

Island 1

Meta Puzzle: Dance Party

Each of the individual puzzles yields a six-letter word with a unique letter pattern, patterns replicated by the dance steps (e.g, the upper left pattern is ABCADD). From left to right, top to bottom, the words are BAMBOO, TAHITI, TATTOO, TEXMEX, NISSAN, INNING, SEESAW, RENDER, and SUSHIS.

The yellow letters (all singletons in the word) spell out **Mahatma Gandhi**.

Hokey Pokey

Each answer is a rhyming phrase like Hokey Pokey. In order: sci-fi, white knight, zoot suit, mayday, thigh-high, Quiet Riot, near beer, roly-poly, night-light, stun gun.

As implied by the flavortext, look for the starting sound of the right-hand side of each answer in the nonsense string, and replace it with the left-hand side starting sound. (e.g., in sci-fi, replace F with S). This produces **RMN' STHWST QZN**

Insert vowels to spell "Rhymin' Southwest Cuisine" with is **tex-mex**.

Cutting The Rug

As implied by the flavortext, this involves both Braille and Morse Code. First translate the Braille on the pieces to get this:

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| 1#6 | *YO | ING | U W | HOS |  
| WIL | DO | ILLA | TS, | LL |  
-----  
| NO | RIT | A # | ? * | L Y |  
| S T | WH | D W | WOR | F L |  
-----  
| HE | , W | WI | EAN | IS |  
| (M | COD | NT | SIB | E A |  
-----  
| E M | NDS | T T | E # | OU |  
| BE | A | HIS | AT | ETT |  
-----  
| SOU | SAM | RIT | SEE | TEN |  
| IN | *O. | E T | ER | HAT |  
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Cutting apart the rug and rearranging the pieces will yield the message You write 16 dots, and what will you see? A 6-letter word whose meaning will be sibilant sounds, written in a code that is not the same as this MO. (# indicate numbers and * capital letters).

A 6-letter word that in Morse Code ("tapping on the floor") is 16 dots is **hisses**.

Dance Marathon

The answers for the dancer clues are in order:

riche	worth	yards	stabs	halve	snake
moral	aley	roves	lunge	gruel	finest
runts	maine	belts	broil	cando	corny
glide	point	cumin	femur	trend	edith
downs	cleat	thugs	sepia	logic	lathe
silty	rhone	ghent	jutes	aerie	marys

Dropouts are:

Across: logjam, incend, royals, untidy, myself, detach

Down: auntie, submit, wimple, relish, honest, nectar

NW-SE: anchor, clergy, kramer, virtue, brogan, hordes

NE-SW: enough, desilu, rarest, agouti, elbows, svelte

For each dropout, start either in the first row or column and begin eliminating letters, going in the direction of the clue.

Leftover letters spell

IT'S THE LARGEST ISLAND IN FRENCH POLYNESIA which is **tahiti**.

Ring Around the Rosie

This is a Petal Puzzle, popularized by Will Shortz.

The left hand clues are in order: tisket, damper, pastor, junked, halved, surrey, lenses, fillet, rancid, worker, bandit, castes, nectar, mesnes, vortex, condor.

The right-hand clues are basket, walker, jockey, dunces, furter, carved, lasted, cassis, vesper, pollex, nimrod, tardis, hint at, sonnet, mentor.

Regardless of how you fill in the grid, the missing word will be **render**.

The Twist

The introduction provides hints to the game Twister. One can fill terms from the game into the squares so that lines connect identical letters. In order, RED, HAND, RIGHT, TWISTER, BLUE, GREEN, LEFT, FOOT, BOARD GAME, MATTEL, YELLOW.

Shaded squares spell DATSUN TODAY. Datsun is currently known as **Nissan**.

Do The Robot

The brown down triangle cannot be N, NW, NE, SE, SW, S, or E (it would go off the board) it must be W. The orange up triangle cannot be N, NE, NW, E, SE, SW, or W (same reason), it must be S. The blue diamond can only be E (same reason). For the remaining symbols, we have these possibilities:

Green star: N NE

Gray circle: N NW

Magenta imploded star: N NE NW SE SW

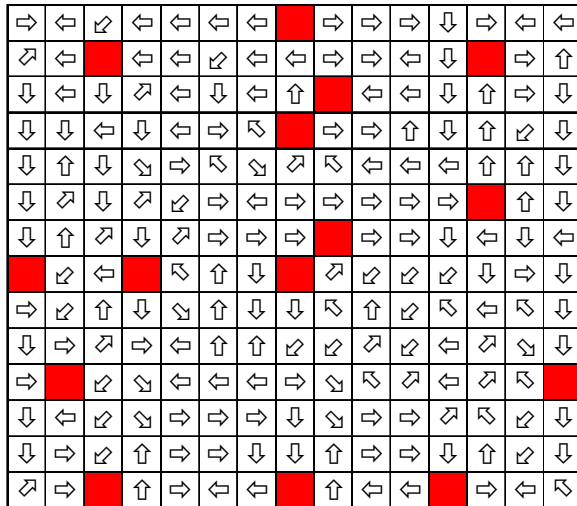
Red half-circle: N NW SW

Aqua squares: SE SW

In the upper right corner, the brown square must be reachable by one of the three surrounding squares. But it's not reachable from the brown triangle or blue diamond, it

must be reachable by the red half-circle. The red half-circle is therefore North. The green star is therefore NE, and the gray circle NW. The brown triangle in row 3, column 5, is not yet reachable from any of the eight squares surrounding it, the aqua square must reach it, and is therefore SW, and the magenta star is SE.

The resulting maze looks like this:



To get through the maze, one must use the instructions E, SW, SE, W, S, S. These colors are blue, aqua, magenta, brown, orange, orange. The first letters spell **bamboo**.

The Hustle

Trivia Question answers in order: 17, California, 4, New York, Indians, Phillies, Dodgers ("Brooklyn's got a winning team" and "California baseball"), Chicago, Brewers, Minnesota, 11, Ohio, Detroit Tigers, Pirates, 9, Texas, San Diego.

Saturday's game was interleague. Sunday's game was either AL Central or NL West. The AL West was the day before AL Central, so AL Central cannot be Sunday, the NL West was on Sunday. If NL Central were Friday's game, NL East would be Thursday's game, and the AL games would be Monday through Wednesday, which contradicts clue #. The NL Central could only be Wednesday's game, and NL East Monday. This makes the AL East on Tuesday, AL West on Thursday, and AL Central on Friday.

The Brewers won, despite playing by AL Rules, so they won Saturday's game, and were the NL team in that game. The Phillies and Nationals both played; they must be Monday's teams, and the Phillies won. The Diamondbacks played, and won, so they played in Sunday's game. The Pirates and the Cubs played; they are Wednesday's teams.

If they scored 6 runs or more, the Phillies would be 12 or more and their total would be too high. Therefore the score was either 8-4 or 4-2. If it were 4-2, then it's the game where 6 runs were scored in total. This cannot be either of the teams in clue #, so Monday's game wasn't 4-2, it was 8-4.

The White Sox scored fewer than 4 runs; they cannot have played Friday's game, so they played Saturday, and either scored 1 or 2 runs. They were a losing home team, so the Cubs were a losing visitor team. Monday's game was in Washington DC.

The interleague team did not feature a Californian team. The only Californian team lost by 4 runs; this can not be the AL West game, which had an odd score. It's Sunday's game. The AL West teams were therefore the Rangers and the Marlins. Sunday's losing team are not the Dodgers or Padres, the Giants lost Sunday at home.

Tuesday's game was either Boston-Baltimore or Tampa Bay-Toronto. Therefore, neither New York team played. By clue 6, the Cleveland Indians did not play either. Neither did the Cincinnati Reds, so by clue 18, neither did the Detroit Tigers. The AL Central game could only be Twins versus Royals. By clue #, Twins played, so they won and were the visitors.

So far we have

- MON: Phillies (8) vs. Nationals (4)
- TUES: either Boston/Baltimore or Toronto/Tampa Bay
- WED: Cubs (2) vs. Pirates (w)
- THUR: Rangers/Mariners
- FRI: Twins (w) vs. Rangers (l)
- SAT: Brewers (w) vs. White Sox (2)
- SUN: Arizona (w) vs. Giants (l)

All teams scored at least 3 runs. The game with 6 runs was 4-2. It cannot be the game with the Pirates, so it's Saturday's game, and is the game 1 day after 9 runs were scored in total. At least each team Friday scored 4 runs, so the score for that game was 5-4. The Pirates game was played before a game not played in Texas; it was played in Seattle, and the Rangers won.

Sunday's game saw twice as many runs as a Central division game. This can't be AL Central (twice 9 is 18, more than clue # allows), so it's NL Central. The Pirates scored an odd number of runs, so the highest total for Saturday's game is 14, which gives the Diamondbacks 9 runs. The Diamondbacks scored at least 9 runs, so they won 9-5, and the Pirates won 5-2.

Four teams scored 4 runs and lost. There are two games left, and only two other games left where a team lost with 4 runs. Thursday's score must have been 7-4. In Monday's game, the losers scored 4 runs. The winners did not score 5, 7, or 8 runs. They did not score 9 or more, or 4 or less, so they scored 6. This was not a team named after a fish or bird, so it was Boston, who visited Baltimore.

Our results are therefore:

- MON: Philadelphia Phillies (8) vs. Washington Nationals (4)
- TUES: Boston Red Sox (6) vs. Baltimore Orioles (4)
- WED: Chicago Cubs (2) vs. Pittsburgh Pirates (5)
- THUR: Texas Rangers (7) vs. Seattle Mariners (4)
- FRI: Minnesota Twins (5) vs. Texas Rangers (2)
- SAT: Milwaukee Brewers (4) vs. Chicago White Sox (2)
- SUN: Arizona Diamondbacks (9) vs. San Fran Giants (5)

Indexing each team's name (not their city) gives SIX OUTS IS A WHAT, the answer being **inning**.

Boxstep

The phrases are all boxing related. In order: throw in the towel, Young Zulu Kid, saved by the bell, Oscar De La Hoya, neutral corner, sparring partner, Ali vs. Foreman, Sugar Ray Leonard, Howard Cosell, Evander Holyfield, Marvin Hagler, athletes, olympic sport, *On the Waterfront*, *Raging Bull*, cruiserweight, Hilary Swank, Everlast.

First letters in order spell TYSONS ASHE, MAO OR CHE. Mike Tyson has tattoos of all of these individuals. Answer is **tattoo**.

Foxtrot Tango

In each case, the capitalized word should be replaced with a letter from the Western Union phonetic alphabet.

Correct word/Answer:

- Union/Blue
- New York/Poughkeepsie
- Sugar/Splenda
- Denver/Omelet
- Roger/Ten-Four
- Ida/High Sierra
- King/Icelandic
- Xray/Superman
- Henry/Town & Country
- Frank/Atreides
- Peter/Apostles
- Boston/Satch
- Victor/Jai Alai
- Adams/Patch
- Queen/Innuendo
- George/September
- Easy/Edmund Gwynn
- Thomas/Frank
- Zero/Hostel
- Mary/Bloody
- Chicago/Windy City
- John/Depression
- Lincoln/They Might Be Giants
- Ocean/Trinidad
- Young/Poult
- William/Neuromancer.

Each correct word is used exactly once. Order the questions by the correct word. For each answer, take the nth letter where n is the difference between the incorrect and correct letter (thus, "settling their differences"). This will give you "CHILDRENS PLAYGROUND FULCRUM" which is a **seesaw**.