talk with him on the bus.

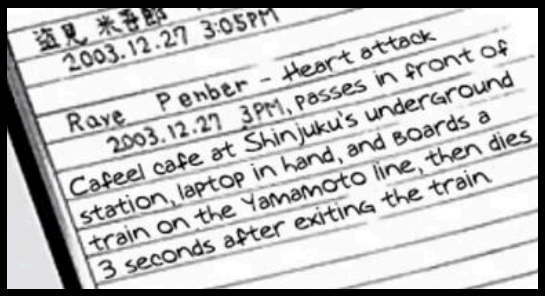
After Osoreda gets runned over, Raye and Light talk to each other for the last time, and that's them agreeing to keep Raye's presence at the bus jacking. And even this was a short exchange, where Raye was mostly talking. In this exchange, Light only says 13 last words.

By the page in the death note we clearly see:



That means, Light and Yuri boarded the bus at 11:30am, Osoreda boarded at 11:31am and initiated the jacking, and was killed 14 minutes later. Even if we extend the time, and say that Light and Yuri instead boarded at 11:25am, and the questioning whether Raye is trustworthy took maximum 2 minutes, Raye being in the closest proximity to Light to hear his voice would be 3-8 minutes (assuming that Raye and Light stopped talking on the bus at 11:33am), and even whilst the direct exchange, Raye's focus was being derailed from observing Light to protecting everyone on the bus (which again is shown by him reaching for his breastpocket and calling for everyone to get down when Osoreda starts firing). And at the end, Light only exchanged 13 words with Raye, before Raye went off. If we want a precise word count for how many words Light said on screen, this is it: 99 words (and if we count the 'oops' Light said although not directly at Raye it would be 100 words). Furthermore, it's crucial to point out the positioning of these two when they're talking to each other. Raye is facing forward, and Light is also facing forward, not facing Raye. So even though Raye was in direct proximity and communication with Light, he didn't actually have the conversation face to face. And overall, Light only exchanged at maximum 113 words with Raye.

Another thing I wanted to point out is that Raye only stalked Light for 2 days, and only had a short time in direct communication with him. The bus jacking occurred on the 20th of December. Raye was approached by Light on the 27th in Shinjuku underground station, which is a very busy station with several people passing by. Meaning an entire week passed from talking with Light.



Yes, Light was right behind Raye (again, not face to face communication) but even then, considering the anxiety talking with the most wanted criminal who you're trying to catch in an underground station (and based on my research, Shinjuku was the most busiest station in December 2003) with a ton of background noise including music and several passengers, it would be hard focusing to pinpoint a voice that a person didn't hear much of.

Nonetheless, Light only talked to Raye behind him for a short while, before switching communication over a transceiver which would definitely muffle his voice.

Considering the fact that it's easy to recognise someone by their face more than their voice, including the contextual factors such as change of attention, it's easy to prove why Raye couldn't remember Light Yagami's voice. It was fine for Light to forecast that raye wouldn't remember his voice.

Even if Raye remembered, what could he have done? It wasn't necessary in the first place for Raye to remember Light's voice. If let's say Raye wrote down that it was Light so the police could retrieve it, there would be many issues with this counter.

Firstly the lack of evidence pointing to Light. Light wasn't seen on any of the Yamanote line cameras. Secondly, Raye himself would've noted on the system one week prior that Light isn't suspicious, so making this claim 1 week after would be contradictory. Thirdly, it would be hard to prove if Raye had even written a note stating that Light was Kira, because there could be possibilities that Raye was manipulated into writing down that Light is Kira, potentially Kira is framing Light, which would definitely cross L's mind since L suspects Kira's victim's actions can be manipulated before death.