## 1 The Puzzle: Around the World

The provided image presents a puzzle titled "Around the World". The text accompanying the image states: "Oh my, I seem to have lost board game pieces in my travels. If you figure out the connections, you'll find the treasure I left behind."

The image displays a central circle filled with letters, surrounded by twelve smaller circular images. Each smaller image depicts either a landmark, a flag, or components typically associated with a board game. Green dots on the circumference of the central circle connect each outer image to the edge of the circle, implicitly pointing towards specific letters arranged just inside the edge or within the circle. The goal is to decipher the connection between the outer images (and the board games they represent) and the letters to discover the "treasure".

# 2 Landmarks, Games, and Connections

#### 2.1 Landmarks and Associated Games

The twelve images surrounding the central circle represent locations or themes associated with popular board games. Proceeding clockwise, starting from the image at approximately the 11 o'clock position:

- 1. **Image:** Stained glass window with dice. **Implied Location/Theme:** Sagrada Familia, Barcelona. **Board Game:** Sagrada.
- 2. Image: Taj Mahal. Implied Location/Theme: Agra, India. Board Game: Jaipur.
- 3. Image: Jamaican Flag. Implied Location/Theme: Jamaica. Board Game: Jamaica.
- 4. Image: White buildings with blue domes. Implied Location/Theme: Santorini, Greece. Board Game: Santorini.
- 5. Image: Yellow meeple on a map tile. Implied Location/Theme: Carcassonne, France. Board Game: Carcassonne.
- 6. Image: Las Vegas Strip at night. Implied Location/Theme: Las Vegas, USA. Board Game: Las Vegas.
- 7. **Image:** Red and white game pieces on hexes. **Implied Location/Theme:** Mars. **Board Game:** Terraforming Mars.
- 8. Image: Blue and white tiles. Implied Location/Theme: Azulejos (Portugal/Spain). Board Game: Azul.
- 9. Image: Sagrada Familia building. Implied Location/Theme: Barcelona, Spain. Board Game: Barcelona.
- 10. **Image:** Casino dice and chips. **Implied Location/Theme:** Las Vegas, USA. **Board Game:** Lords of Vegas.
- 11. **Image:** Snippet of game box art (ships, lighthouse). **Implied Location/Theme:** Ancient Wonders. **Board Game:** 7 Wonders.
- 12. Image: Carcassonne Castle. Implied Location/Theme: Carcassonne, France. Board Game: Carcassonne.

### 2.2 The Letter Circle

The central part of the image is a circle filled with letters. The green dots associated with the surrounding images point towards the periphery of this circle. The arrangement of letters within the circle appears somewhat random, though there might be an intended structure. An approximation of the letter arrangement is shown below.

## Approximation of Letter Arrangement

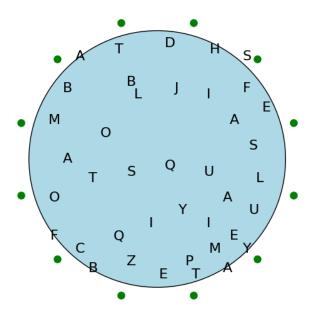


Figure 1: Approximation of the letter circle based on the puzzle image. Green dots indicate connection points for the outer images.

## 2.3 Figuring out the Connections

The core instruction is to "figure out the connections" between the travels (landmarks/images), the lost board game pieces (the games themselves), and presumably the letters. The most direct connection is:

- 1. Each outer image represents a board game, often linked thematically or geographically to the image content.
- 2. Each image, via its associated green dot, points to a specific letter located on or near the perimeter of the central letter circle.
- 3. By identifying the game for each image and noting the letter it points to, we can extract a sequence of letters.

Following this logic, and reading clockwise from the top-left (Sagrada):

- 1. Sagrada points to M.
- 2. Jaipur points to A.
- 3. Jamaica points to T.
- 4. Santorini points to **D**.
- 5. Carcassonne (meeple image) points to H.
- 6. Las Vegas points to S.
- 7. Terraforming Mars points to E.
- 8. Azul points to  $\mathbf{F}$ .
- 9. Barcelona points to A.
- 10. Lords of Vegas points to Y.
- 11. 7 Wonders points to F.
- 12. Carcassonne (castle image) points to  $\mathbf{O}$ .

## 3 The Treasure

The sequence of letters derived from the connections is M A T D H S E F A Y F O.

This sequence represents the result of following the puzzle's instructions and is likely an anagram. The "treasure" left behind is possibly this sequence of letters, which may need to be unscrambled or interpreted further to find a word or phrase related to board games or travel. The unscrambled meaning is not immediately obvious from the letters provided, and further clues might be necessary to solve the puzzle completely.