

Fire Works

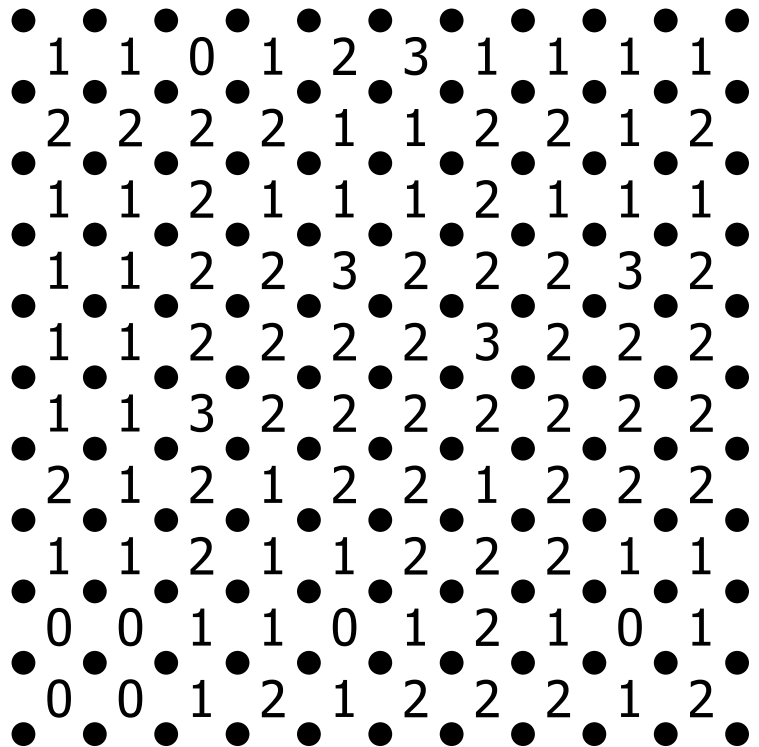
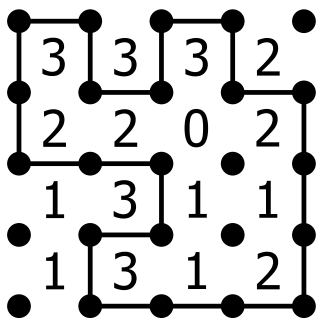
by Dustin Foley

A mysterious fire is endangering this set of puzzles, so you'll have to solve them quickly before they completely burn up! The puzzles can be solved in any order, and the answer to each puzzle is a single word or name. After you get those seven answers, you can use them to solve the final puzzle.

Blazing Saddles

A cowboy has linked together a fence that makes a single loop on his land as a corral for his horses. The numbers on each plot of land indicate how many of its 4 sides are part of the fence loop. Outside of his corral, where can the cowboy find another horse?

Example:



Burn Notice

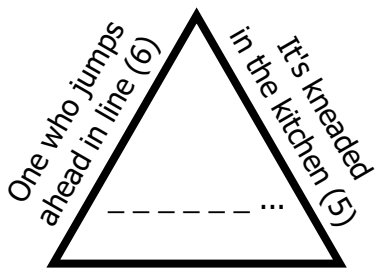
A ring of seven spies has regular meetings throughout each week. Each spy has meetings with other spies on two consecutive days, with a different spy each time. That is, spies #1 and #2 meet on Mondays, then spies #2 and #3 meet Tuesdays, then #3 and #4 meet Wednesdays, and so on until spy #7 meets back with spy #1 on Sundays. Here is what you've learned about these meetings so far:

- Three of the spies are men: Alexander, Johnny, and Thomas.
- Four of the spies are women: Brenda, Emily, Judith, and Lauren.
- Alexander doesn't meet with any women.
- Judith has never met Emily.
- Lauren is the only woman who doesn't have any meetings on weekends.
- Someone meets with Judith one day, and then Johnny the next day.

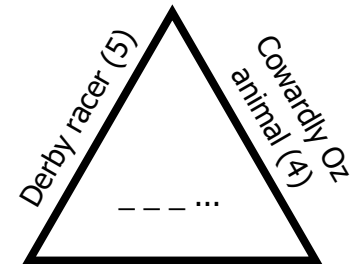
The purpose of these meetings appears to be the transfer of secret messages in sealed envelopes. If only you could determine the contents of those letters that they share with each other, you would uncover what a better spy would be.

Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire

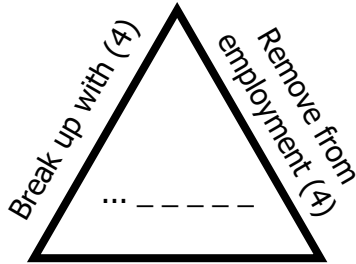
Three students, from three wizarding schools, are supposed to participate in the Triwizard Tournament, but a fourth additional student unexpectedly joins them too. (The answer is 7 letters.)



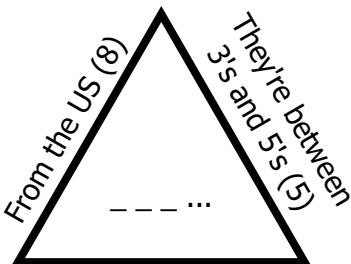
Jelly bean container (3)

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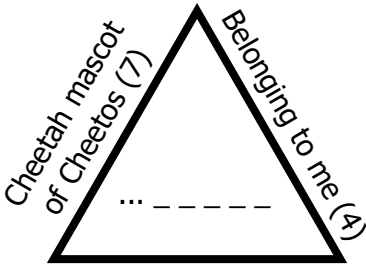
Turtle's protection (5)

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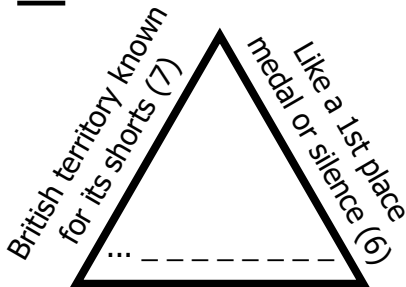
Type of line used for chatting someone up (6)



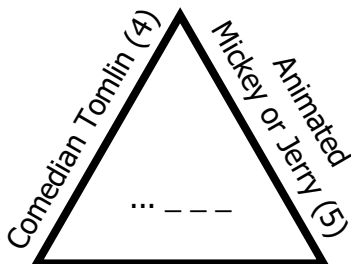
Not sharp or flat (7)



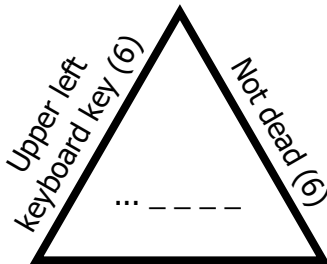
Bouncy metal coil (6)

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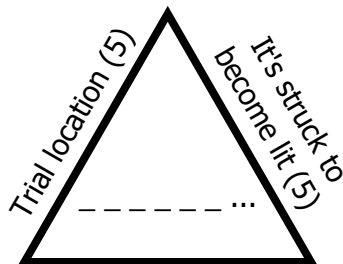
Cherish (4)



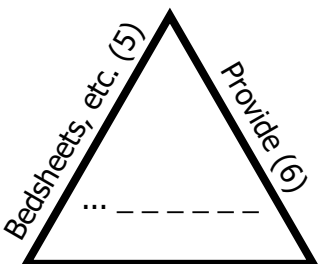
Do, re, or mi (4)



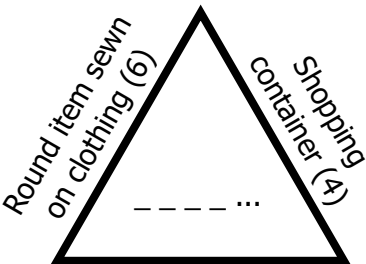
Shout to sled dogs (4)

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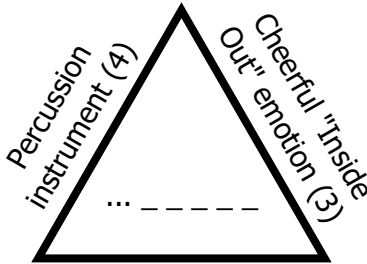
Loud, noisy din (6)



Melted ice (5)



Brown truck delivery co. (3)

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Open-handed hit (4)

Hot Tamales and Red Hots

There are a number of other red, non-chocolate candies too.



The Human Torch

The Fantastic Four are able to use their four different powers on words as well, creating new words.

- Mr. Fantastic stretches one letter in the word, doubling it in place.
- The Invisible Woman causes one letter in the word to disappear.
- The Human Torch heats up the first letter of the word, turning it into the next letter of the alphabet.
- The Thing clobbers the entire word, rearranging its letters.

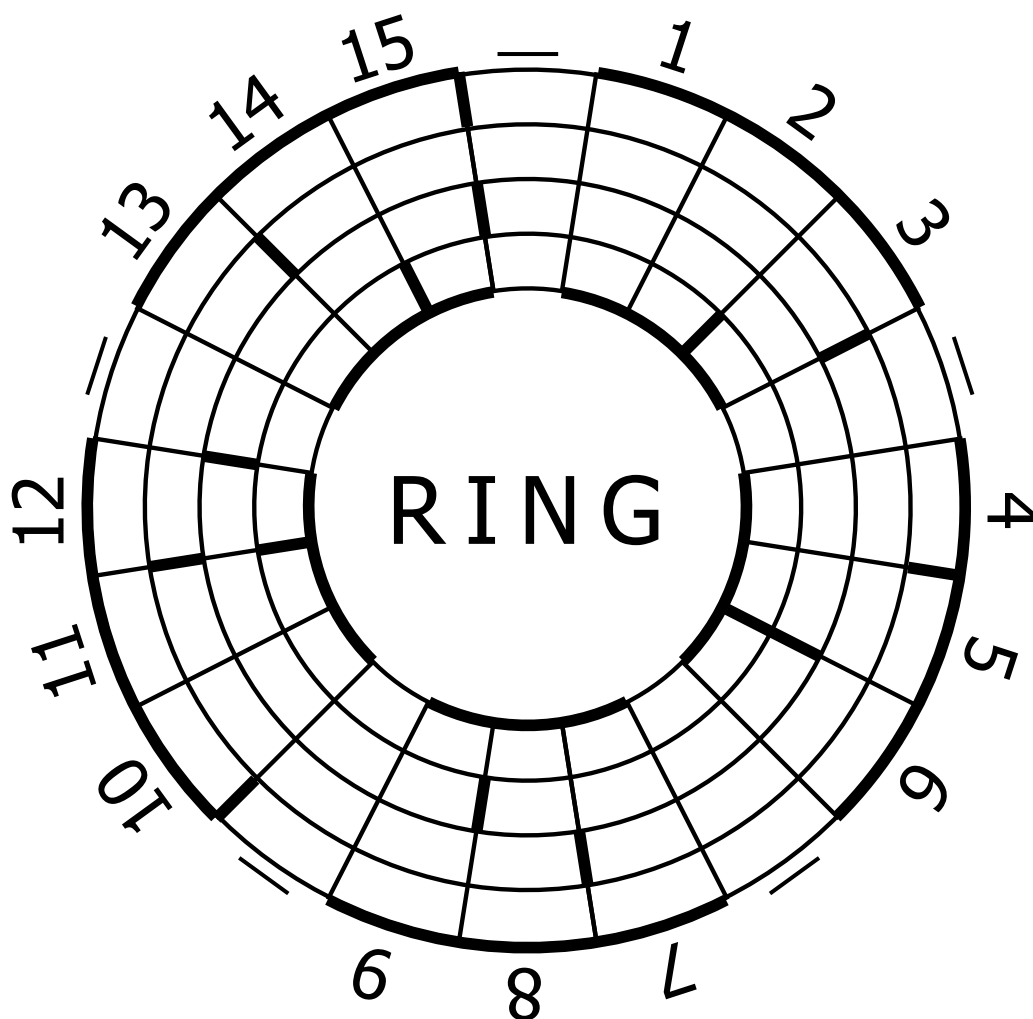
Each word in the following list is transformed by one of the Fantastic Four, causing it to become a word that fits in one of 5 categories. Each power is used to create exactly one word in each category. Place the new word in the bottom grid, then copy the boxed letter into the box next to the original word. This will reveal the Fantastic Four's next foe.

<input type="text"/> FOLD	<input type="text"/> RECIPE	<input type="text"/> CASH	<input type="text"/> MOUSE	<input type="text"/> CHOPPER
<input type="text"/> BE	<input type="text"/> GARRISON	<input type="text"/> HOVER	<input type="text"/> DOPIER	<input type="text"/> POLKA
<input type="text"/> LACIER	<input type="text"/> COMA	<input type="text"/> PIPE	<input type="text"/> THRONE	<input type="text"/> LIVERS
<input type="text"/> BLOUSE	<input type="text"/> LITE	<input type="text"/> SPLASH	<input type="text"/> BOOKIE	<input type="text"/> BRAS

	Desserts	Bugs	Metals	Presidents	Punctuation
Mr. Fantastic	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Invisible Woman	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Human Torch	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Thing	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Ring of Fire

I went down, down, down, and the flames went higher. What else goes higher too?



Down answers are each 4 letters long and go from the outer ring to the center. Sets of ring clues are in clockwise order within a ring, and answers are separated by heavy bars, but you need to determine their starting point.

Down, Down, Down Clues

1. Singer Redding
2. Remove from office
3. Trident-shaped Greek letters
4. Rectangular entryway, usually
5. Tortoise racer
6. Historic periods
7. Declare to be
8. Speak with a sore throat
9. Little devils
10. Group with its own Scottish tartan, maybe
11. Chicks' moms
12. Sign at storefronts, often
13. Narcissists have big ones
14. P-shaped Greek letters
15. Area below a window

Biggest Ring

- Moved in a ring shape
- Guitarist who headlined Woodstock
- Tight-fitting neck accessories

Second-biggest Ring

- Break in a TV program's schedule
- Like sandpaper
- Plenty of
- Type of leg for a pirate

Second-smallest Ring

- Flat two-dimensional object
- Product from sheep
- Guest
- Gorillas and orangutans

Smallest Ring

- "Certainly!"
- TV family from Springfield
- Loch known for its monster
- TV show with a smoke monster

We Didn't Start the Fire

There's a (w)hole lot of other things Billy Joel didn't start either.

Journey through the clouds or higher, brightness from a bulb or fire,
Sentence in a dictionary, herb before thyme and rosemary,
Shining elemental gas, time that takes real long to pass,
Spooky spectral apparition, game show emcee's job position,
Floating rocks in outer space, drugs that help you win a race,
Website text that's often blue, stuff a squid might shoot at you,
Violent and bloody killing, sound when jokes are found fulfilling,
Property left to an heir, Texas, Maine, or Delaware,
Terror, joy, surprise, or grief, court proposal from a brief,
What a hazard puts you in, it's called wrath when it's a sin!

— — — — — " — — — — — " → — — — — — → — — — — —

Fire Works: Metapuzzle

You should now have seven answers from the seven other puzzles, although the fire may have already burnt your answers a little! Here are some things you have discovered about this fire:

- The fire is spreading quickly ON LAND.
- The fire is really going NUTS.
- Repairing the fire's damage won't be CHEAP.
- The fire has reached A MAJOR U.S. CITY.
- The fire's flames are standing tall and PROUD.
- The fire is emitting lots of BRIGHT LIGHTS.
- The fire is showing no RESTRAINT.

Once you pair up those seven statements with what remains of your seven answers, you might determine the cause of this mysterious fire...