

**HEALTH WARNING:** Overexposure to puzzles may cause fatigue, headache, sleep deprivation, obsession, paroxysms of frustration and/or triumph, very concerning Google searches, ranting to friends about extraction, or reenactment of the Pepe Silvia meme. While using puzzles, remember to take breaks for food and sleep, and remember that no matter what your exhausted paranoia may tell you, this warning is not a puzzle.





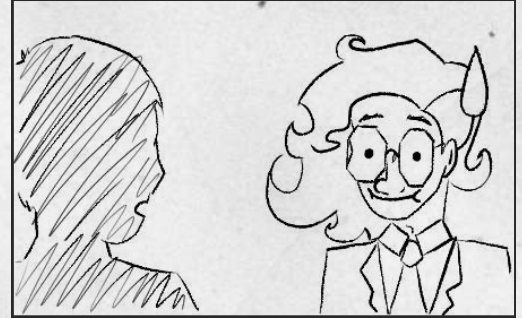


## PUZZLE MANUAL II

INTERVIEW QUESTIONS .....	4
NOLA .....	5
UNFOLDING FUTURE .....	6
FINANCIAL PLANNING .....	7
HOW TO BE PRESENTABLE .....	9
CRACKING THE SAFE .....	10

# INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

If Sidecar wants to infiltrate the bank as a security guard, he'll have to undergo a high-pressure interview.



- How many potato chips have been consumed on the campus of MIT since its inception in 1861?
- How many drops of water are there in all of Europa's oceans?
- If, once the coin for the 2025 MIT Mystery Hunt was found, you hired someone to read the words in the Oxford English Dictionary (not including the definitions) as a full-time job, how many minutes from starting their job would it take them to read the answer to this puzzle? (Include time off.)
- How many grains of rice have ever been consumed in Asia?
- What is the combined age, in years, of all the authors of this question?
- How many atoms were in the ink molecules used to print this page? (Include the water solvent.)
- How likely is it that a monkey produces the exact answer to this puzzle using a typewriter on their first try (assuming said monkey is sure to avoid numbers and punctuation?) (Write the reciprocal of the probability.)
- How many microseconds would it take an able-bodied member of your team to sharpen a pack of pencils down to nubs with a manual pencil sharpener (assuming they were really trying and using their dominant hand?)
- How many bank robberies will there be in the US in 2024 (including Finster's?)

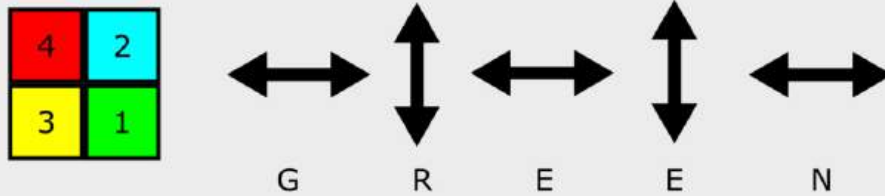
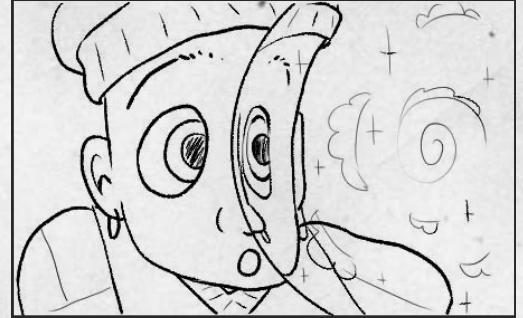
BONUS QUESTION: What is  $\lfloor \log_{10}(x) \rfloor$ ?





# UNFOLDING FUTURE

Before the heist, Benny seeks help to see how the future will unfold.  
Whom does he consult?



CUT-OUT MATERIALS NEEDED FROM APPENDIX B



# APPENDIX B: UNFOLDING FUTURE

<p><b>RED</b></p> <p>4. Do not be _ / the _ is not clear yet... / but one will be _!</p>	<p>guard villainous abides</p>	<p>LI AN</p> <p>curtailed future jailed</p>	<p><b>BLUE</b></p> <p>2. You wish to _? / Your big _ to triumph? / I say to _.</p>
<p>hello future closer</p> <p>FOR</p>	<p>GE T</p> <p>GH T</p> <p>DL E</p>	<p>FOR</p> <p>ET M</p> <p>succeed venture take heed</p>	
<p>enraged outcome caged</p> <p>H AZ</p>	<p>AR D</p> <p>HO S</p> <p>D AL</p> <p>S CU</p>	<p>BA A</p> <p>watch treacherous awaits</p>	
<p><b>YELLOW</b></p> <p>3. _ one who's nearby / A _ one is near / Betrayal _</p>	<p>welcome fortune hither</p> <p>YT M</p> <p>ER H</p> <p>prepare mission beware</p>		<p><b>GREEN</b></p> <p>1. _ traveler, / you would like / your _ told? / If so, come _!</p>

# FINANCIAL PLANNING

Sidecar tries to understand how the bank schedules its workers, but the system is hopelessly convoluted. He infiltrates the back office and finds telltale evidence of the bank's unorthodox method for determining shifts.



## ACROSS:

1. \_\_\_ bsns (puzzle hunts, for example)
4. Star of certain screens
10. Actor Brad. **The first letter is noted in position N, where N is the number of limbs 27A have.**
12. Arab League demonym
13. 40,468,56428.22 square centimeters
14. Ira's first cousin once removed
15. Number of Ts in this puzzle
17. Where you might pop in for a cuppa
18. A short ton is 2000, for short
21. Spanish 101 word
22. Novelist Zola. **Contains the letter noted in positions 3 and 8.**
24. Hwy.
25. Best Supporting Actress in 200X. **The fifth letter is noted in position X.**
27. Half-horse hybrids
28. Responds to a pun. **The letter at the 26D of this word is noted in positions 1 and 5.**
31. SI prefix
32. Particularly stiff shoe
33. "I think you've had \_\_\_ too many"
34. When my love will have come along
35. Three fts?

## DOWN:

1. Spray (paint)
2. Most wealthy
3. Make stripy. **Contains the letter noted in positions 3 and 8.**
4. Blood designation that sounds like an error
5. Very strongly stated. **The Nth letter of this word is noted in position N.**
6. Hacker voice utterance
7. It's close to Home (abbr.)
8. The hidden demon inside this clue. **The central letter is noted in the Nth position, where N rhymes with 33A.**
9. Mouth part
11. Latin phrase starter that's a homophone of 31A
16. Bedevils. **Contains the letter noted in positions 3 and 8.**
18. One way to 29D
19. Fuzzy. **The first letter is noted in position N, where N is the 28D value of this letter as calculated at MIT.**
20. Playground devices that take two to operate
23. Certain car model
26. Advent
27. Punta \_\_\_
28. College app score
29. **With 15A, process which, when applied to the noted sequence, reveals what Sidecar found**
30. It's slick until Dawn comes along



# FINANCIAL PLANNING

Sidecar tries to understand how the bank schedules its workers, but the system is hopelessly convoluted. He infiltrates the back office and finds telltale evidence of the bank's unorthodox method for determining shifts.



1	2	3			4	5	6	7	8	9
10			11		12					
13					14					
15				16						
17								18	19	20
21						22	23			
24					25	26				
			27							
28	29	30					31			
32							33			
34								35		

# HOW TO BE PRESENTABLE

We need to be presentable, but we're not quite there - we're not sure if we need to add or subtract, or maybe even add to subtract? What do we need, anyway?



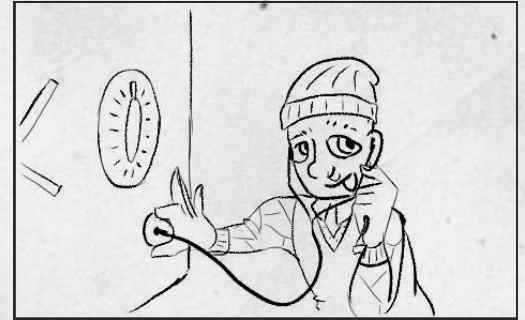
Amoral people (10)
Bolide (6)
Chest (6)
Cruel (4)
Middle East School (7)
Mustelid (6)
Obtain (4)
Self-control (9)
Unlit (4)

Biblical Vessel (3)
Bind (8)
Colonial city (6)
Freedoms (9)
Insignia token (5)
Length measure (5)
Male (3)
Son of Ares (5)
Underwater limb (3)

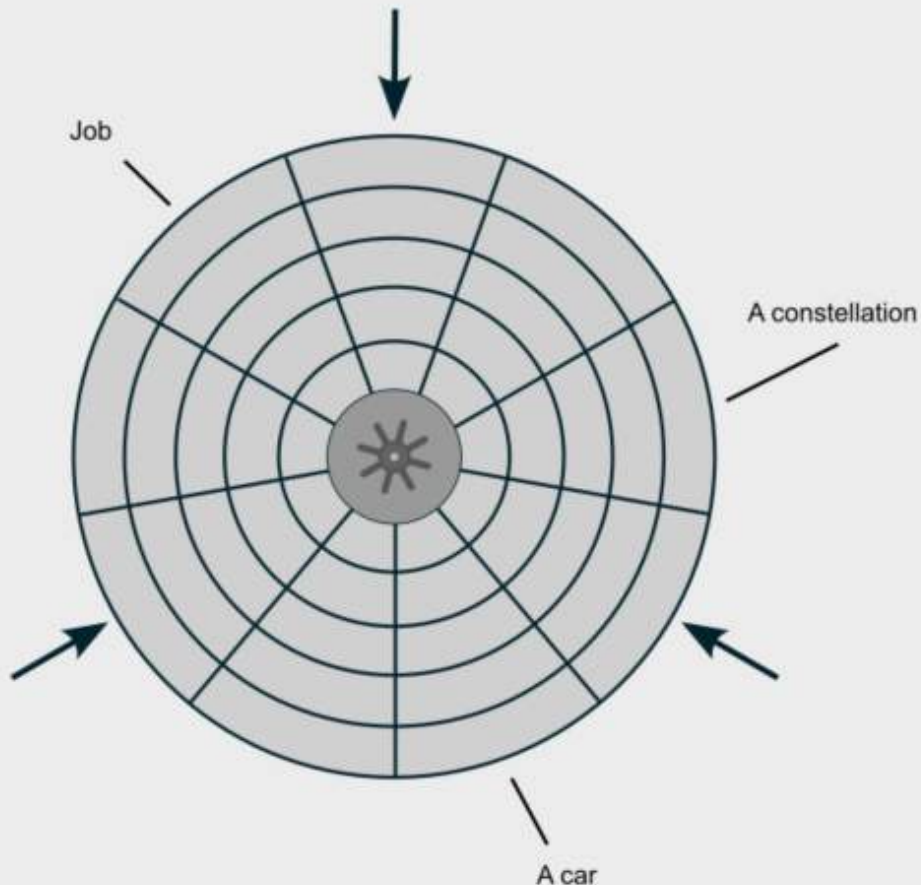


## META: CRACKING THE SAFE

At last, you make it to the vault room. Benny Candy pulls out his lockpicking tools and gets to work. Stethoscope in hand, he turns the dials and tries to crack the combo.

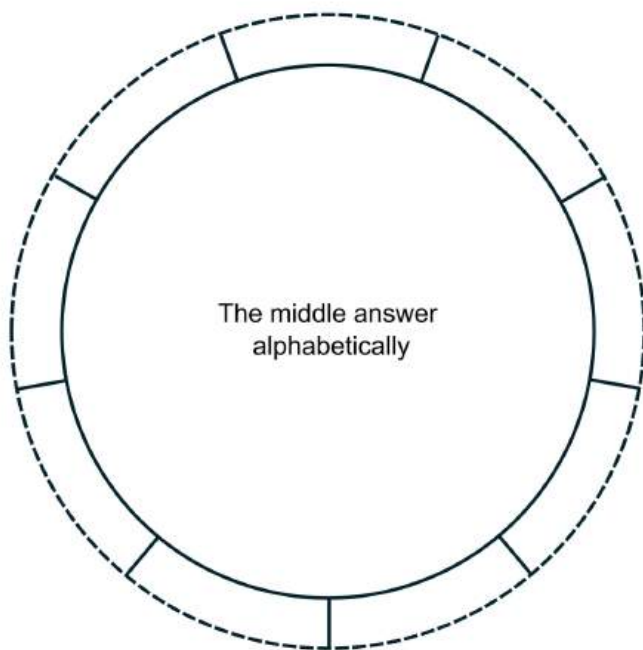


The bank manager once boasted that this vault was uncrackable. What didn't he anticipate?

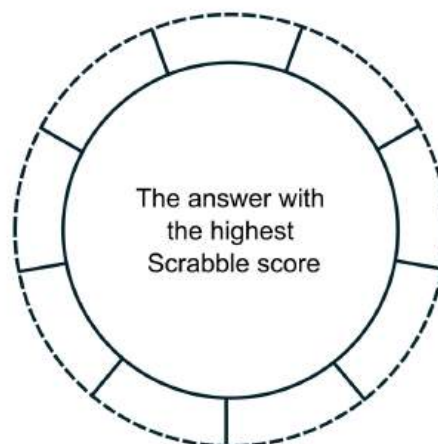
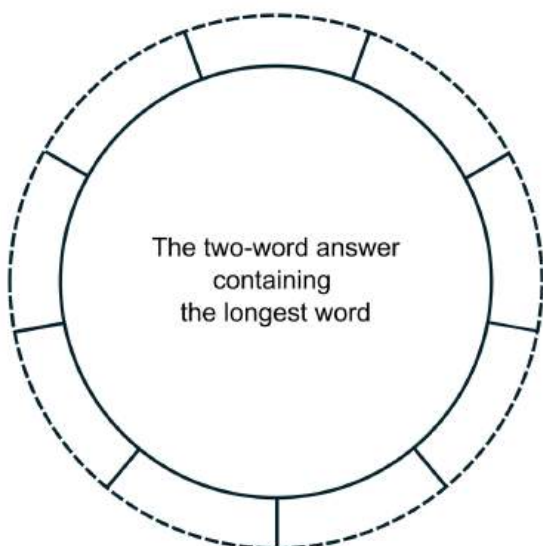
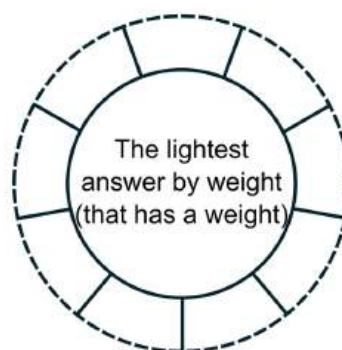
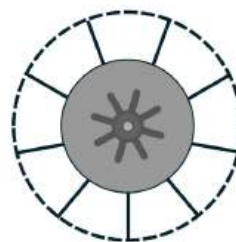


CUT-OUT MATERIALS NEEDED FROM APPENDIX C

# APPENDIX C: CRACKING THE SAFE



The one-word answer with the most syllables









# The Providence Crime Syndication

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**Zach Barnett** - Benny's Panoply, Cracking the Safe, Interview Questions, Detour de Force, Team-Building Exercise  
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Special thanks to Death & Mayhem and MIT Puzzle Club



EXPERT



Violence

MITPC CONTENT RATING

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