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Note: These are short summaries, so there may be minor differences, as Solo compiled everything to make it easier to read and understand comprehensively. Please point out any minor differences to Solo so that they can provide evidence or correct any minor inaccuracies that may have occurred during the compilation process.

Y1V3 - Uninhabited Island Exam

Exam Rules: This is the first special exam that the students will take. It takes place on a deserted island and allows classes to earn class points. Each class starts the exam with 300 points, which they can use to make the necessary purchases to survive on the island. The remaining points at the end of the exam will be added to their class points, so it is essential to save as much as possible. Each class must appoint a leader and will then receive an electronic card with the leader's name written on it.

There are different ways to gain and lose points:

1. Expenses for basic necessities: Food, water, etc. These do not cost too much, approximately 5 points maximum.
2. A student's withdrawal: Losing a student costs the class 30 points.
3. School roll calls: The school will make announcements requiring everyone to gather at 8 AM and 8 PM. If a student fails to show up, the class loses 5 points per absent student.
4. Spots: There are locations that classes can conquer using their leader's card. A spot conquered by a class expires after 8 hours. After that period, it must be conquered again. Each spot earns 1 point.
5. Identifying the opposing class leader: If a class manages to guess and write down the name of the actual leader of a competing class at the end of the exam, it earns 50 points per leader.
6. Incorrectly identifying a leader: If a class writes down the wrong leader's name at the end of the exam, it loses 50 points per incorrect name.
7. Changing leaders: It is possible to change leaders during the exam, but there must be a valid reason.

Class A starts with 270 points due to Sakayanagi's handicap, which prevents her from participating.

Leader Change Strategy

Horikita asks Ayanokoji for an explanation regarding Class D's victory on the ship, and he reveals how he managed to achieve it.

First Day:

He explains that on the first day, before the ship landed on the island, the school asked all the students to gather together and then took a detour, circling the island at full speed. At the time, it was impossible to know why, since nobody knew there would be a special exam. However, once the exam began, he understood that this was done to show the students the cleared vegetation that formed a path, as well as a large cave located between a well and a river. (Observation, logical reasoning)

He thinks that perhaps other students understood the school's hint and would probably intend to capture the cave spot first because it is the most strategic location thanks to its position.

Once the exam begins, he agrees to help the class by searching for a campsite to make a good impression, but his real objective at that moment is to take advantage of the opportunity to locate as many spots as possible so he can get ahead of the other classes.

Hirata suggests forming groups of three among the volunteers to avoid getting lost. He decides to wait until the groups are formed so that he can end up with the least sociable students, and he eventually ends up with Koenji and Sakura.

He does this deliberately in order to obtain the role of guide for the group, allowing him to secretly control the direction in which they go and lead them wherever he wants. If he were in the same group as Ike, for example, Ike would be the group leader, meaning there would be a high probability that he would not go in the direction Ayanokoji wanted.

Since he is with Sakura and Koenji, all he has left to do is head directly towards the cave by following the cleared vegetation. His objective is to check whether a student from another class was intelligent enough to understand the island detour. If someone had understood it, they would probably be from Class A, since they were the first ones to understand the school's trap regarding the private point deductions caused by breaking the rules.(vol 1)

It is also worth adding that there is a high chance that Class A would quickly capture the spot because they would want to compensate for their 30-point deficit.

To head towards the cave without appearing suspicious, he moves in that direction while pretending not to know where he is going and making it seem as though he is simply looking for a campsite.

Once he arrives near the cave, he hides behind a tree with Sakura because he sees Katsuragi and Yahito coming out of the cave. Katsuragi is holding his class's electronic card at the cave entrance.

Once the duo from Class A leaves, he enters the cave with Sakura to see whether Class A has captured it, and it turns out that they have.

Ayanokoji finds it intelligent of them to have acquired a spot so early, since this allows them to earn 3 points per day from this single spot alone (8 hours / 16 hours / 24 hours), helping them compensate for the loss of 30 points.

However, he still finds it strange that only two of them went there, because now he knows that the leader of their class is one of those two, which is a major mistake.

He hypothesizes that Yahito was the one who made the mistake of rushing directly to the spot with the card of his own accord, and that Katsuragi attempted to correct his mistake by deliberately exposing himself with the card in order to deceive anyone who might be spying on them nearby.

This was confirmed on the fourth day (I will explain how during that part of the analysis).

Yes, Ayanokoji got lucky in this situation, as he himself admitted, but he never assumed that this would happen. This means that he already had a plan in mind to identify the leader of Class A, and that arranging this encounter was only one step in his original plan.

Without Yahito's mistake, more Class A students would have volunteered to cover up the leader's identity by staying around him.

All Ayanokoji would have to do is spy on their class every 8 hours at every spot they capture to see which student has consistently been present from the beginning.

Once that is done, the conclusion will be obvious. Since he is aware of the division between the Sakayanagi and Katsuragi factions, he will be able to identify the leader of Class A more quickly based on the information he gathered through Ichinose.

The point is that whether or not this stroke of luck happened, the result would have been the same. Ayanokoji did not say that without Yahito's mistake, he would not have found their leader. He said that it would have been more complicated.

In the evening, the class agrees that Horikita will be the leader of the exam, so her name is written on the card.

A little later that day, Ayanokoji accepts Hirata's proposal to go and collect wood for a fire. He asks Yamauchi if he wants to help, but he refuses.

Yamauchi then accepts his request when he sees that Sakura has agreed to help. This is when Ayanokoji realizes that Yamauchi has his sights set on Sakura, and he confirms that he intends to get into a relationship with her.

While searching for wood, they come face-to-face with a girl from another class who is alone on a tree, as if she had been abandoned, with injuries.

This girl is Ibuki from Class C. When Ayanokoji asks her what she is doing there, she does not answer, claiming that it is none of his business.

Yamauchi asks her whether he should call a teacher to help her, but she insists that she simply had an argument with her class.

When Yamauchi asks her to come to their class's campsite, she shows no intention of doing so, justifying her refusal by saying that they are her enemies and that she does not trust them.

A little while later, they take Ibuki to their campsite to help her properly. They bring her to Hirata to find out what they should do with her because they did not want to abandon her alone in the forest.

When Hirata wants to question Ibuki about what happened between her and her class, she refuses to talk about it and then prepares to leave. This convinces Hirata that she is not a spy, because a spy would not take the risk of leaving like that.

She then simply tells him that she had an argument with a boy from her class and that he hit her.

After saying this, she says that she does not want to continue taking advantage of their hospitality and once again intends to leave. However, Hirata asks her to wait because he intends to convince the rest of the class to let her stay.

Following Hirata's argument that Class C will lose 5 points because of her absence from the gathering, Class D agrees to let Ibuki stay at their campsite.

We know that Ayanokoji noticed that the ground where Ibuki was sitting near the tree seemed to have been slightly disturbed. He therefore dug at that spot on intuition and found a walkie-talkie.

Here, he demonstrated excellent observation and intuition because, despite it being nighttime, he was able to notice tiny disturbances in the ground that could have been caused by rain, and still decided to dig to make sure.

Second Day:

On the morning of the second day, Ayanokoji secretly searches through Ibuki's bag while everyone is still asleep because he is still suspicious of her.

He finds nothing unusual except for a camera that appears to have been rented, which is very strange because her class used points to purchase one, and this seems inconsistent since it serves no purpose for survival.

At this point, he becomes even more suspicious that Ibuki is a spy sent by Ryuuen.

A little later, two students from Class C (Komiya and Kondo) come to visit Class D's campsite to invite them to come and enjoy themselves at their camp, provoking them a little about their survival conditions because they are eating chips.

Ayanokoji visits Class C's campsite with Horikita, and they are surprised to see that they are genuinely wasting all their points having fun on the beach they captured as a spot.

They have purchased a barbecue, additional toilets, an enormous amount of bottled water, beer, chairs, sunscreen, and so on. Everything shows that they are genuinely uninterested in the special exam.

When Horikita questions Ryuuen about Ibuki, he simply tells her that he hit her after a disagreement over the use of points. This is very convincing given the situation.

He even makes a remark about another classmate who tried to rebel and jokes that he must be wandering around the island eating insects.

He even advises them to stop hosting Ibuki because their kindness is costing them more resources than expected, considering that she can return to their campsite whenever she wants but should apologize and get on her knees.

During this conversation, he demonstrates that he genuinely does not care about his two abandoned classmates, nor does he care about the special exam.

Ayanokoji tells Horikita that Class C will withdraw from the exam once they no longer have enough points and that they will do the same thing as Koenji, meaning they will return to the ship with an unconvincing excuse that will be sufficient because the school does not care.

However, he hides the part where he saw a walkie-talkie on Ryuuen's table and concluded that if Ryuuen needed to contact Ibuki, he would necessarily have to remain on the island.

This allows him to reach the conclusion that Ryuuen is the leader of Class C because a leader cannot withdraw from the exam without a valid reason, whereas the others can withdraw without any real reason, as Koenji did.

He understands that his class's withdrawal is nothing more than a cover to protect his identity because nobody will suspect Ryuuen of staying behind when they have run out of points.

However, the other classes will conclude that the leader is either Ibuki or Kaneda because, from their point of view, they are the only ones who remained on the island.

The only thing he still does not understand is why Ibuki must bring proof of the leader's identity.

After all, nobody would dare to lie because it would harm their own progress towards Class A. Furthermore, lying to Ryuuen would mean getting violently beaten.

Third Day:

Nothing new.

Fourth Day:

He decides to check whether Class A has captured the spots hidden behind the cave in order to gather information about their methods.

This is when he encounters two students from Class A who attempt to bribe him by selling their class's leader identity in exchange for a large number of private points.

Ayanokoji pretends to be skeptical, and when the two students suggest making a contract, he replies that he wants to discuss it with Katsuragi because he is their leader.

However, they get angry because their leader is Sakayanagi.

He refuses their offer and then goes to visit Class C's camp, where he runs into Ichinose and Kanzaki, who have also come to visit their camp.

He takes this opportunity to ask them why Class A is divided into two factions.

Ichinose explains that Katsuragi and Sakayanagi are the two leaders of Class A and that they do not get along because they have completely different ways of thinking, which creates a division.

He learns that Sakayanagi is the aggressive type, while Katsuragi is the opposite: someone defensive and cautious.

It is from this moment that he understands that the leader of Class A is indeed Yahito, who rushed to capture the cave spot as quickly as possible, and that Katsuragi decided to cover up his mistake by deliberately exposing himself with the card in front of the cave entrance to deceive any potential spies hiding behind the trees.

He also understands that Class A and Class C are in an alliance because he knows that if Class C must provide proof of the leaders' identities, it is to show it to someone suspicious.

The only person this could be is Katsuragi, because this is a cautious method of verifying their identities before writing them down at the end, ensuring that they gain as many points as possible.

Fifth Day:

On the morning of the fifth day, the girls forcibly wake up the class to announce something.

They say that Karuizawa can no longer find one of her pairs of panties and that she is currently crying inside her tent.

The class is divided into two groups: the girls and the boys, because the girls immediately conclude that this is the work of a perverted boy from the class.

Hirata (the only boy they trust) searches through every boy's bags and pockets at the girls' request to prove to them that none of them is the thief.

Ayanokoji and Yamauchi notice that Ike is acting strangely, and then they notice that the panties are inside his bag.

Ayanokoji deduces that it cannot be Ike because the thief would not be stupid enough to put the panties in his own bag afterward, knowing that it is logical for the girls to request a search.

The thief is someone else who placed the panties in his bag to frame him.

Ayanokoji lets Ike hand him the panties and places them in his own pocket, anticipating that Hirata would pretend he did not have the panties and say nothing to the others in order to explain the situation privately with him.

This is because Hirata is a rational person and trusts Ayanokoji, so he would conclude that Ayanokoji is potentially not the culprit.

Once this is done, he goes to see Hirata and pretends not to understand why he said nothing. Hirata replies that this is not at all like him.

Ayanokoji investigates the theft following Hirata's request and tells him that he will inform him once he finds the culprit.

Ayanokoji is almost certain that the thief is Ibuki because he knows that she is the spy who was sent, and this division greatly increases her chances of finding the leader's card.

He is able to confirm this following his conversation with her a few moments later because she does not stop looking him in the eyes while trying to appear innocent.

How was he able to conclude with certainty that she was the thief?

The first time they found her abandoned all alone, she played her role perfectly by pretending that she had been beaten and abandoned by Ryuuen, all while constantly looking them in the eyes.

He already knew that when Ibuki lies, she looks people in the eyes, since he had found the evidence of her spying.

Later that day, he collaborates with Horikita to set a trap for Ibuki so they can resolve the problem as quickly as possible.

He also tells Horikita that he has understood that she has been taking the exam while sick from the beginning and that she had attempted to lie to him by saying that she was reading a book in her room during the trip, when in reality she was resting.

Horikita denies this, but he tells her that ever since they were on the bridge before the exam, he noticed that a few strands of her hair were sticking up on her forehead, and that she had said she was cold even though it was hot.

Even now, she is wearing a cardigan despite the heat.

She eventually admits it.

Sixth Day:

On the morning of the sixth day, they have to go and search for food in small groups.

Hirata, Yamauchi, Horikita, Kushida, and Ayanokoji volunteer.

Ayanokoji then suggests that Ibuki come with them, telling her that it is the last day and that he does not want to force her.

Ibuki accepts as expected because she needs to maintain her good impression in front of them.

If she refuses, it would be suspicious because she might have something to hide.

Horikita suggests continuing the search in pairs, so she naturally pairs up with Ayanokoji.

He immediately asks her how she manages the card while the others are still nearby forming their pairs.

She replies that she always keeps it on her for safety.

He then asks her to show it to him because he had seen Katsuragi holding an electronic card on the first day (this is simply an excuse to get her to show him the card).

She gives it to him for a moment so he can compare it.

While standing with his back turned to the others to prevent Ibuki from seeing the card, he then returns it to Horikita.

At that moment, he pretends to have a panic attack, which attracts everyone's attention.

However, the objective was to make Ibuki notice that Horikita is the one who possesses the electronic card.

Ayanokoji then asks Yamauchi to pour a large amount of mud onto Horikita's hair, but he refuses out of fear because she will definitely hit him.

He then tells him that he will get Sakura's email address if he does it, and Yamauchi agrees.

Yamauchi then pours mud on Horikita's hair for the sake of "fun", which naturally makes Horikita want to wash herself.

She heads towards the shower cabin but notices that there are three girls from the class waiting for their turn, meaning she will have to wait a long time, which she cannot afford.

Ayanokoji suggests that she go and wash herself in the river, and she accepts so that Ibuki can steal the electronic card without any interference.

How did Ayanokoji know that there would be girls waiting for their turn to shower?

Quite simply because they are on a deserted island where there is a high probability of getting dirty.

Add to that the fact that it is constantly hot, which encourages people to wash themselves regularly, and we are also talking about girls who generally like to take care of themselves.

Horikita notices that the card has been stolen and informs Ayanokoji (who already knows).

They then agree not to let Ibuki out of their sight in order to prevent her from escaping.

Horikita, who is already extremely sick, is placed under enormous pressure because Class D risks losing the exam because of her, which further worsens her mental state.

When Ibuki returns to retrieve her camera to take a picture of the card, she discovers that it does not work (because Ayanokoji secretly destroyed it).

This encourages her to take the card directly back to Ryuuen, but she needs an opportunity to leave without appearing suspicious.

15 minutes later, Ayanokoji steals a manual from Hirata's bag and burns it inside the toilet cabin, creating confusion and making Ibuki the most suspicious person.

She therefore decides to take advantage of the situation to escape.

From Horikita's point of view, Ibuki is the one who started the fire, so she immediately decides to chase after her with complete determination in order to correct her mistake.

This will exhaust her and bring her to a state where she will no longer be able to continue the exam.

He waits until the confrontation between Ibuki and Horikita is over so that Ibuki can get rid of Horikita using force, and as expected, she becomes unconscious afterward.

This allows Ibuki to bring the card to Ryuuen and Katsuragi to confirm that Horikita is indeed the leader of Class D.

Afterward, he anticipates that either Ryuuen or Ibuki will return the card to Horikita in order to cover everything up, because stealing the card is forbidden.

This is when he makes Horikita withdraw in order to change the leader, even though she does not want to, because she has become unconscious again.

This is possible because the fact that Horikita is sick proves that she can no longer continue the exam and can therefore withdraw.

This makes Ayanokoji the new leader of Class D.

He was able to arrange this behind the scenes from the very moment he managed to make Ibuki steal the card, because this allows him to reassure Katsuragi while also making the leader change without Ibuki noticing.

Even though Class D lost 5 points because Ayanokoji was unable to attend the roll call, this did not change the outcome of the exam in any way because:

Class C

Ryuuen had arranged to obtain 0 points and then discover the names of all the leaders, which theoretically would have earned him 150 points and allowed him to win the exam.

However, Ayanokoji understood his plan and deduced that he was the leader (-50 points).

He then made sure that Ryuuen incorrectly identified another leader (-50 points).

Since he found the leaders of Classes A and B, this gives him 100 points minus the deductions (100 points), which comes down to 0 points in the end.

This places Class C in fourth position.

Class A

Class A was able to save a considerable number of points thanks to Class C because Ryuuen provided them with everything he had purchased.

Ayanokoji had deduced their alliance, so he also identified Horikita as their leader, which cost them -50 points.

However, they lose another -50 points because Ayanokoji identified their leader.

They lose another -50 points because Ryuuen also wrote down their leader's name, just as Ayanokoji predicted, since he knows that Ryuuen is unpredictable and might also discover their leader's identity.

Since Class A started with 270 points and finished with 120 points, this means that they spent less points because 220 - 150 + 50(class B leader) = 120.

This places Class A in third position.

Class B

Class B relied on an economy-based strategy and therefore remained on the defensive throughout the entire exam.

Their mistake was being deceived by Ryuuen's strategy by trusting Kaneda, who was a spy.

As a result, they lost -50 points because Ryuuen wrote down his name.

They were lucky that Katsuragi did not accept the photograph of the card that Kaneda had, because he is too suspicious.

They managed to avoid another loss of 50 points.

In total, this gives them 140 points, placing them in second position.

Class D

Class D managed to save 125 points by the end, but since Ayanokoji identified the leaders of Classes A and C, they gained +100 points.

This means they finished the exam with 225 points.

Ayanokoji spared Class B in order not to break their alliance.

This places Class D in first position.

After this, Ayanokoji lies to Hirata by telling him that they won the exam thanks to Horikita because she had understood Class C's plan.

His objective is to make everyone believe that Horikita is the mastermind behind Class D so that he can remain in the shadows.

All the classes were deceived except Ryuuen and Sakayanagi.

Strategy Effectiveness:

1. He won the exam.
2. He remained in the shadows.

Y1V6 - Paper Shuffle Exam Analysis

Exam Rules: This exam consists of every class preparing questions for the other classes to answer. Class D must answer Class C's questions, and vice versa. The exam is taken in pairs, and if their combined scores do not exceed 60 points, they will be expelled.

Before the exam takes place, Class D holds a strategic meeting involving Hirata, Horikita, Kushida, Ayanokoji, and Kei.

Ayanokoji asks Kei to deliberately provoke an argument between herself and Kushida. At some point during the argument, Kei must throw a drink onto Kushida's chest. Kei must then backtrack and offer to wash Kushida's clothes to make amends. Ayanokoji also predicts Hirata's reaction, which is to immediately suggest that Kei should make up for what she did by apologizing and washing the clothes she dirtied for Kushida. (Anticipation, Prediction, Influence)

Doing this provides Ayanokoji with several advantages. First, it allows him to verify how many jackets Kushida owns and whether she would be willing to go out wearing her spare jacket, which still has relatively fresh traces of DNA on it at that point.

When he sees that Kushida desperately needs to retrieve her uniform before her next class because it is apparently her only one, judging by her reaction, he understands two things.

First, Kushida is not willing to take any risks with her uniform against Ayanokoji. Therefore, he will not be able to retrieve it or render it unusable at the moment when Kushida exceptionally wears it because her other uniform is dirty.

Second, he understands that if Kushida only owns one uniform, there is a 100% chance that she will wear it on the day of the exam. (Speed Formulation, Strategy Castling, Strategy Shielding, Direct Manipulation, Influence, Disguise, Anticipation, Prediction)

Ayanokoji therefore realizes that he can put a strategy into motion.

First, he contacts Ryuuen to inform him that his plan is going to fail because Horikita has countered Kushida. In exchange, he asks him for one of two things: "Provide me with the final list of mathematics questions and answers" or "Alternatively, change the list without informing Kikyō Kushida."

Under normal circumstances, Ryuuen would not have responded to such a request. However, X had unexpectedly provided him with useful information for his class without asking for anything in return.

Indeed, he had revealed that Horikita had seen through Ryuuen's scheme and had taken the initiative. Without this unexpected revelation, he would not have noticed what was happening, and some of his classmates who were not particularly academically gifted would have been expelled.

Thus, he had three options available to him. (Negotiation)

The first was to challenge X and give Kushida the correct questions for the mathematics test, allowing her to win her bet against Horikita.

However, Ryuuen desperately wanted to avoid Horikita being expelled. Since Ayanokoji had understood this, he could use it to pressure Ryuuen into making a decision. (Anticipation)

The second solution was to leave the questions unchanged. However, Ayanokoji had just demonstrated that he knew Kushida possessed the answers. X could expose Kushida's cheating, resulting in her expulsion from the school.

However, Ryuuen did not want to give X exactly what he wanted. Playing out X's ideal scenario would not be entertaining. (Anticipation)

The final option, and the one Ryuuen ultimately chose, was to give Kushida the wrong questions and allow Horikita to win. (Strategy Castling, Strategy Shielding, Direct Manipulation, Logical Manipulation)

Koji had understood and read Ryuuen well enough to grasp his relationship with Suzune. He therefore knew that Ryuuen would not allow the first option to happen, especially since he no longer had anything to gain from his agreement with Kushida. Following through with it would

result in expulsions within his own class. (Cold Reading, See Through People, Psychoanalyze, EU)

However, what makes this particularly interesting is that Ayanokoji had taken every possible decision Ryuuen could make into account and ensured that he would come out on top in every scenario.

Ayanokoji then considers the possibility of Kushida winning the exam. He makes sure that, in that scenario, Kushida's victory would be invalidated and that she would instead be the one expelled. (Preparation Process)

To achieve this, he uses the trap he had previously set for Kushida involving her dirty uniform.

Ayanokoji knows that she now only has one uniform. He has also lowered Kushida's guard because she checked all her pockets after the laundry. As a result, she believes that there is nothing that could get her into trouble and that Kei ultimately did not attempt anything.

However, he had anticipated this very reaction and the resulting drop in her guard caused by her excessive confidence.

Now that Kushida believes her pockets are empty after checking them, and knowing that she only wears one uniform, all he needs to do is secretly place cheat sheets inside her uniform when she is not paying attention, such as during PE class.

If Horikita loses, he simply needs to request an investigation, and Kushida will be expelled for cheating instead of Horikita being expelled because of their bet. (Strategy Castling, Strategy Shielding, Indirect Manipulation, Logical Manipulation, Emotional Manipulation, Fabrication)

Ayanokoji has therefore established a three-layered strategy in which he takes into account the different possible outcomes of his plan to ensure that he wins in every scenario.

Throughout this volume, he demonstrates an almost perfect understanding of Ryuuen, as Ryuuen himself acknowledges. He manages to understand his mentality and predict that Ryuuen will not object if someone claims that he did something.

Similarly, Ayanokoji understands Ryuuen well enough to anticipate that he will most likely listen to him and accept the trade. He also sees through Ryuuen and understands that he does not want Horikita to be expelled.

Ultimately, Ryuuen chooses the third option, exactly as Ayanokoji anticipated, betraying Kushida and allowing Horikita to win in order to save his classmates.

Ayanokoji successfully manages to protect Horikita while simultaneously neutralizing both Kushida and Ryuuen. (Strategy Castling, Strategy Shielding, Direct Manipulation, Logical Manipulation, Emotional Manipulation, EU, Anticipation, Fabrication, Negotiation)

Y1V3 / Y1V4 / Y1V4.5 / Y1V5 / Y1V6 / Y1V7 - X Strategy

Quick reminder: X = the true leader of Class D, who is Ayanokoji. Ryuuen only discovers that X is Ayanokoji in Y1V7. Ryuuen calls Ayanokoji “X” without knowing that it is him because he was still investigating his identity.

Y1V3: Ryuuen deduces that it was not Horikita who made Class D win the Desert Island Exam, but someone else who prefers to remain in the shadows. He therefore wants to find out who the true leader of Class D is.

Y1V4: During the Zodiac Exam, Ayanokoji prepared his X strategy by turning Manabe into a future spy for Class C through blackmail. He had already imagined that Ryuuen would investigate him and reach the conclusion that X was connected to Karuizawa, which would make him a suspect alongside Yukimura because they had witnessed the scene in which Manabe's group was bullying Karuizawa. Hirata would also be suspected because he is her boyfriend and has Manabe's contact information. When Ayanokoji sent Manabe the photo of her beating Karuizawa with her friends in the emergency staircase, he added a message saying that he had received the photo from a classmate in order to expand Ryuuen's list of suspects, since only he and Yukimura had witnessed the scene. (Preparation Process, Long-Term Planning, Tactics, Anticipation)

Y1V4.5: He began distancing himself from the list of suspects because he is very close to Suzune, which did not escape Ryuuen's attention. Ryuuen therefore thought that X would never make such a mistake. Considering that in Y1V4.5 Ibuki had a lot of contact with Ayanokoji, such as when they went to the fortune teller together and when they were both trapped in the elevator, she told Ryuuen that he could not be X because he was an idiot. Ayanokoji had therefore anticipated Ryuuen's investigation, and after analyzing Ibuki's position on the island, he understood her position in Class C as well as her relationship with Ryuuen. He therefore decided to deceive her and act so that she would think he was completely stupid and harmless, a process he had started during the Zodiac Exam. (Preparation Process, Tactics, Acting Skills, Disguise, Anticipation)

What is impressive here is that Ayanokoji builds an image of himself as an idiot incapable of outsmarting Ryuuen's plans in front of Ibuki, who holds a high position in Class C, and does so before Ryuuen even begins investigating the true leader of Class D. Therefore, it is difficult to prove that he is pretending because technically, he had no reason to deceive her since Ryuuen was not investigating at that point. (Strategy Complexity)

Y1V5: During the Sports Festival, Ayanokoji openly tells Kushida that she was the one who betrayed the class by leaking the students' event order sheets for each competition to Ryuuen. He deliberately exposed his intelligence to Kushida for a reason that we will see a little later. He also came out of the shadows by directly confronting President Manabu in front of the entire

school, showing that he is a very good runner. When Ryuuen decides to bring Horikita under his control by preventing her from transferring him 1 million private points, he anonymously sends Ryuuen the recording in which he explains his plan to his class and explicitly says that he is going to trap Horikita during this exam.

Ryuuen understands that X had anticipated Kushida's betrayal during the Sports Festival, which means that he had also understood that she had betrayed her class during the Zodiac Exam. Kushida makes the remark, “Who could have done that? Ayanokoji? I didn't think he was that intelligent.” Ryuuen tells her that he is a suspect. If Ayanokoji deliberately revealed to Kushida that he had understood her betrayal and exposed himself in front of the entire school by confronting Manabu, these were traps to deceive Ryuuen because, in his view, X absolutely wants to remain in the shadows. This is what Horikita confirmed.

Y1V6: Ayanokoji knows that Ryuuen will try to unmask the traitor in his class (the Manabe group). Once this is done, he concludes that Hirata, Koenji, Ayanokoji, and Yukimura could probably be X. As for Yukimura and Ayanokoji, they possess the information that they witnessed Manabe's group bullying Karuizawa, which could have revealed Karuizawa's weakness to them so they could exploit it. As for Koenji, he had somewhat disrupted Ryuuen's plan during the Zodiac Exam by quickly guessing the VIP of the Monkey Group, meaning that he is very intelligent.

As for Ayanokoji, Ryuuen knows that he was also a witness to the scene alongside Yukimura. He knows that Ayanokoji had interactions with Ibuki, during which she concluded that he was nothing more than an idiot who did not fit the profile of someone capable of planning all of this. However, the problem is that Ryuuen knows that Ayanokoji appeared intelligent in front of Kushida and exposed himself in front of the entire school, which completely contradicts his behavior if he were X, since he has no reason to reveal his intelligence if he wants to remain in the shadows. Especially since X continued countering his plans from the shadows at the same time. Since he also has no proof that Ayanokoji knows about Kei's past, the most logical conclusion is that Ayanokoji is being used by X, who is probably Hirata.

As for Hirata, Ryuuen knows that he is Karuizawa's “boyfriend” and therefore the person most likely to know about her past. Hirata also has Manabe's contact information and could therefore have arranged the meeting between her group and Karuizawa to set them up. Ryuuen reaches the conclusion that Hirata is the most likely person to be X because Yukimura and Ayanokoji stepped forward to help Karuizawa, and Ayanokoji exposed himself too much during the Sports Festival, which conceals Ryuuen's suspicions about them. Koenji, on the other hand, shows no interest in the exams but still managed to outsmart Ryuuen during the Zodiac Exam regarding the Monkey Group. Hirata is the one who meets the most conditions to be the hidden leader of Class D.

Ayanokoji had also printed false rumors about Ichinose, signing them under Ryuuen's name, and placed them in the lockers of all first-year students, anticipating that Ryuuen would take responsibility for them based on his emotional understanding of him, knowing that he enjoys entertainment but is also curious, because he knew that at this point, it would be better for him

to find out how she had obtained so many private points so quickly. Ayanokoji did this for multiple reasons, but we will focus on the objectives targeting Ryuuen. He wanted to accelerate Ryuuen's investigation to finish it as quickly as possible, but also to create a reputation for him as a liar in the eyes of all first-year students. This worked because, following Ichinose's complaint, the administration confirmed that she had obtained her private points legally.

When Ayanokoji outsmarted Ryuuen by trapping Kushida with the cheat sheets during the Paper Shuffle Exam, he knew that this would reduce the suspects on Ryuuen's list to himself and Hirata, because they were the only ones who could have used Kei during the exam's strategic meeting to make her spill water on Kushida. This meeting consisted of Horikita, Ayanokoji, Kushida, Hirata, and Kei, which completely eliminates Yukimura and almost eliminates Koenji. Ryuuen is practically certain that Hirata is X, the true leader of Class D, and that he is using Ayanokoji as a scapegoat to cover for himself.

By giving Ryuuen the choice of whether or not to save Horikita, he knew that X had anticipated that he would choose to save Horikita because he likes her. This makes Ryuuen believe that X is like him and therefore creates an obsession within him to find him as quickly as possible. But we know that this is false and that Ayanokoji achieved this feat by perfectly and completely psychoanalyzing Ryuuen. This created an obsession in Ryuuen because he thinks that X thinks like him and will do everything to unmask him.

Y1V7: Ayanokoji notices that a female student has been following him for a week and decides to approach her. It turns out to be Kamuro from Class A, who was acting on Sakayanagi's orders. She wonders why Sakayanagi is targeting Ayanokoji and comes to the conclusion that he is the hidden leader of Class D. She threatens Ayanokoji by saying that she will tell Ryuuen, but he retaliates by saying that if she does that, he will tell Sakayanagi that she is bad at tailing people, which would damage her reputation. She therefore accepts this compromise between them. (Strategy Shielding, Direct Manipulation, Emotional Manipulation)

Ayanokoji calls Karuizawa to tell her that he no longer has any reason to help Class D and that he is leaving Horikita and Hirata to lead the class. He tells her that he will keep a low profile by remaining in the shadows, as he wanted. He makes her understand that he no longer wants anything to do with Ryuuen and that it is time to end their relationship because she will no longer have any problems concerning her past. This bluff serves a purpose that we will see later.

Through his previous strategies, Ayanokoji has managed to push Ryuuen into accelerating his investigation into X because, for several days, he has been sending students from his class to question Class D students about their hidden leader. Obviously, nobody can reveal any information to him because they know nothing about it. Since this information gathering has produced no results, he decides to come to Class D a few days later, after classes, to question Koenji, who had already left to go home. Ayanokoji knew that Koenji was a potential suspect, so when Ryuuen went out to look for him, he knew that Class D students would join them to prevent the situation from escalating.

Before going to see the confrontation between Ryuuen's group and Koenji, he convinces Hirata to stay behind to watch Ike and Yamauchi because the situation could escalate even further with them. Hirata hesitates because he is worried about Koenji, but Ayanokoji reassures him by saying that he will be there with Horikita, Yukimura, and Akito, which makes his doubts disappear. He agrees because he trusts them.

Now that the Class D group has arrived at the location of the altercation between Ryuuen's group and Koenji, they see that they are questioning him about the Special Cruise Ship Exam because, due to his deduction of the VIP in the Monkey Group, Ryuuen was unable to win the exam 100%. Ayanokoji knows that this will lead nowhere because they will quickly understand that Koenji cannot be X, since he forfeited on the island and has a really strange personality where he does nothing but make fun of them, which does not match X. The most important thing here is that Ayanokoji knew that this would lead nowhere, but he wanted to make Ryuuen notice that among the Class D group watching their altercation, Ayanokoji was present and Hirata was not. From that point on, he definitively concludes that Hirata is X and that Ayanokoji is X's pawn.

There is only one solution left for Ryuuen to try to unmask X. He goes to the rooftop and tags all the cameras to go unnoticed. He lures Karuizawa onto the rooftop by threatening her through a message, saying that if she does not come, he will reveal her past to the entire school, so she comes. He then sends Ayanokoji a message telling him that if he does not come, he will beat Karuizawa in order to discover his identity. He ignores this message to force Ryuuen to attack Karuizawa because he has no intention of coming, and that is exactly what happens. Ryuuen starts beating Karuizawa, telling her that if she reveals X's name to him, he will stop, but she says nothing. She keeps resisting again and again, no matter how much she suffers.

Meanwhile, Ayanokoji has gone to Keyaki Mall with his group of friends to play karaoke while Ryuuen deals with Karuizawa. Once enough time has passed, he decides to put the final preparations in place before his confrontation with Ryuuen's group by involving Chabashira-sensei and President Manabu. Ayanokoji uses his teacher's desire to reach Class A to make her agree to take Karuizawa in discreetly after the torture she suffered at Ryuuen's hands so that no students notice her. He tells her that Karuizawa risks being psychologically destroyed because her past could be leaked by Ryuuen, and that this would cause a large part of Class D to collapse, given that Karuizawa is the leader of a large portion of the girls in the class. This is how he managed to get her to accept Ayanokoji's request.

As for Manabu, it is simpler because he promised him that if he showed up before Ryuuen's group without intervening and also helped Karuizawa alongside Chabashira, he would counter Nagumo's future plans, which are unorthodox. Chabashira asks Ayanokoji what he would have done if Manabu had not accepted. He pretends that he had not thought about it, but in reality, he could also have asked Sakayanagi, who knows him. Chabashira thought that there was no guarantee he would accept her request because she was unaware of their connection.

Ayanokoji goes to the rooftop to confront Ryuuen and his group to save Karuizawa, presenting himself as X, the true leader of Class D. Everyone is surprised, nobody believes him, and they

all think he is X's pawn, but he will prove that he is telling the truth by mentioning Ibuki's camera, which he had destroyed during the Desert Island Exam. Ryuuen recognizes him as X but does not understand why he came knowing that he risks getting beaten up. Ayanokoji does not care and simply asks him to hand Karuizawa over and leave because he knows his true identity. However, he knew that Ryuuen would not stop there, so he asks Ishizaki to fight him, then Ayanokoji easily dominates and pushes him back. He then beats Albert without difficulty.

He then explains to Ryuuen that this confrontation had been planned by him for a long time, that he had anticipated the situations in which they would confront each other, and that they cannot reveal Karuizawa's secrets or his own because otherwise he would file a complaint against them and they would all be expelled. Ryuuen does not understand because he thinks he is the mastermind behind this operation, but Ayanokoji explains that if he had really wanted to remain in the shadows, he would never have used Manabe's group and that it was obvious he would unmask the traitors and then confirm that Karuizawa was connected to X. He also tells him that it was obvious he would use violence because it is his main method, as he has shown during every exam. Ayanokoji therefore orchestrated Ryuuen's major events, thoughts, reasoning, and actions throughout the entire second term, approximately three months. Ayanokoji pretended to be under Ryuuen's control, when in reality it was Ryuuen who was being manipulated during this period.

The plan continues and, unsurprisingly, Ayanokoji one-shots Ibuki. Then it is Ryuuen's turn to fight Ayanokoji, but the latter remains calm. It is at this moment that Ryuuen reveals to Ayanokoji that he has never felt fear in his entire life. Ayanokoji decides to make him feel that fear for the first time. To do this, he first isolates him from the rest of his group, then shows his overwhelming superiority, such as when he lets himself be hit before sending Ryuuen flying with a single blow. He takes his time and attacks Ryuuen as gently as possible so that the latter can continue fighting for a long time, gradually breaking his mentality. He eventually beats him to the ground, showing just how easy and insignificant it is for Ayanokoji.

Even when Ayanokoji lets Ryuuen attack him without retaliating, Ayanokoji feels neither pain nor fear. By using the little emotion he conveys through his coldness, as well as pain, the weapon normally used by Ryuuen, he made him lose the desire to fight and finally experience an unfamiliar emotion, which is fear. Ayanokoji therefore traumatized and subdued Ryuuen using his own methods and reasoning. He definitively eliminated his threat while taking almost no risks. (Direct Manipulation, Emotional Manipulation, Psychological Manipulation)

Ryuuen's group is now unconscious, so Karuizawa has not only been saved but has also been able to overcome her past because nobody can use it against her anymore. Ayanokoji had anticipated that Karuizawa would not hold his lies against him, as well as the fact that he had created the two situations in which she was assaulted (Manabe's group and Ryuuen), because she had already experienced much worse to the point that she was accustomed to pain.

Karuizawa has instead become an existence completely dependent on Ayanokoji from now on because, through this confrontation, he shows that he is not only the smartest male but also the strongest after she sees him easily take on Ryuuen's group in a 1v4. Remember, Karuizawa

was so traumatized by her past that, in order to protect herself, she asked Hirata at the beginning of the year to become her boyfriend by explaining her past to him, Hirata being the most influential boy in Class D. She had approached Machida from Class A to protect herself from Manabe's group during the Zodiac Exam. She becomes completely obsessed with him because she knows that he will be able to protect her against any threat and that he will do so.

This was also part of Ayanokoji's plan because before the confrontation, he had told Karuizawa that their relationship was over because he would be stepping back regarding Class D, meaning he would no longer need her. He had also said that this was the last time they would speak. Furthermore, if he deliberately took his time coming to save her by going to Keyaki Mall, it was to test Karuizawa's loyalty and see whether she would reveal Ayanokoji's identity or not before he arrived. We witnessed the scenario in which she did not betray Ayanokoji and remained loyal to him, which subsequently made her Ayanokoji's perfect pawn. The other scenario is that if she had revealed Ayanokoji's identity to Ryuuen, she would have felt so guilty about betraying her promise that she would have become even more submissive, because not only would she become his perfect pawn, but she would also have to do everything to regain Ayanokoji's trust, since he had kept his promise to rescue her whenever she needed him.

It was in volume Y1V4 that he had already planned all of this because he had learned about her psychology but made her agree that they would both promise to protect each other: she would keep Ayanokoji's secret, gather information for him, and also stabilize Class D through her control over the girls' group. He also promised to keep her secret and protect her from any danger. Ayanokoji tells her that she can go and take refuge with Manabu and Chabashira, who are waiting for her not far from the building.

Ayanokoji wakes Ryuuen's group by slapping them and then tells him that it is definitively over. Ryuuen tells him that he will not stop there and that he would be willing to do anything to win. He could reveal Ayanokoji's identity or also orchestrate things to make the school believe that Ayanokoji had set a trap for them. Ayanokoji neutralizes this option by telling him that Manabu is not far away and already knows a little about what is happening, but also that when Ryuuen destroyed the rooftop cameras, Ayanokoji was at Keyaki Mall, which gives him a solid alibi (this was the second reason why he went there). Ayanokoji could even threaten Ryuuen if Class C takes action against Class D during a special exam by reporting this incident, which would give him complete control over Class C, but that is not his goal. Ryuuen then understands that he cannot do anything, so he decides to take sole responsibility for this incident by giving his private points to Ibuki and then requests to be expelled.

Ayanokoji does not want Ryuuen to be expelled for the sake of his class-balancing plan, so he tells Ryuuen that even though Manabu and Chabashira-sensei will know about the situation, he had made sure that they would not say anything more if Ryuuen voluntarily leaves the school. The other classes would understand that X defeated Ryuuen, which he wants to avoid at all costs. This is not enough to convince Ryuuen not to leave the school, so he will use a backup plan that had already been prepared to prevent this from happening.

The next morning, Ryuuen went to see his teacher to officially submit his expulsion request, but Ibuki, Ishizaki, and Albert were waiting for him to prevent him from leaving the school. However, he does not care and explains to Sakagami-sensei that he was responsible for destroying the cameras and that he fought with the three of them. He decides to take sole responsibility for everything, as he had said, but Sakagami tells him that there is a contradiction in his account because he had been looking for a Class D student who was involved in destroying the camera, since Class D had taken responsibility for the camera repairs. Sakagami offers to share the consequences of all this equally with Class D so that he will not be expelled, because he can no longer take responsibility for anything in order to be expelled.

Ryuuen still does not accept this and asks Sakagami-sensei to officially process his expulsion, but the latter tells him that if he gives up, Ishizaki and Albert will also decide to be expelled because that is what they want. Ryuuen then understands that Ayanokoji made sure that his expulsion would no longer make sense if they were expelled as well, because otherwise there would be nobody left to take over the class. This worked, and Ryuuen agreed to remain at the school. But the real reason is that Ayanokoji had anticipated that Ryuuen would involve his classmates despite the risks, and that even though Ryuuen is a tyrant, he would feel guilty seeing his classmates expelled because of the failure of his plan. It is thanks to this factor that Ayanokoji was able to make Ryuuen stay at school.

There is one final point that Ayanokoji took into account: the possibility that Ryuuen would become so desperate that he would decide to reveal Ayanokoji's identity and Karuizawa's past regardless. Even though Ryuuen was not expelled, he had lost all interest in school, so even though the probability of him doing this was very low, Ayanokoji still prepared the perfect countermeasure.

As we know, in Y1V6, Ayanokoji wrote the rumors about Ichinose and signed them under Ryuuen's name, anticipating that Ryuuen would pretend to be the author of these rumors because he is very curious about private points and enjoys entertainment. Ayanokoji was almost certain that Ichinose's points had been collected legally, which was officially confirmed by the school administration one day later. From the perspective of all first-year students, Ryuuen had deliberately lied by creating a false rumor about Ichinose in order to attack Class B. This means that no student would believe him in the scenario where he reveals Ayanokoji's and Karuizawa's secrets, since his reputation and credibility had been neutralized by Ayanokoji. Ayanokoji would remain in the shadows, and nobody would try to bully Karuizawa despite the truth being exposed, which adds another solid layer of protection to this strategy. He destroyed Ryuuen's reputation before revealing himself to him in order to better protect himself.

Strategy Effectiveness:

1. He was able to definitively neutralize Ryuuen.
2. He made Karuizawa his perfect pawn.
3. He strengthened his influence over Manabu and Chabashira.

4. Created a weakness in Ryuuen that he will be able to exploit in the long term (Y3V1, Y3V3).
5. He was able to prevent Ryuuen's expulsion.
6. All of this while remaining in the shadows.

Y2V7 - Love Letter Strategy

Context: Ayanokoji intends to verify whether Yagami is indeed the White Room student sent to expel him. To do this, he will set up a trap that will confirm with certainty whether he is from the White Room or not. If he is, he will be expelled; otherwise, he will not be, because the strategy exploits the weakness of a White Room student: an inferiority complex linked to his lack of recognition compared to Ayanokoji.

Ayanokoji visits Nagumo in his office to manipulate him into doing two things for him. The first is to organize a meeting between the student council members regarding a rumor that Nagumo was organizing bets on student expulsions before the Cultural Festival exam. As a result, he will pretend to be in a bad mood for a while. This false rumor must be spread by a student from Kiriyama's class.

The second is to organize another meeting, this time a secret one during the Cultural Festival at 3 PM. If Yagami attends, he must accuse him of being the author of these fabricated rumors and mention that he is meeting with Ryuuen about something he will find out on the day itself. In exchange, Ayanokoji promises him the duel they were supposed to have during the Sports Festival. We will see later what these two actions are meant to accomplish.

Of course, Nagumo did not accept so easily because he was disappointed that Ayanokoji had pretended to be sick during the Sports Festival exam to avoid their confrontation. This greatly reduced his desire to fight Ayanokoji, especially considering that there was not much time left before the end of the year, meaning that a duel during a special exam was no longer guaranteed.

Ayanokoji knows that Nagumo is an authoritarian person who constantly likes to remain in control, so he did not appreciate Ayanokoji approaching him to request a confrontation as if it were up to him to decide whether he had the right to fight him. Ayanokoji makes him understand that he is the one who chooses whom he fights.

In addition, Nagumo refuses because this would mean being under Ayanokoji's control. Ayanokoji provokes Nagumo by telling him that he did not want to fight him because he was too exposed throughout the school, so fighting him was not interesting. Nagumo is surprised that Ayanokoji dares to say something that nobody has ever dared to tell him. Ayanokoji pretends to apologize, showing him that he is openly mocking him so that Nagumo understands that he is absolutely not afraid of him.

Nagumo asks him what he will do if he refuses. Ayanokoji replies that he will make it happen regardless because this will be his last opportunity to fight him, and expelling his classmates would change nothing.

Nagumo is very surprised that Ayanokoji understands his bluff about no longer wanting to fight him and that he had also understood his intention to force him into a confrontation by

threatening to expel his classmates. Ayanokoji makes him understand that regardless of whom he expels, even Kei, his girlfriend, it will not affect him apart from helping him get rid of useless people. Nagumo also understands that this includes Ichinose.

Ayanokoji had observed Nagumo and sensed that his desire to fight him had not completely disappeared. Therefore, he neutralizes his final card to ensure that Nagumo accepts his proposal because otherwise, he would genuinely have no other opportunity to fight him.

Nagumo finally sees what Ayanokoji is really like and understands why he is the only student Manabu has acknowledged. This makes him respect Ayanokoji, and he therefore agrees to organize the two meetings.

Ayanokoji obviously does not want Kei and other students to be expelled for his final plan, but he knew that this bluff would work because Nagumo could not afford to risk permanently losing a future opportunity to fight him.

(EU, Persuasion, Bluffing, Direct Manipulation, Emotional Manipulation)

This persuasion also serves his class transfer plan because he has now secured his duel against Nagumo, who possesses more than 20 million private points. He will be able to arrange his own expulsion if he loses in exchange for 20 million points, which is what happened in Y2V9, although the duel was cancelled.

(Preparation Process, Long-Term Planning, Persuasion)

At the same time, Ayanokoji had written an anonymous love letter containing a very complex anagram that only a White Room student could easily recognize. This love letter will serve to verify whether Yagami is a White Room student or not because he is not yet certain at this point.

Ayanokoji orders Kei to give the love letter to any girl in the class with specific instructions that we will discuss later.

Kei approaches Ichihashi and asks her whether she can deliver the love letter to Nagumo on behalf of one of her friends (which is false, of course), who is in love with him but too shy to confess directly. Kei then tells her that her friend thinks he will receive the letter today, so it would be kind of her to do this. She also asks her not to mention anything about her because, since she is in a relationship, it could create false rumors.

Ichihashi agrees to help her since helping a classmate is a normal thing to do.

Now, Ichihashi finds herself holding the love letter, ready to give it to Nagumo. But how is she going to do that when he is often busy with his student council president duties? He will not have time for her.

She remembers that he has a meeting with the student council members later that day (the first meeting Ayanokoji arranged by using Nagumo), which means she can give it to Horikita so that she can pass it directly to Nagumo during that meeting.

She will therefore ask Horikita to deliver the anonymous love letter to Nagumo, repeating exactly what Kei told her. Horikita, as the leader of her class and a student council member, wants to help her classmates while also making a good impression, so she agrees to deliver the letter to Nagumo at that moment.

(EU, Logical Reasoning, Anticipation, Strategy Complexity, Fabrication, Persuasion, Indirect Manipulation, Logical Manipulation, Emotional Manipulation)

Horikita thinks that she could have delivered the love letter herself, although it would have been more complicated. She hesitates about going back to Ichihashi to give it back to her, but then she remembers her past, when she was still on bad terms with her brother Manabu and had written a letter expressing her feelings in order to become close to him again.

At that time, he was in high school, so she could not meet him face-to-face. She realized how difficult it could be for some people to express their feelings, which made her reconsider her decision and decide to give the letter to Nagumo.

Ayanokoji had known since Y1V1 that she struggled to speak sincerely with her brother because of the image she had of him. This allowed him to anticipate the emotional understanding she would experience in this situation, which would lead her to deliver the love letter to Nagumo.

(EU, Indirect Manipulation, Emotional Manipulation, Psychological Manipulation, Fabrication, Persuasion)

Horikita fully intends to deliver the love letter directly to Nagumo, even though he might get the wrong idea and think it came from her because it is anonymous.

She therefore attends the meeting that was suddenly organized by Ayanokoji, consisting of Nagumo, Kiriyama, Horikita, Ichinose, Yagami, and Aga.

Nagumo enters the room coldly and orders everyone to sit down in a harsh tone. He then announces that a rumor is circulating about him, claiming that he was betting large amounts of money on student expulsions.

He says that this rumor originated from Kiriyama's class, although Kiriyama himself is completely unaware of it. (Which is normal, since it is a lie orchestrated by Ayanokoji.)

To show that he is genuinely affected by this rumor, he even goes as far as temporarily suspending the student council until the culprit is found.

This meeting, the false rumor, and Nagumo's acting are the first things Ayanokoji asked him to do. Why?

This served to make Nagumo and Kiriyama inaccessible, encouraging Horikita to give the love letter to Yagami instead.

Why turn to him? Firstly, from her point of view, Nagumo and Kiriyama are focused on investigating the rumor, especially since Nagumo is extremely angry. Therefore, they will not care about this love letter because it is not the right time to give it to him.

She also cannot turn to Kiriyama because Ayanokoji has made sure that he is affected by the rumor.

Nagumo is supposed to receive the love letter today, but Horikita also has to take care of the Cultural Festival, so she will not have time to deliver it today. Therefore, she has no other choice but to turn to Yagami.

Why Yagami?

Firstly, he is a boy, which will make him seem more credible in Nagumo's eyes when he explains that the letter comes from someone else.

Secondly, he is a first-year student, so she has a certain degree of authority over him as a senpai.

He is also a student council member, meaning that he can easily contact Nagumo and deliver the love letter to him today.

Aga also fulfills all three conditions. However, Horikita chooses Yagami because she is closer to him than to Aga, making it much easier for her to make this strange request of delivering an anonymous love letter to Nagumo.

Yagami receives the love letter and notices that it is rare for someone to confess their feelings this way. He realizes that the letter is anonymous and wonders whether it is really a love letter because he has probably recognized Ayanokoji's handwriting.

Yagami is suspicious of this love letter and says that if he gives it to Nagumo and it turns out not to be a love letter but merely a joke, it would not only be disrespectful but would also make him look like an idiot.

Since Ayanokoji's goal is to trap Yagami with this love letter, he has prepared two strategies to force him to open it for certain.

First, Yagami could simply understand that it is not a love letter but a hidden message from Ayanokoji because he recognizes his handwriting.

The second is a backup plan in case he does not recognize it. Ayanokoji has trapped his suspicion by making him question whether it is actually a genuine love letter or not, as we saw in the previous paragraph.

There was another detail used concerning the letter: the seals used to keep it closed were available to everyone at Keyaki Mall. If it had been a custom order purchased online, Yagami might have refused to open it for fear of leaving traces.

As expected, Yagami opened the love letter, read it, discovered the complex anagram, and then resealed it after going to Keyaki Mall before attending the second meeting on the day of the Cultural Festival at 3 PM.

Based on the context, it was the backup plan that forced Yagami to open the love letter.

Before the Festival exam, Ayanokoji asks Kanzaki for a favor: to be able to track the phones of all the students in his class for two reasons. However, we will focus on only one here because the other is unrelated to this strategy.

Kanzaki agrees easily because Ayanokoji had given him good advice regarding how to improve his class in the future.

As we know, Ayanokoji believes that Yagami was the one who manipulated Kushida into attempting to expel him during the Unanimous Vote exam.

Since she had been exposed, there was no point in continuing to use her. Therefore, he considers it possible that Amasawa might decide to isolate her for a while just for fun.

At one point during the exam, Kushida leaves to isolate herself without informing anyone, abandoning her position, which is strange. Therefore, he asks Kanzaki where she is.

His prediction turns out to be correct, and he immediately understands the situation.

He asks Kushida whether Amasawa and "the other one," referring to Yagami, were the ones who used her to try to expel him.

Amasawa denies it, saying that she did not use her. Ayanokoji then replies, "What about the other one?"

At that moment, Kushida could not hide her surprise. Amasawa then takes Kushida hostage to prevent her from speaking by threatening her.

Ayanokoji demonstrates such an overwhelming difference in strength that he considers Amasawa weak and easily saves Kushida.

Amasawa is surprised by this enormous difference in strength. Ayanokoji then tells her to go to the student council office at 3 PM, but to make sure she is not seen, so that she can obtain answers to all her questions.

(I will explain later why he did this.)

Yagami arrives at the meeting a little early, extremely excited because he thinks Ayanokoji will join him so they can fight.

Ibuki and Horikita also arrive, but this part is not important because they are not involved in the strategy.

Nagumo joins them shortly afterward and asks what they are doing there.

Yagami appears suspicious when he says that he followed the hidden anagram in the love letter, since this is clearly a violation of someone else's privacy, even if the seal came off accidentally when he dropped it. This is unprofessional behavior for a student council member.

Nagumo then accuses Yagami of being the author of the rumor we saw during the first meeting.

Yagami denies it and tells him that they (Nagumo, Horikita, and Ibuki) are ganging up on him because they are working with Ayanokoji.

He also says that the love letter is a fake written by Ayanokoji to lure him here.

Nagumo does not understand what he means and shows him why he is there by asking the others to enter the room.

Yagami imagines that it is Ayanokoji, and he can hardly wait to fight him.

However, it is actually Ryuuen, Komiya, and Kinoshita (the students Yagami attacked on the island), accompanied by Sakagami and Mashima-sensei.

Yagami is incredibly surprised.

Nagumo then says that Ryuuen had requested a meeting with him.

Ryuuen tells Yagami that his classmates have recently recovered their memories and are certain that he was the one who attacked them.

Yagami denies it, but they are certain. He retaliates by saying that they arranged everything to frame him.

Ryuuen contradicts him by pointing out that only two students had broken watches at the time of the attack. So how could they accuse him without evidence, considering that out of the 480 students, 478 still had their GPS watches?

With all these accumulating accusations against him, as well as Ryuuen's classmates accusing him with absolute certainty, combined with the false hopes Ayanokoji gave him about their confrontation, Yagami becomes certain that he will be expelled and finally snaps.

He admits that he will make sure that anyone who stands in his way of attacking Ayanokoji ends up like Komiya and Kinoshita.

Mashima-sensei attempts to calm Yagami down, but Yagami violently strikes him.

This prompts Sakagami-sensei to leave and seek help.

After that, Yagami stops, surprised, because he sees Amasawa entering the room.

Ayanokoji manipulated Ichika into attending the meeting so that she could hold Yagami back long enough for the White Room agents to arrive, but also to make sure she permanently stops trying to expel him after witnessing someone superior to her being expelled in such a humiliating manner.

Ayanokoji knows that Amasawa and Yagami will initially talk for a while. If that is not enough to hold him back until the agents arrive, he has prepared for Amasawa and Ryuuen to fight him together.

However, there was no need to go that far because they arrived in time to restrain him and take him back to the White Room for rehabilitation.

Ayanokoji knew that at least one of the two teachers would leave to seek help after seeing Yagami become so enraged.

How did he ensure that Ryuuen, Komiya, Kinoshita, and the teachers would attend the meeting?

One day earlier, he had anonymously contacted Ryuuen, telling him that Yagami was a potential suspect in the attack on his classmates.

He knew that Ryuuen would investigate determinedly to find him, but he had no leads. This is why he would try everything possible by bringing the teachers directly rather than wasting time.

Therefore, when he presented Yagami to Ryuuen, he knew that Ryuuen would bluff by accusing him to see whether he would crack.

Of course, it could not be that easy. This is why he had to fully exploit Yagami's inferiority complex linked to his lack of recognition to make the strategy work.

This is what makes the strategy perfectly suited to Yagami because Ayanokoji implemented it without being 100% certain that he was the White Room student who wanted to expel him at all costs.

If Yagami is not from the White Room, then he is not the attacker on the island, he will not recognize Ayanokoji's handwriting, he will not open the love letter, and he will not notice the anagram.

If the opposite happens, then it is indeed him.

Strategy Effectiveness

He was able to accomplish numerous objectives:

1. Confirm that Yagami is the White Room student.
2. Get Yagami expelled.
3. Neutralize Yagami while remaining in the shadows, despite his violent reaction.
4. Permanently neutralize Amasawa.
5. Continue Kushida's development plan.
6. Prepare his class transfer.

Strategy Complexity

To prevent Yagami from realizing that he was being trapped, Ayanokoji established several layers to protect the circulation of the love letter:

Baseline: Using Kei as the first intermediary to deliver the anonymous love letter to a random girl in the class, explaining that it came from a shy girl who did not want to reveal her identity and hoped that the letter would be delivered that same day.

1st Layer: Ichihashi, the chosen girl, agrees to deliver the anonymous love letter because she wants to help a classmate. She knows that Kei cannot be the girl in question because she is already in a relationship with Ayanokoji. This convinces her that it really is a love letter from a shy girl who wants to remain anonymous.

2nd Layer: Ichihashi cannot deliver the love letter directly to Nagumo because he is extremely busy with his position as student council president. She knows that Horikita, her leader, who is also part of the student council, has a meeting with Nagumo that day. Therefore, this is the best opportunity to give her the love letter so that she can pass it to Nagumo.

This meeting, created by Ayanokoji, encourages Ichihashi to give the letter to Horikita so that she can deliver it to Nagumo with the same instructions.

3rd Layer: Horikita receives the anonymous love letter. She cannot know that this is Ayanokoji's plan because she does not know that Kei was the one who gave the letter to Ichihashi.

This layer ensures that Horikita does not appear suspicious in Takuya's eyes because she is unaware that this is Ayanokoji's plan.

4th Layer: Horikita gives the love letter to Takuya. He understands the reasons why she is giving him the love letter (Nagumo's anger during the meeting and the lack of time she has due to her Cultural Festival preparations), while detecting nothing suspicious about her.

He agrees to deliver the love letter to Nagumo.

5th Layer: Takuya opens the love letter out of suspicion, as Ayanokoji predicted. After reading it, he notices the complex anagram left by Ayanokoji.

He concludes that it is a message intended to make him understand that he has been exposed and that Ayanokoji is arranging this meeting to fight him.

Why can't this be a trap from his point of view?

Because the only thing that could get him expelled is his attack on the island, but the school has already concluded that it was an accident, so he has nothing to fear.

After that, Takuya attends the meeting and gets expelled as planned. The love letter has fulfilled its purpose.

Strategy Execution

The strategy was executed extremely well, to the point that everything was perfectly anticipated, including the thoughts, reactions, and movements of the people involved in the plan.

The most impressive part is that this was accomplished almost entirely indirectly, making the execution even more impressive.

Ayanokoji himself says that he did nothing, and in a certain sense, that is true because his pawns were the ones who directly contributed to Takuya's expulsion.

Strategy Efficiency

The profitability of this strategy is excellent because he only needed a pen, a sheet of paper, and an envelope as resources.

Ayanokoji also exerted very little physical effort, only intervening physically to save Kushida.

Ayanokoji Y3V3 Strategy Analysis

Here, we will examine how Ayanokoji managed to "win" the Paintball Battle Exam on the Uninhabited Island, which consists of using paintball weapons (pistols, rifles, and knives) to eliminate students from other classes.

Exam Rules

1. The exam lasts 4 days and 3 nights. If a student gets hit, they are eliminated and must leave the island to return to the ship. The school will immediately know when a student is eliminated through a wristwatch that sends them a signal.
2. The exam takes place between 9 AM and 6 PM. If a student shoots another student outside these hours, they will be disqualified, while the student who was shot will not be eliminated.
3. Forbidden zones will progressively appear throughout the exam. These are areas that become inaccessible. Any student who enters one of these zones will be eliminated. This ensures that the classes are eventually forced to confront each other.

Assigned Roles

Each student must be assigned a role with a specific function. Here are the different roles:

Commander

Each class must appoint a commander whose role is to constantly monitor the GPS positions of every student. They can only view positions during exam hours (9 AM–6 PM), and positions are updated every 5 minutes. The commander communicates the positions of other classes to their own class.

They can deploy tactics but cannot participate in combat. They must remain exclusively at the headquarters in Zone F14.

VIPs

These are students who are not allowed to participate in the battle. They are the only ones who can communicate with the commander via radio.

Each class must designate 3 VIPs. If they are eliminated, their entire class is disqualified.

Guards

They are the only students allowed to attack other classes using weapons. There is no limit to the number of students who can take this role.

Analysts

These students can use a tablet to identify event locations, supply drop names, and passwords.

There can only be 2 analysts. If they are eliminated, a guard can take their place as an analyst, but they cannot return to their previous role.

Scout

The scout can detect the presence of students within their own zone and the 8 surrounding zones. They can also detect the direction of students located within the same zone.

Only one student can hold this position. If they are eliminated, a guard can replace them.

Commander-Exclusive Tactics

There are also tactics that can only be used by the commander at the request of the VIPs:

1. **Global GPS Jamming:** Disables the GPS signals of the entire class for 30 minutes. It can only be used once.
2. **Individual GPS Jamming:** Disables the GPS signal of a single student for 30 minutes. It can be used 3 times.
3. **Identification:** Reveals the name and role of a student at a specified GPS location. It can be used a maximum of 5 times.

The first class to be completely eliminated will have to expel one of its students.

Paintball Exam Strategy (UIE)

To begin with, Ayanokoji's objective in this exam is not to win it, but rather to make his class accept a long-term alliance with Class D (Ichinose's class). He also wants the final rankings of the exam to be:

1. Class D (Ichinose)
2. Class C (Ayanokoji)
3. Class B (Ryuuen)
4. Class A (Horikita)

This will allow him to maintain a balance in the class rankings for his ultimate plan.

Let's examine the strategy he implemented to achieve this.

Since becoming the leader of his new class in Y3V1, Ayanokoji has taken responsibility for its future. A few minutes before the exam begins, he voluntarily offers himself as the student who will be expelled if his class finishes in last place.

Some students disagree because a leader is essential and losing the exam would not necessarily be his fault, considering that he would have done his best.

Ayanokoji responds by explaining that he is the newcomer who joined this class to lead it to victory. Therefore, if he fails miserably, it is only natural that he should take responsibility. His classmates eventually accept this.

Ayanokoji asks Mashima-sensei to officially confirm his expulsion in the event of defeat, but this is not possible.

He demonstrates his determination by putting his own expulsion at stake. This further strengthens his new classmates' trust in him while also giving him complete control over their decisions throughout the exam, since they will have nothing to lose regardless of the outcome.

There is also another reason: indirectly informing Hasebe that he has put his expulsion at stake through the following chain:

Mashima-sensei → Other teachers → Chabashira-sensei → Class A (Hasebe).

(Preparation Process, Persuasion)

Ayanokoji decides to take the role of a guard, on the condition that a trustworthy student is appointed commander.

He entrusts this position to Shimazaki, who wanted the role because he dislikes moving around on a deserted island.

Ayanokoji instructs him to communicate every detail regarding the positions of the other classes, including information that might seem insignificant, so that he can prepare perfectly.

(Preparation Process)

The Beginning of the Exam

The exam begins, and the initial positions of the classes are:

- Class A: Zone G12
- Class B: Zone C12

- Class C: Zone E12
- Class D: Zone I12

Supplies appear in Zone G8. Ayanokoji initially wants to head there but abandons this objective because Class A will reach it first.

He therefore decides to take the time to teach his classmates how to use their weapons and prepare them for combat, especially since the other classes are relatively far away.

In reality, this training break conceals his true objective.

(Tactic, Concealment)

Five minutes later, Shimazaki communicates a new route taken by a student from Class A, who is most likely Koenji.

Ayanokoji asks the VIPs to instruct the commander to identify the GPS signal, confirming that it indeed belongs to Koenji.

Ayanokoji then asks the less comfortable guards to lend their weapons to the VIPs, even though they are not allowed to use them.

This ensures that other classes cannot easily identify the VIPs because they are concealed within the group.

Their weapons are emptied of ammunition, and their chambers are locked to prevent them from accidentally firing during an ambush due to stress or an involuntary reflex.

(Tactic, Prediction, EU)

When Kitou asks Ayanokoji whether his objective is to secure first place, he responds that he is aiming for second place so that he can give it to Class D.

Nobody understands his intentions, so he explains that an alliance between Classes A and B is impossible because they are competing for first place.

On the other hand, an alliance between Classes C and D is possible and beneficial because climbing to the top of the rankings alone is extremely difficult.

He adds that this alliance will facilitate their long-term progression in the rankings.

(Baseline Persuasion)

Ayanokoji also explains that a more open-minded class that does not actively seek confrontation, such as Ichinose's class, would make establishing an alliance easier.

He further explains that having fewer enemies means having more allies, making it easier to climb the rankings through this alliance.

(First-Level Persuasion)

None of the students agree with this idea and consider that it is not the appropriate time to discuss an alliance.

Although Ayanokoji has already prepared the groundwork for this alliance, the class as a whole refuses to give up first place in the exam to Class B. They therefore decide to discuss it again after the exam.

He had already brought up the subject of an alliance with Hashimoto and Morishita in Y3V1, but neither of them was convinced.

The First Ambush by Class B

After this conversation, Class C is attacked by another class. The guards fight to give the others enough time to escape.

Once they have moved away, Ayanokoji realizes that Ryuuen's class (Class B) was behind the attack.

He explains that his class deliberately pretended to remain stationary for three GPS updates before activating the **Global GPS Jamming** tactic. This allowed them to approach Class B while constantly remaining aware of the positions of the other classes.

(Logical Reasoning, Deduction)

He also explains that even though they managed to escape, Class B could still launch another attack, although this is unlikely.

Later, Ayanokoji hears a small noise and shoots in that direction, hitting a Class B guard named Kondo.

He had been sent alone simply to inflict some damage, but he failed.

As a result of this attack, Class C loses:

- 1 VIP
- 1 analyst
- 13 guards

(Prediction, Logical Reasoning, Deduction)

The class blames Ayanokoji for these losses, considering it shameful that a leader could make such a mistake without preparing for this possibility.

They believe he should not have spent so much time stopping to teach them how to use weapons.

Class B then sends a group of 10 students (Komiya's unit) to search for students who became separated during the ambush, since those students are no longer accompanied by VIPs who can monitor everyone's positions.

Securing the Supply Zones

Ayanokoji decides to secure the two supply zones, D12 and I10, which contain food.

His class desperately needs these supplies, otherwise they will eventually starve.

To accomplish this, he must divide his class into two groups.

His classmates disagree because they believe it would be better to secure one supply zone with certainty rather than risk sacrificing an entire group if another class attacks them for the supplies.

Ayanokoji understands their concerns and explains that if he were leading another class, he would deliberately allow his class to take both supply zones so that he could focus on the other events and leave them with nothing later, eventually forcing them to starve.

His class therefore agrees to secure both locations.

Ayanokoji decides to go alone to I10 while the rest of the class heads to D12.

He warns his classmates that they do not need to worry about Ichinose's class (Class D), since they will not attack unless they are attacked first.

However, if they do attack, they must escape with as many supplies as possible.

As expected, no class attacks them, especially not Class D, because Ayanokoji is the only one who knows that they will not attack first, given that he has Ichinose under his control.

(Anticipation, EU)

Using Koenji to Eliminate Komiya's Unit

Later, supplies appear near Zone E9, where Koenji is located.

He is alone on the island and does not know the positions of the other classes because he is not accompanied by a VIP.

Koenji, Class B, Class C, and Komiya's unit are all nearby.

Ayanokoji decides to deliberately slow down his movements so that Komiya's unit will cross paths with Koenji, allowing him to eliminate them.

This is exactly what happens.

Komiya's unit makes a lot of noise by shouting and shooting everywhere to attract the attention of lost students.

This disturbs Koenji's peace and causes him to eliminate the entire group, except for the VIP.

Ayanokoji had planned their encounter, as Ryuuen and Katsuragi later confirmed.

However, they did not know that he had also anticipated Koenji eliminating them because of his EU regarding Koenji's dislike of having his peace disturbed.

(Tactic, Anticipation, EU)

While Koenji is eliminating Komiya's unit, Class C is attacked again by Class B and suffers another significant loss.

This forces his classmates to reconsider Ayanokoji's proposal regarding an alliance.

He responds that it would be better to discuss the matter after the exam.

By saying this, he further conceals the fact that he orchestrated Ryuuen's two attacks to force his classmates to accept an alliance with Ichinose's class.

(Second-Level Persuasion)

At this point, the students of Class C realize that this is their only remaining option.

The forbidden zones will continue to expand, and the other classes could eliminate them while they are weakened.

Naturally, Ayanokoji agrees.

The following morning, they approach Class B and propose an alliance in exchange for giving them first place.

Class B accepts because its members obey Ichinose, who has been under Ayanokoji's complete control since Y2V12.5.

Ichinose has instructed her class to obey Ayanokoji throughout this exam.

(Preparation Process, Long-Term Planning, Tactic, Influence Building)

How Ayanokoji Orchestrated the Two Attacks

Now that he has secured the alliance and we understand how he orchestrated the second attack, let's examine how he arranged the first one.

As we know, at the beginning of the exam, Classes B and C were relatively close to each other.

Ayanokoji took advantage of this by deliberately not fleeing immediately, since doing so would have prevented Ryuuen from having enough time to organize an attack.

This was especially important because Global GPS Jamming only lasts 30 minutes.

He needed to make Ryuuen understand with certainty that his class was not retreating, allowing him to launch an unpredictable surprise attack by activating his class's Global GPS Jamming at the beginning of the exam.

To accomplish this, Ayanokoji organized weapon training sessions to teach his classmates how to use their equipment.

He deliberately left his class exposed to encourage Ryuuen to attack.

How could Ayanokoji be certain that Ryuuen would launch this attack?

Because he knows that Ryuuen has enough courage to launch a surprise attack right at the beginning, but more importantly, Ryuuen is too obsessed with getting revenge against him to miss such an opportunity.

Since Y1V7, Ayanokoji had predicted that Ryuuen would make decisions based on his obsession with him, and he was absolutely right.

(Prediction, EU)

Although Ryuuen's strategy was intelligent, he still fell into Ayanokoji's trap.

He could not have known that Ayanokoji would deliberately leave his class exposed to create desperation and dependence on an alliance, making it their only chance of avoiding last place.

To summarize, Ayanokoji makes a proposal to his class knowing that they will initially reject it verbally.

He then creates a situation in which this proposal becomes their only hope.

To accomplish this, he indirectly manipulates Ryuuen's class into attacking his own class twice, then directly manipulates his own classmates into accepting the alliance.

He traps his own class in order to secure a better outcome in the exam and achieve his long-term objectives.

(Preparation Process, Formulation Speed, Long-Term Planning, Direct Manipulation, Indirect Manipulation, Emotional Manipulation, Logical Manipulation, Mass Manipulation, Tactic, Disguise, Misdirection, Setting Traps, Trap Evasion, EU, Anticipation)

The Surprise Attack Against Class A

On the third day, at 5:57 PM, Ayanokoji launches a surprise attack against Class A by activating Individual GPS Jamming.

He manages to eliminate three students before being pursued by several guards.

At one point, he finds himself trapped and surrounded by Class A.

Four students shoot at him, but unexpectedly, they are the ones who get eliminated instead of Ayanokoji.

The reason is that it was already 6:00 PM and 32 seconds.

Ayanokoji had calculated that, since he had become a traitor after leaving their class, their desire for revenge would overwhelm their judgment to the point that they would forget the rules prohibiting students from shooting between 6 PM and 9 AM.

(Direct Manipulation, Emotional Manipulation, Setting Traps, Tactic, Anticipation)

After receiving his new outfit, Ayanokoji decides to set up his tent directly next to Class A, knowing that he will be constantly monitored by students who want to eliminate him at 9 AM.

At 8:50 AM, several Class A guards surround Ayanokoji, intending to eliminate him at 9 AM as planned.

However, he tells them that if they shoot him at 9 AM, he will report to the school that his movements were obstructed, which constitutes a violation of the rules.

This threat is credible because the school monitors every student's GPS signal 24 hours a day.

They know that his GPS signal remained right next to Class A throughout the night, and that four Class A guards had already violated the rules.

This means that even if Class A decides to eliminate him at 9 AM, the students who shoot him could end up being eliminated instead.

(Tactic, Persuasion)

The same situation happens again later.

He is once again surrounded by Class A guards, which is why he tells them that their only option is to leave him a passage so that there is some distance between them.

Horikita understands the situation and follows his request.

However, she realizes that he will use this opportunity to escape.

She therefore considers sending students after him pointless because he is faster than all of them, and Sudo, the only student who could potentially keep up with him, risks being eliminated.

It would therefore be unreasonable to risk losing their strongest asset just to catch Ayanokoji.

Ayanokoji had obviously anticipated this reasoning, allowing him to escape and rejoin his class despite some students still attempting to pursue him.

He then explains the next stage of his plan to several classmates.

He wants them to send one guard and one scout to Ryuuen's class to provide information about Horikita's VIPs:

- Sato
- Wang
- Yukimura

How did Ayanokoji know their identities?

He lies to his classmates, claiming that before attacking at 5:57 PM, he had taken the time to observe Class A.

When he launched his attack, he immediately noticed that these three students were the ones the guards instinctively protected first.

This could have been a bluff, but it was not.

Nobody expected a surprise attack so close to 6 PM, meaning that they had lowered their guard.

Eliminating Class A's students was not his actual objective at that moment.

More precisely, this tactic revealed all the VIPs except Sato, who was hiding inside her tent when he attacked.

(Tactic, Concealment, Observation, Information Gathering, Logical Reasoning, Deduction, Setting Traps, Direct Manipulation, Emotional Manipulation)

Hasebe as the Traitor

The real explanation for how Ayanokoji identified all of Class A's VIPs is through a traitor: Hasebe.

She contacted Ayanokoji during the night to provide him with this information.

But why did she do this?

Because Ayanokoji was in danger of being expelled.

As we know, Hasebe had agreed to continue participating in the class competition because it was Sakura's wish, her best friend who was expelled in Y2V5.

Sakura also wanted her two best friends, Hasebe and Ayanokoji, to graduate from Class A.

Therefore, if Ayanokoji were expelled and Sakura discovered that Hasebe could have done something to prevent it but chose not to, Sakura would be so upset with her that their friendship could be destroyed.

Seeing Ayanokoji at risk of expulsion, especially since only 11 students remained in their class, including just 2 VIPs, Hasebe did not want to take that risk.

This was true even though they had formed an alliance with Class D.

For Hasebe, her friendship with Sakura is more important than the class competition.

Ayanokoji understood this when she stopped contributing to the class after Sakura's expulsion.

That is why he knew that by creating a situation in which he would be at risk of expulsion, he could encourage Hasebe to help him, even if it meant betraying her own class.

Of course, Hasebe does not realize that Ayanokoji manipulated Ryuuen's attacks partly to indirectly hold her friendship with Sakura hostage, forcing her to betray her class by helping him.

The guard and scout then approach Ryuuen's class and provide them with information about Horikita's VIPs.

Ryuuen eliminates the guard but allows the scout to remain alive before deciding to attack Horikita's class.

Whether Ryuuen believes this information or not is irrelevant because attacking costs him nothing.

His class is guaranteed to finish last if the forbidden zones continue expanding, so the best decision is to attack Class A.

(Tactic, Information Control, Indirect Manipulation, Logical Manipulation, Mass Manipulation)

Forcing Class A Into a 1v3 Situation

At the same time, Ichinose's class and Ayanokoji's class also move toward Horikita's class.

This makes Horikita believe that her class is facing a 1v3 situation.

This creates psychological pressure because she is confronted with an emergency situation that forces her to make the best possible decision in the moment.

That decision is to use Global GPS Jamming to launch a surprise attack against Ryuuen's class, since she naturally believes that her class has a good chance of winning because of its numerical superiority.

The problem is that Horikita's class does not realize that it is walking directly into a trap because they do not yet know that Ryuuen's class has identified their VIPs.

However, Class A cannot afford to wait for the other classes to attack them because they would eventually be surrounded.

Therefore, regardless of which decision Horikita chooses, Ayanokoji has already trapped Class A.

(Indirect Manipulation, Emotional Manipulation, Logical Manipulation, Mass Manipulation, Tactic, Bluffing, Setting Traps, Anticipation)

Even if Class A launches a surprise attack against Class B, Ayanokoji knows that they will not be eliminated.

This is because Class B has already used its Global GPS Jamming at the beginning of the exam.

Furthermore, thanks to his EU regarding Katsuragi's personality, which he learned in Y1V3, Ayanokoji knows that Katsuragi is an extremely cautious and thoughtful person.

He therefore knows that Katsuragi will prepare Class B for a potential attack involving Global GPS Jamming.

(EU, Anticipation)

Having planned all of this, Ayanokoji waits for the battle between these two classes to begin.

He wants the chaos of the battle to cause Horikita's VIPs to become separated from their guards.

This is inevitable because it is impossible to remain completely clear-headed in a situation where paintball shots are being fired from every direction.

Without their VIPs, the guards cannot determine their positions or know which direction they are heading.

While everyone is trying to figure out what to do, guards from another class can attack them.

The VIPs eventually find themselves defenseless and no longer know which guards they should follow to protect their class.

They naturally end up dispersing.

This was the objective of the battle between Classes A and B: to take full advantage of the eliminations that Class A could inflict on Class B while simultaneously destroying Class A's cohesion.

This would leave its VIPs isolated in different zones, causing the remaining guards to lose coordination.

(Tactic, EU, Anticipation, Logical Reasoning)

Even if Class A had sent a group to attack the alliance, it would not have changed anything.

Ayanokoji had secured the safety of his own VIPs and those of Class D by deploying Individual GPS Jamming on two of them, making it impossible for anyone to identify their positions.

This made them impossible to eliminate, even during a surprise attack.

Ayanokoji had therefore prepared for the unlikely possibility that Class A would make the unexpected decision to attack them despite its disadvantageous position.

Class A only realized too late that there was a traitor who had revealed the identities of its VIPs.

This is understandable given the complexity of the strategy.

(Analysis, Prediction, Tactic)

Since Class A's VIPs had been scattered across the island as planned, they were eventually located and shot by the alliance.

As a result, Class A became the first class to be eliminated from the exam.

As for Class B, only one VIP and a few other students remained.

Ayanokoji decides to deal with Ryuuen and Ibuki's group, which is particularly dangerous in this type of exam.

He approaches them, then begins running away while simultaneously firing back to lure them toward his desired location.

He eliminates Ibuki after an impressive confrontation.

Ryuuen continues pursuing him until Ayanokoji stops at the edge of a cliff with his weapon completely empty.

He is now trapped by Ryuuen.

Ayanokoji attempts to bluff by claiming that creating this situation was his actual objective.

He explains that Ryuuen would become so focused on eliminating him that he would stop paying attention to what was happening behind him.

He indirectly suggests that one of his classmates has followed them and is waiting for the perfect opportunity to eliminate Ryuuen.

Ryuuen is almost certain that he is bluffing.

Ayanokoji then tells him to turn around if he wants to make sure that it is not a trap.

Ryuuen, who is convinced that he has finally defeated Ayanokoji in a one-on-one confrontation, turns around to check.

However, at that exact moment, Ayanokoji throws a paintball cartridge at him with his hand.

This is not prohibited by the rules, but Ryuuen instinctively pulls the trigger at the same moment.

As a result, both of them are eliminated.

Ayanokoji knew that this bluff was not guaranteed to work because Ryuuen could have simply eliminated him instead of talking.

However, this would not have changed anything because his objective had already been achieved.

With the forbidden zones continuing to expand, the remaining students would eventually eliminate the rest of Class B.

He did this to make things easier for the rest of the alliance.

(Bluffing, Creativity)

Analysis of the Backup Plan

Before attacking Class A, Ayanokoji had prepared a backup plan in case he was eliminated.

There was no direct explanation of this plan, so we will examine the most coherent interpretation without exaggerating his abilities, explaining how he could have secured the same outcome even if he had been eliminated.

Ayanokoji memorized his backup plan with two of his classmates.

If he were eliminated, they would propose an alliance with Class B with the objective of eliminating Class A.

Why would Ryuuen accept this?

Because otherwise, the alliance between Classes C and D would eliminate his class first, since Class B was currently the class with the fewest remaining students.

Additionally, this would benefit them because seeing their direct competitor lose a significant number of class points would increase their chances of reaching Class A.

We can also add that Ryuuen cannot afford to finish last in the exam.

Otherwise, one of his classmates would be expelled, and his class would fall to the bottom of the overall rankings.

Therefore, Ryuuen has everything to gain from cooperating with the alliance to eliminate Class A before accepting third place.

Even if Ryuuen remains somewhat skeptical, which is unlikely, Katsuragi is there to bring him back to his senses.

Ayanokoji knows this very well because Ryuuen recruited Katsuragi specifically for that purpose.

(Backup Persuasion, EU, Prediction)

Ryuuen would be forced to accept because he has everything to gain.

Betraying Ayanokoji's class would be pointless, especially since they had already been instructed to protect his VIPs, as explained in the previous sections.

Therefore, Ryuuen would cooperate to secure third place, while Ayanokoji would ensure second place and first place for Ichinose's class.

What makes this backup plan impressive is that Ayanokoji would achieve his secondary objective even if he were not present.

He would therefore remain responsible for all the major events and the final outcome under every possible scenario.

(Backup Plan)

Strategy Effectiveness

1. He successfully strengthened the overall trust his class has in him.
2. He managed to force his class to accept a long-term alliance with Class D.
3. He successfully ensured that the final exam rankings would be:
    - 1st: Class D
    - 2nd: Class C
    - 3rd: Class B
    - 4th: Class A

Strategy Efficiency

1. He achieved his desired results while using fewer resources than Classes A and B, which had used all their available tactics, whereas Class C only used its Individual GPS Jamming tactic.

Strategy Complexity

I will explain in detail, from the perspectives of Classes A and B, just how difficult it would be to uncover this complex strategy.

To begin with, they must understand that when Ayanokoji stopped and deliberately maintained some distance from Class B, he was using his class as bait to give Ryuuen a good reason to launch an attack right from the beginning.

This is difficult to understand because he did this under the pretext of taking the time to train his classmates in using weapons.

It is perfectly reasonable for a class to spend time preparing properly, considering that not every student knows how to use these weapons.

(Baseline)

They must also deduce that Ayanokoji could have anticipated Ryuuen's attack with certainty.

Although attacking right at the beginning is unpredictable, it also creates a disadvantage in the long term.

Even someone like Ryuuen would be hesitant about making such a decision.

Therefore, it is unlikely that this was the actual objective.

(1st Layer)

After Ryuuen's attacks, Class C forms an alliance with Class D.

This appears to be a sign of weakness, suggesting that Class C has become so desperate because of Class B's attacks that it needs to turn to Class D to survive.

Horikita and Ryuuen see that Class C is allowing Class D to determine its fate, which further reduces the possibility that Ayanokoji is actually controlling the situation.

(2nd Layer)

If they manage to penetrate the second layer and realize that Ayanokoji manipulated Ryuuen's class into attacking his own class, they will conclude that he did this solely to secure a strategic long-term alliance with Class D.

This further conceals his manipulation of Hasebe.

(3rd Layer)

When Ayanokoji attacks Class A alone, they must understand that eliminating as many students as possible is only a cover for another objective.

This is difficult to understand because launching a surprise attack at that particular time is highly unpredictable.

Furthermore, it is entirely logical for him to want to eliminate as many Class A students as possible to prevent his own class from finishing last and to stop Class A from winning the exam and increasing its lead.

(4th Layer)

Next, they must imagine that the objective he is concealing is the use of a traitor.

From their perspective, this is almost impossible.

After Ayanokoji changed classes, it was seen as a major betrayal, and the majority of his former classmates came to hate him.

He had also contributed to their defeat during the Y3V1 exam.

Those who do not hate him are still focused on reaching Class A.

Therefore, nobody would imagine that someone would betray their own class to help a traitor whom most of them despise.

(5th Layer)

The final step to countering this strategy is understanding which student Ayanokoji intends to use to force them to betray Class A, despite the fact that he is hated by most of the class.

From Horikita's perspective, this could be anyone because she knows that Ayanokoji is a master manipulator and could easily use most of her classmates.

She has absolutely no way of knowing that everything he has done is connected to Hasebe.

She is not even aware of Sakura's wish, which Hasebe wants to honor.

This makes it almost impossible for her to understand that Ayanokoji's persuasion has already been completed.

Indeed, we must not forget that Ayanokoji volunteered to be expelled if his class lost partly to create a sense of urgency within Hasebe.

(6th Layer)

Strategy Shielding

1. Since he anticipated Ryuuen's attack, his plan of giving empty weapons to the VIPs protected his class from a certain elimination.
2. He deliberately placed his tent right next to Class A to give himself the best possible excuse to escape without being eliminated.
3. He prepared for his potential elimination by establishing a backup plan involving an alliance with Class B, ensuring that the desired exam rankings would be achieved regardless of what happened.
4. He prepared for a potential surprise attack from Class A while moving toward them alongside Class B. Such an attack could have eliminated his class's VIPs if he had not prepared for it.

Strategy Execution

1. By volunteering to take responsibility for his class's expulsion in the event of defeat, he gained complete control over his own class's actions, as well as influence over Ichinose's class.

2. Through his various unpredictable tactics, he left the other classes with no choice but to act exactly as he wanted, from beginning to end.

Strategy Adaptability

1. Nothing particularly noteworthy, since he did not encounter any unexpected situations because he had prepared for every possible outcome.