

SABOTAGE Round

Everything in Modulation (*Phlogiston*)

puzzle by Phil Steindel, Rachel Steindel Burdin, and James Burdin

Each piece of music has 5 accented notes that spell out a word clued by its title. The larger marcato accents indicate notes that change their names (one per song); the smaller marcato accents indicate notes that have already changed their name. These changes accumulate until all seven notes have changed (as hinted by 'progressive'). The number before the song title indicates how many notes have changed. In order, the words and changes are:

- 0) CAGED (no notes changed)
- 1) DEGAS (B → S)
- 2) FACET (G → T)
- 3) CELTS (F → L)
- 4) LADEN (C → N)
- 5) NOELS (A → O)
- 6) NORSE (D → R)
- 7) ARSON (E → A)

The notes indicated by the fermatas, with the new note names, spell out the answer, **TRANSLATOR**.

Stop! Hammer Time! (*Phlogiston*)

puzzle by Kevin Wald

This puzzle has been destroyed (by cannon fire); its answer (given to Right teams, backsolved by Acute teams) is **LEGITIMATE**.



SABOTAGE Round

Arrr-Squared (Azote)

puzzle by Jenny Gutbezahl and Phil Steindel

The sabotaged part of each variable can be solved as a cryptic clue for a name; for ease of solving, these are given in alphabetic order by name. These names can be paired up to form famous musical duos, some composers (such as Gilbert and Sullivan) and some performers (such as Peaches and Herb). Matching the pairs and creating a graph with their data will find one point of intersection (this can be done without graphing by simply comparing the data points given below the graph). Order the points of intersection by year, then take the frequency (y-axis value) for the letter, giving the answer **HARMONIC MEAN**.

First Clue	First of duo	Second Clue	Second of duo	Year (X-axis)	Frequency (Y-axis)	Letter
furniture store contracts (3)	IKE(a)	ain't crazy (4)	TINA (anag. of ain't)	2001	8	H
extract of balsamic (3)	SAM (hidden)	down Avenue (4)	D+AVE	2002	1	A
is sore after gym class (7)	PE+ACHES	movie about an OS with a bit (4)	HER+B	2003	18	R
Eastern Gap is receding (4)	PAG+E (rev.)	place 80s pop icon Adam (5)	PL+ANT	2004	13	M
hearts of fennel covered in soy (5)	SO(NN)Y	auditors' unit of stock (4)	CHER (hom. of share)	2005	15	O
Abel's brother holds relevant (7)	C(APT)AIN	a movie featuring Bo Derek near a river with a bit of lingerie (8)	TEN+NIL(L)E	2006	14	N
held back by economists (5)	SIMON (rev. hidden)	Large Funk Mash-up (9)	GARFUNKEL (anag. of funk mash-up)	2007	9	I
Heads of State helping Europe (3)	SHE (first letters)	a religious song for the listener (3)	HIM (hom. of hymn)	2008	3	C
good shelled hazelnuts (7)	G+ (f)ILBERT(s)	50-51 into a Trailblazer or Explorer at one (8)	SU(L-LI)V+AN	2009	13	M
hot all (4)	H+ALL	cereal with a bit of echinacea (5)	OAT(E)S	2010	5	E
from nasal twang (4)	SALT (hidden)	father holds a relatively short record (4)	P(EP)A	2011	1	A
Maris and Clemens, reportedly (7)	RODGERS (hom. of Rogers)	hem raiments loosely (11)	HAMMERSTEIN (anag. of hem raiments)	2012	14	N



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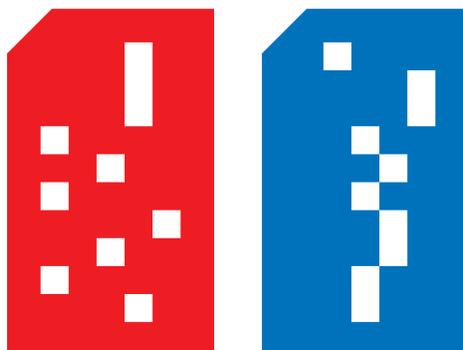
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SABOTAGE Round

Aw, Ships! (Azote)

puzzle by Daniel Lepage and Ben Smith

The first step is to find the stolen cards, which are hidden in the input packet, and construct versions you can use (e.g. by tracing them on an acetate sheet). This gives these:



Each of these cards defines a Battleship puzzle on the given grid — line it up in the two possible orientations with the corner of the same color, and you get one number per row/column:

<p>T 3 A L 1 R S 4 I Y S 2 T P 2 C A 2 3 1 L F 1 0 1 B C 2 N I 1 3 E T 1 I I 4 4 0</p>	<p>2 2 1 2 2 4 1 2 3 1</p>	<p>3 2 1 2 1 1 2 3 1 4</p>	<p>2 L B M N E N 2 0 2 3 1 1 3 Y R G D U 2 A 4 1 N L 5 2 1 2 H N H 3 R G S 1 S Y R</p>
<p>T 3 A L K P 2 L B M 1 R S 4 2 0 N E N 2 I Y S 2 1 0 0 2 3 1 T P 2 C 4 1 1 3 Y R</p>	<p>0 1 1 2 5 2 1 4 3 1</p>	<p>1 2 0 3 1 4 1 3 2 3</p>	<p>1 B C 2 R Y L 5 2 1 N I 1 3 S 2 2 H N H E T 1 I U L 3 R G S I 4 4 0 3 L 1 S Y R</p>



SABOTAGE Round

Aw, Ships! (continued)

The solutions to the two puzzles are:

	1	4	1	0	3	2	1	5	2	1
2	T	3	A	L	K	P	2	L	B	M
2	1	R	S	4	2	0	N	E	N	2
2	I	Y	S	2	1	0	0	2	3	1
1	T	P	2	C	4	1	1	3	Y	R
2	A	2	3	1	I	S	G	D	U	2
4	L	F	1	0	N	L	A	4	1	N
1	1	B	C	2	R	Y	L	5	2	1
2	N	I	1	3	S	2	2	H	N	H
3	E	T	1	I	U	L	3	R	G	S
1	I	4	4	0	3	L	1	S	Y	R

	1	2	3	2	4	0	1	3	3	1
3	T	3	A	L	K	P	2	L	B	M
2	1	R	S	4	2	0	N	E	N	2
1	I	Y	S	2	1	0	0	2	3	1
2	T	P	2	C	4	1	1	3	Y	R
1	A	2	3	1	I	S	G	D	U	2
1	L	F	1	0	N	L	A	4	1	N
2	1	B	C	2	R	Y	L	5	2	1
3	N	I	1	3	S	2	2	H	N	H
1	E	T	1	I	U	L	3	R	G	S
4	I	4	4	0	3	L	1	S	Y	R

The flavor text mentions “which sites they make sure are guarded”; each row has exactly one square that is covered by a ship in both solutions. The letters in these spaces, read from top to bottom, spell out **KEYPUNCHES**:

	T	3	A	L	K	P	2	L	B	M
1	R	S	4	2	0	N	E	N	2	
	I	Y	S	2	1	0	0	2	3	1
	T	P	2	C	4	1	1	3	Y	R
	A	2	3	1	I	S	G	D	U	2
	L	F	1	0	N	L	A	4	1	N
	1	B	C	2	R	Y	L	5	2	1
	N	I	1	3	S	2	2	H	N	H
	E	T	1	I	U	L	3	R	G	S
	I	4	4	0	3	L	1	S	Y	R

Smuggler’s Cove (Azote)

puzzle by Kevin Wald

This puzzle has been destroyed (by nibbling rats); its answer (given to Right teams, backsolved by Acute teams) is **NARCS**.



SABOTAGE Round

Over Troubled Waters (Sabotage Meta – *Ether*)

puzzle by Daniel Lepage

Tower	Upper Level	Lower Level
How these teams have been acting: MEAN	Yearn: ACHE Living overhead, say: ARBOREAL Defeat, in black and white: CHECKMATE Member of a country: CITIZEN White wader: EGRET Layered Italian dessert: SPUMONI	Lip balm brand: CHAPSTICK Company VIPs: EXECs Hungarian composer: LISZT Beaver-tailed mammal: PLATYPUS Lend again: RELOAN Improve, as skills: SHARPEN

These answers can be written on the corresponding levels of the bridge using the tiles from the puzzle answers, the letters already provided on the bridge, and twelve extra letters (one per clue on the upper and lower levels). The extra letters, reading from left to right across both levels, spell out **A PUZZLE PEACE**.

HARMONIC MEAN

KEYPUNCHES

LEGITIMATE

NARCS

SLIPSTITCH

TRANSLATOR

MEAN

ACHESPUMONICITIZENARBOREALLEGRET CHECKMATE
PLATYPUSLISZTRELOANSHARPENCHAPSTICKEEXECs



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ESPIONAGE Round

Mister Rogers' Rules of Order (*Phlogiston*)

puzzle by Jenny Gutbezahl, Ben Smith, and Joe Cabrera

The discussion can be broken down into motions, each one starting when a character says either "motion" or "move." Each motion describes a one-word musical, and you can trace each motion on the stolen map to form a letter.

Letter	Show Referenced
B	<i>Rent</i>
R	<i>Mame</i>
O	<i>Hamilton</i>
L	<i>Xanadu</i>
L	<i>Urinetown</i>
F	<i>Evita</i>
E	<i>Cats</i>
M	<i>Oklahoma</i>
R	<i>Annie</i>
I	<i>Spamalot</i>

Alphabetizing by show titles gives the answer: **REFORM BILL**



ESPIONAGE Round

Triplet Features (*Phlogiston*)

puzzle by Eli Barrieau

Each synopsis and the redacted picture relate to a famous film trilogy. Using a ternary system to number the installments we get a code where:

Per the flavortext, the first movie = 0, the second = 1, and the third gives us = 2.

The trilogies in footage order are:

Movie Trilogy	Ternary Number	Letter
<i>Back To The Future</i>	010	C
<i>Toy Story</i>	120	O
<i>Star Wars – The Original Trilogy</i>	112	N
<i>Spider-Man</i>	202	T
<i>The Lord of The Rings</i>	100	I
<i>Cars</i>	112	N
<i>The Godfather</i>	210	U
<i>The Matrix</i>	100	I
<i>Batman</i>	112	N
<i>The Cornetto Trilogy</i>	021	G

yielding the answer **CONTINUING**.

Scratching Out a Tune (*Phlogiston*)

puzzle by Ben Smith

This puzzle is unsolvable; its answer, given directly in the stolen “Application Key,” is **HISTAMINIC**.



ESPIONAGE Round

The Pirates Who Don't Do Many Things (Azote)

puzzle by Kevin Wald

The audio intercept, properly interpreted, reads as follows in the Acute version:

What should I draw on the gray circles seen in the six wheels in each column?

The sequence of objects in each column will be the same. In that sequence, what's red will be above the olive that is itself four places below the leek. That symbol of Wales should have a turnip above it and a carrot just below it. And the wheel that has beet in it will have chard immediately above it.

Okay. I just hope all of those show up clearly when we Xerox the puzzle.

In the Right version the middle paragraph is instead:

The sequence of objects in each column will be the same: A turnip, a leek, a carrot, chard, a beet, and an olive, running from top to bottom.

So either way, from the top down, the gray circles in each column of wheels will contain the following veggies, in order: Turnip, Leek, Carrot, Chard, Beet, Olive.

Each line in the song contains cluing for one or two bigrams (two-letter sequences), with corresponding pair(s) of veggies next to the line; for each bigram, find the wheels in the first and second column corresponding to the first and second veggie (respectively), and mark off the handles corresponding to the semaphore for the first and second letter in the bigram (respectively). The manner of cluing for the bigram in each verse is indicated by the singer's name, when the nautical title is abbreviated:

Cap. Ital: Each bigram is the postal code for the state whose capital is mentioned: NJ (Trenton), CT (Hartford), FL (Tallahassee), MN (St. Paul), TX (Austin), MA (Boston).

Com. Pleteword: Each bigram is a complete word, clued somewhere within the line: UP (aloft), XI (Ξ), OR ("GOLD" in French), ES ("IT" in German), SO (thusly, in this manner), WE (as a subject, these three pirates, one and all).

A.B. Breviation: Each bigram is an abbreviation, clued somewhere within the line: VW (Beetle), PO (building where the mail is), RX (prescription), TD (six points with just one ball), PJ (the youngest of the kids in Family Circus), UV (tanning rays from Sol).

When all of the handles indicated above have been marked off, two handles on each wheel remain unmarked; read as semaphore, these spell out (top to bottom in the first column, and then the second) **GRAND LARCENY**.



ESPIONAGE Round

Tiki Grog (Azote)

puzzle by Jenny Gutbezahl and Joe Cabrera

Each ingredient corresponds to feature on the glass: the main liquor is eyes, liqueur is hands, non-alcoholic mixer is nose, and garnish is mouth. Solve as a logic puzzle to get the correct correspondences:

	Main Liquor	Eye Shape		Liqueur	Hand Shape		Mixer	Nose Shape		Garnish	Mouth Shape
E1	Rum	Round, Angled in	H1	Campari	Jazz Hands	N1	Orange Juice	Wide	M1	Cherry	Angry Infinity sign
E2	Rye	Sad	H2	Dry Vermouth	Fists	N2	Egg White	Flared Nostrils	M2	Twist of Lime	Grin
E3	Bourbon	Angry	H3	Sparkling Wine	Palms Down	N3	Club Soda	Turned Up	M3	Pineapple Chunk	Circular

This allows you to identify each drink in order. Index into the drink's name by the amount of change given for that drink to get the answer **FRUIT CUP**.

Letter	Drink	Liquor/Eyes	Liqueur/Hands	Mixer/ Nose	Garnish/ Mouth	Change
F	Jockey Full of Bourbon	E3	H1	N1	M1	12¢
R	Arms of a Stranger	E3	H2	N3	M2	13¢
U	Vermouth of Sauron	E1	H2	N2	M3	16¢
I	Cardinal Sinsation	E1	H1	N2	M1	10¢
T	Rum Tum Tugger	E1	H2	N1	M1	7¢
C	Enthusiastic Consent	E1	H3	N1	M2	12¢
U	Pocket Full of Rye	E2	H2	N1	M3	8¢
P	Midnight Sparkle	E1	H1	N3	M2	10¢

Mystery Island Treasure Hunt (Azote)

puzzle by Ben Smith and Kevin Wald

This puzzle is unsolvable; its answer, given directly in "Audio Intercept 3," is **INDIAN-HEAD CENT**.



ESPIONAGE Round

Meta Hari (Espionage Meta – *Ether*)

puzzle by Kevin Wald

In each Espionage puzzle, the usual triangle containing the page number has been replaced with a more complex, gray shape. All these shapes appear, containing numbers, in Meta Hari. If you replace each shape containing n with the n th letter of the solution of the corresponding puzzle:

(1) Some of these letters are in front of clues at the bottom of the page, two each in the range C to I; there are also clues beside the As and Bs in boxes toward the top of the page, on each side. All these clues can be solved so that the answers form pairs of words that are identical except that one has a W where the other has a B. You thus have “white” words and “black” words; put each word on its appropriate side, next to the box containing the letter that precedes its clue.

2) If you then draw a straight line connecting the centers of the boxes for each pair of near-identical words, it will pass through one white circle and one black circle, each containing a letter (either because it had a letter at the start, or because you replaced its shape + number with a letter). Write the black circle’s letter beside the white box, and vice versa. When all of these have been done, the letters (top to bottom on the white side, then on the black side) will spell the answer, **QUALITY BONDING TIME**.



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MISMANAGE Round

The Devil and the Deep Blue Sea (*Azote*)

The Devil Went Down to Georgia (*Phlogiston*)

puzzle by Kevin Wald and Katie Hamill

Each section of the “legal documents” clues a series of 12 answers (one example in each illustrates the cluing method):

The Complaint consists of simplified “Printers Devilry” clues in which the boldface text clues a word which can be inserted (possibly with altered spacing and punctuation) into the underlined word to make the sentence make sense; these words are 1. ABYSS (bABY’S Sleep), 2. MILNE (taMIL NEws), 3. PONE (uPON Empires), 4. COYLY (deCOY LYe), 5. PYLE (harPY LEmony), 6. EYED (monEY EDitors), 7. Y’ALL (roYAL Luge), 8. NONE (canNONEer), 9. STERNAL (weSTERN ALight), 10. BOYS (craB, OYster), 11. CONS (preCONScious), 12. TANKING (sparTAN KINGs).

The Deposition gives its answers directly, in alphabetical order: ABROAD, AWAITS, CAPULET, COUGAR, EJECT, FIGHT, LUTHERAN, NECK, PHLOX, PICTORIAL, POETIC, TAMPERS.

The Summation consists of sentences, in which the boldface text clues an answer directly (with all enumerations given directly in the comment at the bottom); in order (which is, again, alphabetical) these are ABJECTNESS, BOATSWAINS, COCKNEYS, CONCEPTUALLY, ENCOURAGED, MILITARY POLICE, NIGHTFALL, PARDONABLE, POLYURETHANE, STEREOTYPICAL, TAPESTRY-MAKING, XYLOPHONE.

We can form groups of three answers, one from each document (the examples form one group) in which the Summation answer is the result of replacing a Y or N in the Complaint answer with an anagram of the Deposition answer + N or Y (respectively). In Complaint order, the answers and the letters extracted from them in part 1 of each puzzle are:

1	AB <u>Y</u> SS	EJECT	AB <u>J</u> ECTNESS	C	J	T	B
2	MIL <u>N</u> E	PICTORIAL	MILIT <u>A</u> R <u>P</u> OLICE	O	A	R	L
3	P <u>O</u> NE	LUTHERAN	P <u>O</u> LYURETHANE	N	Y	E	U
4	CO <u>Y</u> LY	CAPULET	CON <u>C</u> EPTUALLY	T	A	E	E
5	P <u>Y</u> LE	ABROAD	P <u>A</u> RDONABLE	A	N	O	P
6	E <u>Y</u> ED	COUGAR	ENC <u>O</u> URAGED	C	O	R	R
7	<u>Y</u> ALL	FIGHT	N <u>I</u> GHTFALL	T	I	F	I
8	<u>N</u> ONE	PHLOX	X <u>Y</u> LOPHONE	P	N	L	N
9	ST <u>E</u> RNAL	POETIC	ST <u>E</u> REOTYPICAL	O	T	O	T
10	BO <u>O</u> S	AWAITS	BO <u>A</u> T <u>S</u> WAINS	I	I	W	T
11	CO <u>N</u> S	NECK	CO <u>C</u> CKNEYS	N	N	E	E
12	T <u>A</u> N <u>K</u> ING	TAMPERS	TA <u>P</u> E <u>S</u> TR <u>Y</u> -MAKING	T	G	R	E



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MISMANAGE Round

The Devil and the Deep Blue Sea / The Devil Went Down to Georgia *(continued)*

In The Devil and the Deep Blue Sea we get CONTACT POINT from Deposition answers and JAY, ANOINTING from Summation answers, so the Part 1 answer is JUNCTION (J + UNCTION); in The Devil Went Down to Georgia we get TREE OR FLOWER and BLUEPRINT, TEE, so the Part 1 answer is PLANT (PLAN + T). Meanwhile, the “votes” (Y or N that gets replaced and “switched”) from the Complaint, in order by Deposition are YYYYYYNNNNNN and YYNYYNYYNNNN, which give REELS and CRISP in Part 2 of these puzzles, respectively. Applying the same replacement process with JUNCTION and REELS gives **JURY SELECTION** as the answer for The Devil and the Deep Blue Sea; applying it with PLANT and CRISP gives **PLAY SCRIPT** as the answer for The Devil Went Down to Georgia.



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MISMANAGE Round

Practice Your Scales! (*Phlogiston*)

Search for Yer Booty! (*Azote*)

puzzle by Jenny Gutbezahl and Brie Frame

These puzzles must be solved in tandem in the CambridgeSide Galleria. Follow the scale notes given and take the letters as indicated on each walkaround:

Step	Location	Scale Note	Phlogiston Letter	Azote Letter
1	BANK OF AMERICA/ L GIVEN	DO (homophone)	—	L
2	BANANA <u>RE</u> PUBLIC, <i>Level 3</i>	RE	—	I
3	(going towards Express) TCUSTOM <u>MI</u> ZE, <i>Level 3</i>	MI	—	—
4	CHE E SECAKE <u>FA</u> CTORY, <i>Level 1</i>	FA	—	E
5	COMMUNITY <u>SOL</u> AR SYSTEM, <i>Level 2</i>	SOL	—	U (from SUN)
6	AT L ANTIC TIME, <i>Level 2</i>	LA	L	T
7	ORIENTAL R E <u>LAXATION</u> THERAPY, <i>Level 3</i>	TI	E	E
8	PAN D ORA, <i>Level 2</i>	DO	N	N (from OLD NAVY)
9	GAP <u>BOD</u> Y, <i>Level 3</i>	OD	—	A
10	AMERICAN E AGLE <u>O</u> UTFIT T ERS, <i>Level 1</i>	IT	O	N
11	REAL L ITY ZOMBIES, <i>Level 2</i>	AL	L	T
12	ALD O <u>S</u> HOES, <i>Level 1</i>	OS	O	—
13	C ASABLANCA <u>F</u> LORIST, <i>Parking Level</i>	AF	C	—
14	T. J. MAXX, <i>Level 2</i>	IM [reading J as I]	—	—
15	WORLD OF B E <u>E</u> R, <i>Level 1</i>	ER	—	—
16	WORLD <u>O</u> F BEER again, <i>Level 1</i>	OD	—	—

At the end of the walkaround you will be facing the **ESCALATORS**, which is the answer for Practice Your Scales!

Taking the Azote letters in order, then appending the Phlogiston letters in *reverse* order gives **LIEUTENANT COLONEL**, which is the answer for Search for Yer Booty!



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MISMANAGE Round

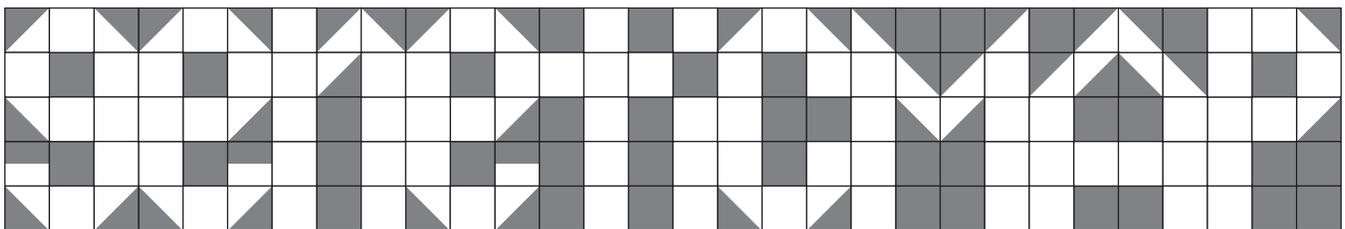
Flyre Festival (*Phlogiston*)

puzzle by Aaron Fuegi, Katherine Bryant, Phil Steindel, and Susan Glass

Each bigram on the map corresponds to the position of one of the small bronze sculptures of native flora and fauna (by artist Nancy Webb) found in Charles Park. The rules listed in the puzzle describe how to assign each statue to one of the seven notes. The assignments of the bigrams used in the grid — which correspond to the underlined bigrams on the map — are as follows:

Initials	# on Plaque	Description on Plaque	Note
BM (with KA)	4 a&b	Praying Mantis	DO
ES (with JM)	9 a&b	Cricket	DO
SG	11	Coral Bells	TI
JT	15	Lady's Mantle	TI
KC	16	Lady's Mantle	TI
LG	19	Bee	FA
M5	20	Ant	MI
AG	21	Katydid	FA
DL	25	Chicory & Bumblebee	LA
SS	26	Chicory & Yellow Jacket	LA
SM	27	Praying Mantis, Cricket, Day Lily Bud & Leaf, Shasta Daisy, Vinca, & Coral Bell Leaves	MI
KP	B	Honeybee & Coreopsis	SO
OD	D	Ant & Lily Leaf	LA
TS	E	Japanese Beetle & Viburnum Leaf	RE
BK	K	Prionus Beetle & Pachysandra Leaves	RE
SF	L	Cabbage Butterfly & Chicory	SO

Entering the shapes corresponding to the correct note in the grid yields the following:



The answer is **GENETIC MAP**.



MISMANAGE Round

Buried Treasure (Azote)

puzzle by Andy Kravis, Katherine Bryant, joon pahk, and Joe Cabrera

In the Right version of this puzzle, teams are given a standard 17x17 crossword; in the Acute version, teams are given a diagramless version of the same 17x17 crossword. In both cases, teams must first solve the crossword, which turns out to have 13 rebus squares, each containing either the bigram **AU** or the bigram **AG**:



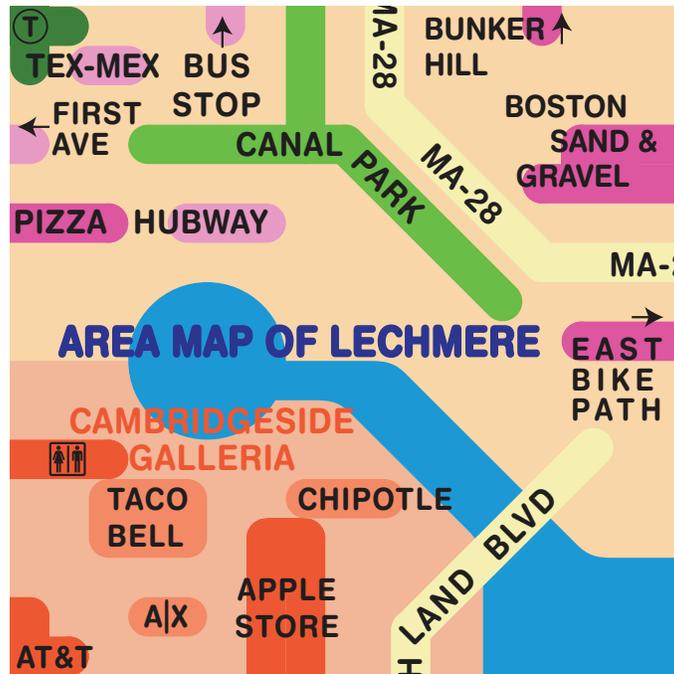
Those bigrams are the chemical symbols for gold and silver, indicating thirteen sites of buried treasure. But where to dig for said treasure?



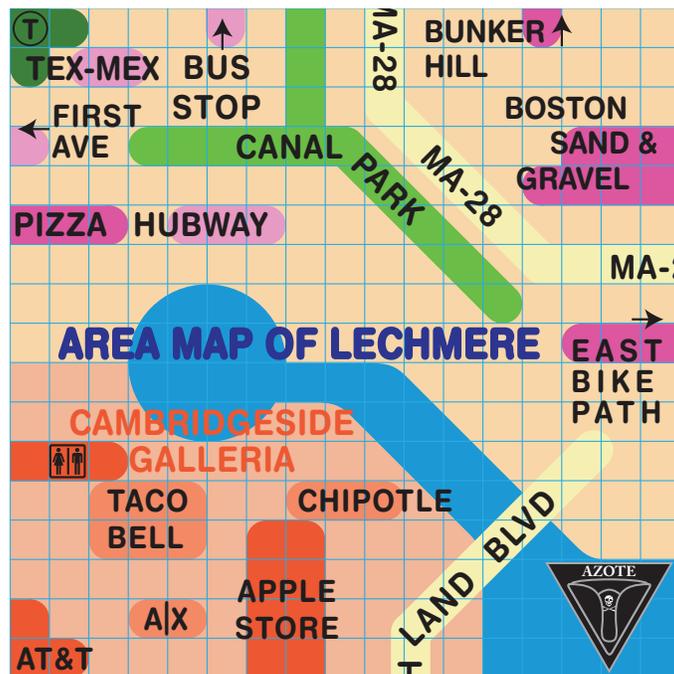
MISMANAGE Round

Buried Treasure (continued)

The flavortext says that when you're done, you'll know exactly where in Cambridge to dig. Acute teams will begin the hunt with an area map of Cambridge with an inset of the Lechmere area where this puzzle will be solved:



For the Right version, the inset map also has a 17x17 grid overlaid on it:



MISMANAGE Round

Buried Treasure *(continued)*

The largest set of black squares in the completed puzzle closely resembles the main water feature in Lechmere, and the other sections of black squares correspond to the darker sections of the Lechmere inset. Additionally, the size of the crossword grid is the same size as the inset map of Lechmere. So, teams must realize that they have to overlay the completed crossword grid onto the area map of Lechmere. When they do, the thirteen **AU** and **AG** rebus squares will each cover exactly one letter on the map, as indicated below:



From top to bottom and left to right, those letters spell out **MONEY MARKET CD**.



MISMANAGE Round

Balance Your Budget In 10 Easy Steps (Mismanage Meta — *Ether*)

puzzle by Ben Smith and Kevin Wald

The steps are as follows:

1. ESCALATORS, GENETIC MAP, PLAY SCRIPT, JURY SELECTION, LIEUTENANT COLONEL, MONEY MARKET CD
2. ELTR, GENETIMP, PLYRIPT, JURYSCTION, IUNNCOON, MONYMRKCD
3. ELTR, GENETIMP, PLYRIPT, URYSCIONFLAG, IUNNCOON, MONYMRCDFLAG
4. INELTR, INGENETIMP, INPLYRIPT, INURYSCTIONFLAG, INMONYMRCDFLAG
(The syllable was HO, giving HOE, HOG, HOP, HOUR, and HOMONYM, with IUNNCOON dropping.)
5. INELTR, INGETMP, INPLYRT, INURYSOFLAG, INMOYRCDFLAG
6. INELTRNPLYR, INGETMPNPLYR, INPLYRT, INURYSOFLAG, INMOYRCDFLAG
(The verb meaning “work” was PLY, in the center of INPLYRT.)
7. INELTRNPLYR, INGETMPNPLYR, INMOYRCDFLAG, INPLYRT, INURYSOFLAG
8. INELTRNPLYR, INGETMPNPLYR, INMOYRC, INPLYRT, INURYSOFLAC
(CDFLAG and COFLAG are identical except that the D has “inflated” to form an O.)
9. INWESTERNPLYR, INGETMPNPLYR, INMOYRC, INPLYRT, CALFOCSYRUN
(We formed CALF . . . RUN and WESTERN.)
10. INWEST, ING, INMC, T, CALFUN
11. INVESTINGINMUTUALFUN

(C rotates to form U, and W is bisected to form V.)

So the answer is **INVESTING IN MUTUAL FUN**.



PHLOGISTON META

Phlogiston (Music) Meta

puzzle by Daniel Lepage and Kevin Wald

All the answers are the same length, each contains one musical note, and the last letter of each is the first letter of exactly one other, and vice versa. If you form them into a big loop so that the last letter of one is the first of the next, and in each adjacent pair note the letters in the second answer (shown below in bold) in the same position as the note of the first answer (shown below underlined), you get the following:

ESCALATORS

SLIPSTITCH

HISTAMINIC

CONTINUING

GENETICMAP

PLASSCRIPT

TRANSLATOR

REFORMBILL

LEGITIMATE (and back to the top)

giving the answer, **LAST MINUET SCRAMBLE.**



AZOTE META

Azote (Pirates) Meta

puzzle by Daniel Lepage and Kevin Wald

The answers each start with a different letter, in a continuous alphabetic sequence, and each contains one C. In order by initial letter, and highlighting the triplets of letters centered on the Cs (which are “three points with sea in the middle”) we get:

FRUIT CUP

GRAND LARCENY

HARMONIC CMEAN

INDIAN-HEAD CENT

JURY SELECTION

KEYPUNCHES

LIEUTENANT COLONEL

MONEY MARKET CD

CNARCS

Taking all the first letters of the triplets, and then all the last letters, gives the answer, **TRIDENT TRUE METHODS.**



META-META

The Farmer, The Fox, and The Chicken (Meta-Meta — *Ether*)

puzzle by Aaron Fuegi, Susan Glass, joon pahk, Daniel Lepage, and Kevin Wald

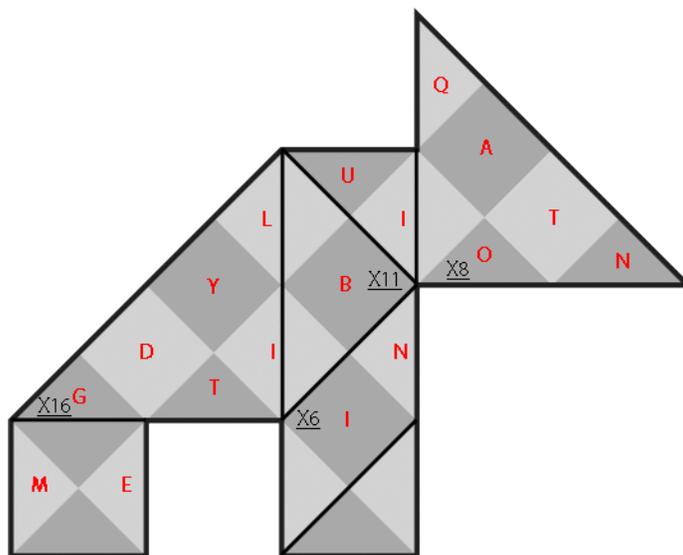
Below are the assembled TangramBoard shapes. Solvers might have some minor variations but all the pieces with marked letters should end up in exactly the places indicated below. Note that solvers must obey two main constraints. A) Keep the checkerboard pattern entirely consistent and as shown in the small indicator image on the puzzle for each shape. B) Have the pieces with marked Letter-Number combinations rotated so that they read normally; X8 in the first image below is not allowed to be upside down or on its side.

Once assembled, solvers can read out the indicated letters in the appropriate order as Phlogiston, Azote, and Ether make peace with other and again become Phlog-a-Zither:

C1	C2	B3	S4	F5	X6	S7	X8	S9	F10	X11	C12	B13	B14	F15	X16	B17	S18	F19
L	E	T	T	R	I	G	O	N	S	B	E	T	R	I	G	O	N	S

yielding the final solution **LET TRIGONS BE TRIGONS.**

Fox (QUALITY BONDING TIME):



SOLUTIONS

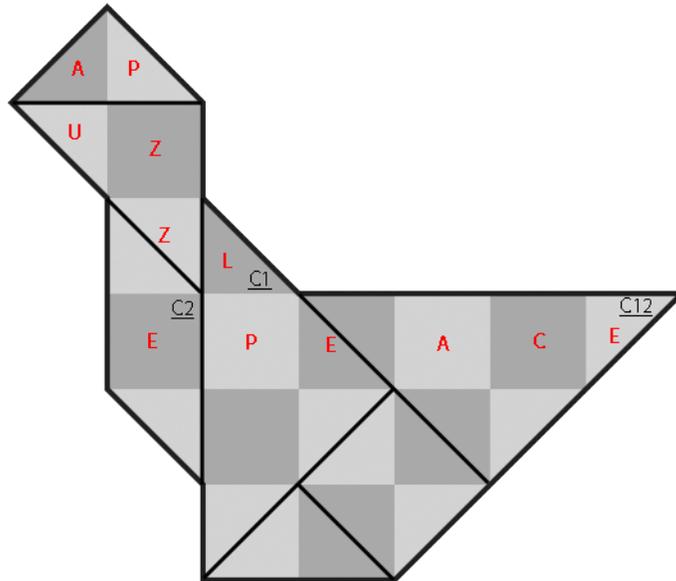
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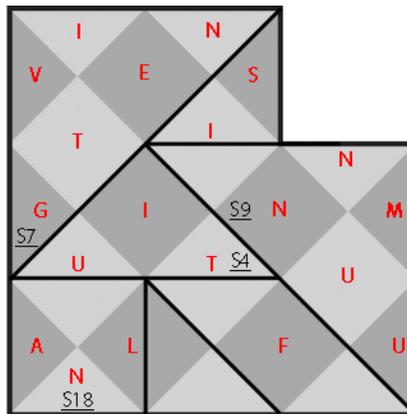
META-META

The Farmer, The Fox, and The Chicken *(continued)*

Chicken (A PUZZLE PEACE):



Sack of Grain (INVESTING IN MUTUAL FUN):



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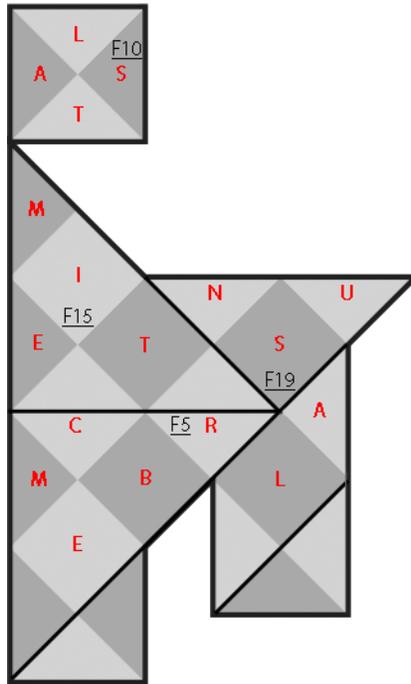
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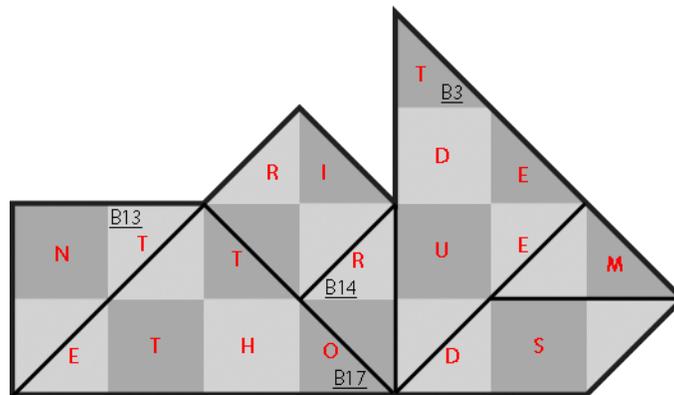
META-META

The Farmer, The Fox, and The Chicken (continued)

Farmer (LAST MINUET SCRAMBLE):



Boat (TRIDENT TRUE METHODS):



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