



Shooting Blanks



an e-mail 
 space 
 just read this
 message again 
 I'm right 
 the chair spins 
 procrastinating 
 straight vodka 
 25 to life 

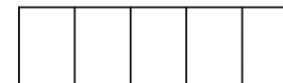
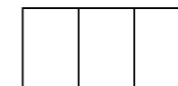
D O J N U M O N
 P S T N T O I M O T
 A T U T E N F O C U S
 O N T H E Y A G E R S
 T O S E A L L E N Y H
 L T E R S F J U S O T H E
 C O T F R D O S A R E
 O X E N D O S T R E
 O N O C U T S E E D



Louie Lips: Yo, Frankie – it was a good idea to use these old coffee cups for target practice, but to be honest, **shooting blanks** seems like a **complete** waste of time: How do we know if we're even **connecting**?

Frankie the Hound: You've just got to feel it, Louie, and it's important for us to stay sharp, so our enemies don't rat us out. Otherwise we might all end up with our Mona Lisas hanging on the post office wall.

Louie Lips: What the heck are you talking about, Frankie?



The Get-Away

1/2



Louie Lips: We're stuck in the center of town, Frankie, and the streets are crawling with coppers. We've got to get back to the hide-out with the loot... but which way do we go?

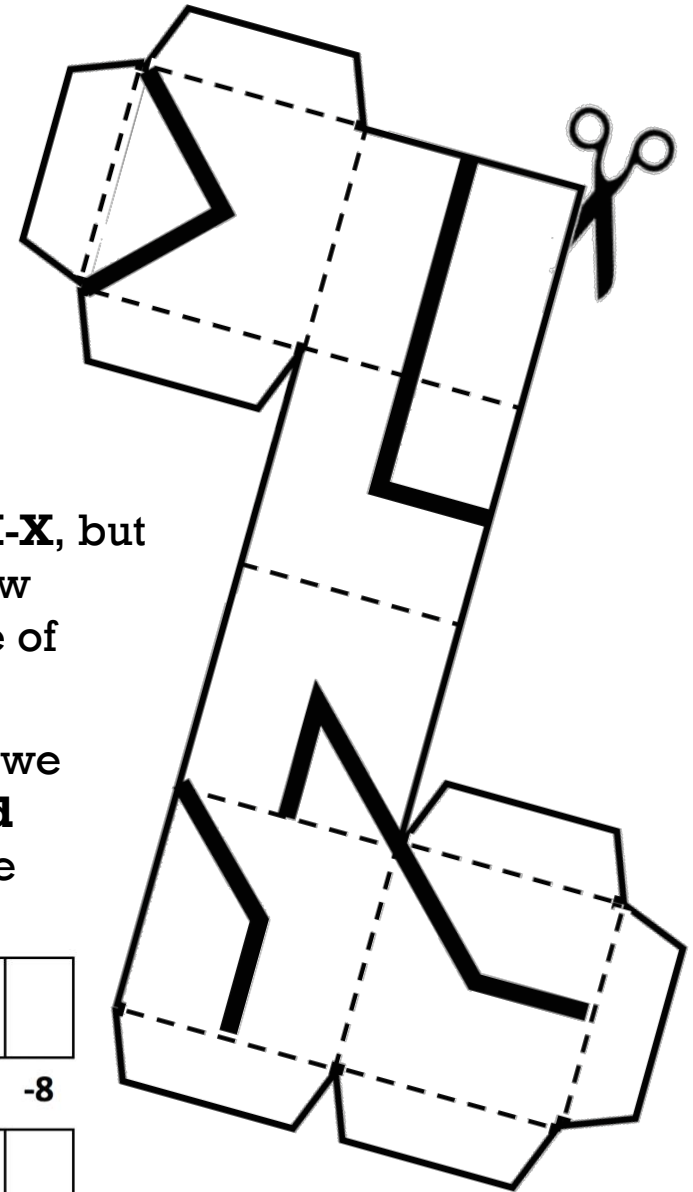
Frankie the Hound: I don't know, Louie, but only one of these routes will get us back to our place. Hey, does this old Nissan **Cube** have GPS? You know: NSWE?

Louie Lips: Sorry, Frankie, all it has is UNIX – that's **U-N-I-X**, but hey, that's a **start**! Let's lay low behind this **semi** for a few minutes, and then we'll **shift it** into high gear before one of those officers tries to **flag** us down!

Frankie the Hound: Then we'll just **keep on rolling** until we get there. You know, Louie, I'm actually pulling a **second shift** tonight – a thief's work is never done. I just hope we don't run into any police barricades!

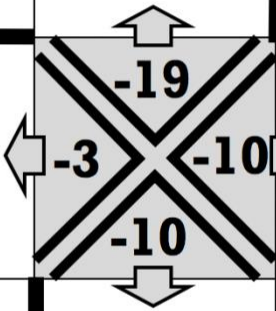
Fold and tape the cut-out into a cube, then start with it in the center square with the orientation of the ▼-face determining the path you take.

+14	+10	-2	-11		-3	-8	+7	-6	-8

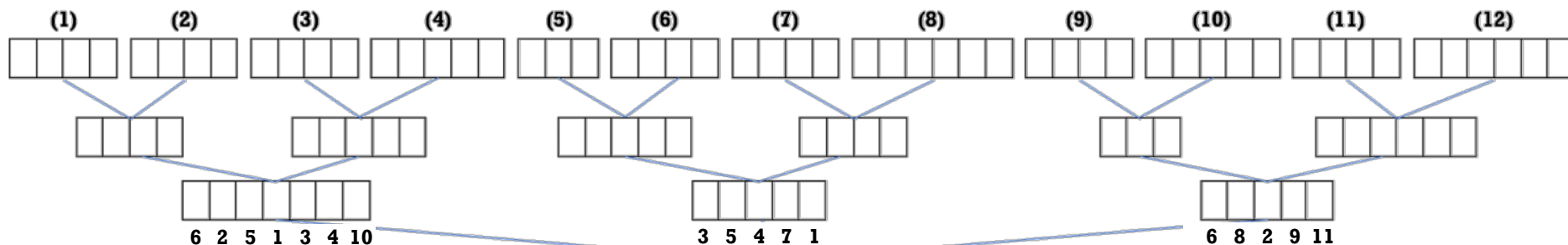


The Get-Away

2/2

+3	+14	+5	-1	+0	+1	-2
-21	-5	-13	-17	-2	-13	+5
+21	-6	-3		+11	-17	+16
+1	-3	+6	-13	-10	-8	+0
+1	-16	+5	-24	+1	-16	+12

Downsizing the Gang



Louie Lips: Hey Frankie, is the boss really sacking all twelve of us?

Frankie the Hound: No Louie, he's just downsizing a bit: **getting rid of all the redundancy**. Take ANDREW over there for example, and DANIELLO too. Boss says there's too much duplication – too much fat. He's going to put the squeeze on those two scammers and compress them into a RWILLO.

Louie Lips: Huh!? What's a RWILLO? That's not a word; that's not a name!

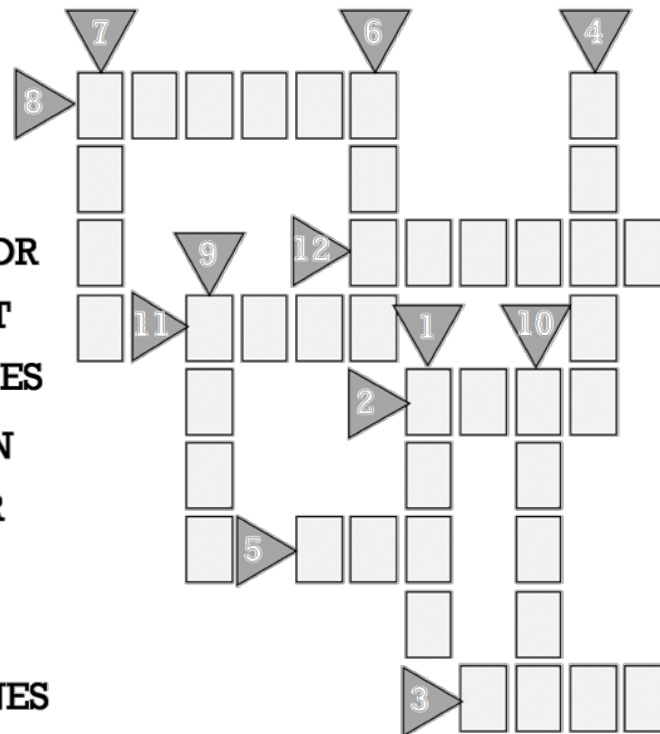
Frankie the Hound: Who cares? He's not going to last long anyway. RWILLO will be crammed together with a LLIDRU to make some grifter named WODU.

Louie Lips: Hmm... What do you call that when you take a bunch of swindlers and squeeze them all together into one?



BIRD (1) SALTS
COWBOY (2) CAMP
SUIT (3) CLOSED
BE OUR (4) OF HONOR
BRAZIL (5) AND BOLT
HASH (6) ON CLOTHES
WALK-UP (7) SCREEN
TAKE (8) SIMULATOR
KEEP IT (9) ESTATE
SOAP (10) SINGER
CURTAIN (11) & CONES
SOUR (12) OF WRATH

This may be helpful...



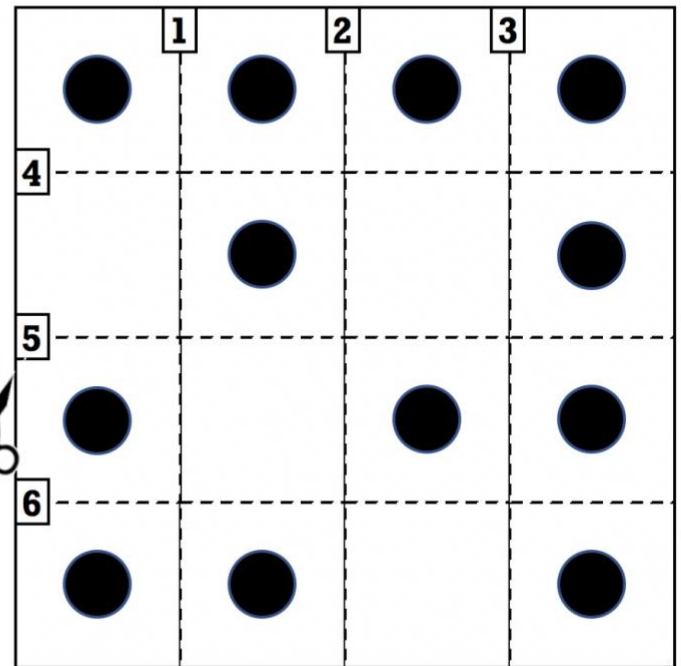
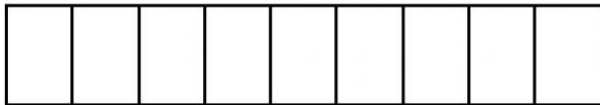


**Puzzled
Pint**
mARCH 2020

Got It All Covered

Frankie the Hound: Louie, I just **can't** see why you'd go and kidnap the police commissioner's daughter. How knuckle-headed can you be? I can **feel those bumps** already welling up on our noggins after the Boss hears about this one! What if she reveals the location of our hide-out? Or even worse: what if she identifies us in a line-up?"

Louie Lips: You worry too much, Frankie. I'm telling you I've got all that covered.



Cut out the square above and then fold it along the dotted lines:

Folding example:

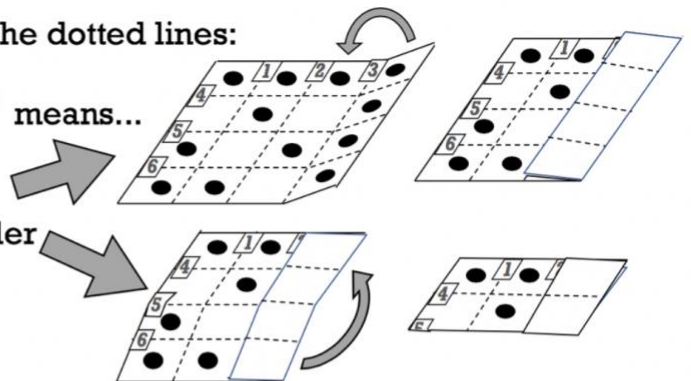
(primary colors)RO, (sides on a pentagon)BU means...

(3)RO, (5)BU, which means...

First along line **3**, fold the **R**ight portion **O**ver

Then along line **5**, fold the **B**ottom portion **U**nder

Now make all the folds below to see what Louie meant when he said "I've got all that covered."



(loneliest number)LU, (sheets to the wind)RO, (feet under)BU

(homophone (win in past))LO, (anagram (not here))LU, (homophone (golf warning))TU

(quaternary)TO, (primary)LU, (tertiary)RU – rotate (sum of triangle angles)

(not counting Dopey)BU, (middle digit in Beverly Hills zip code)RU

(total outs in a baseball inning)BO, (wrongs not making a right)RU

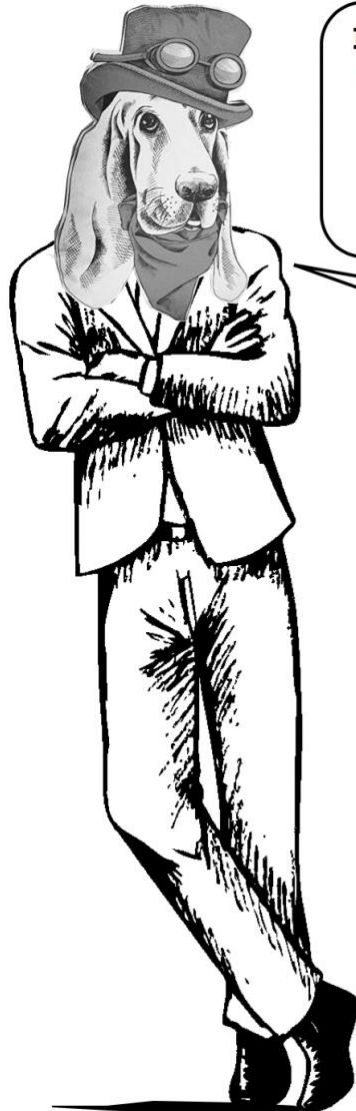
(sides on a cube)BO, (sides on a Möbius strip)LU, (Grinch's heart growth)RU

(lucky clover)TU, (flew over the cuckoo's nest)LU, (atoms in a water molecule)RU

(track mind)LO, (a crowd)LU, (ways to arrange the letters XYZ)BU

(not counting Blinky Ghost)RU, (required to tango)RO, (pack of ripped abs)BO

Meta: Taking the Rap



How many more times do I have to tell you, Frankie, we don't appropriate goods from the ladies. It's just not appropriate. Now, if it were the coppers asking, I'd expect you to take **the fifth**. But it's me, Frankie, and I hate to _____ you like this, but this job has your name written all over it. So I need you to fess up: Are you taking the rap for taking the wrap?

Yeah, OK, Louie, I'm saying it in just three words: I _____ the _____.

SOLUTION

✓	N	O	I	✓	U	L	O	✗	S	O	L
↙	S	U	T		T	I	S		U	T	N
	O	L			N	O			I	O	

		3			1		
2							4
					5		

