

# SWE Through a Puzzlin' Lens

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# About Me

Software Engineer 

Open Source Person

Coffee Drinker 

Cruciverbalist 

# Today's Topics

- Mental Elasticity
- Surface Reading
- Top Down Design
- Bottom Up Design

# MENTAL ELASTICITY

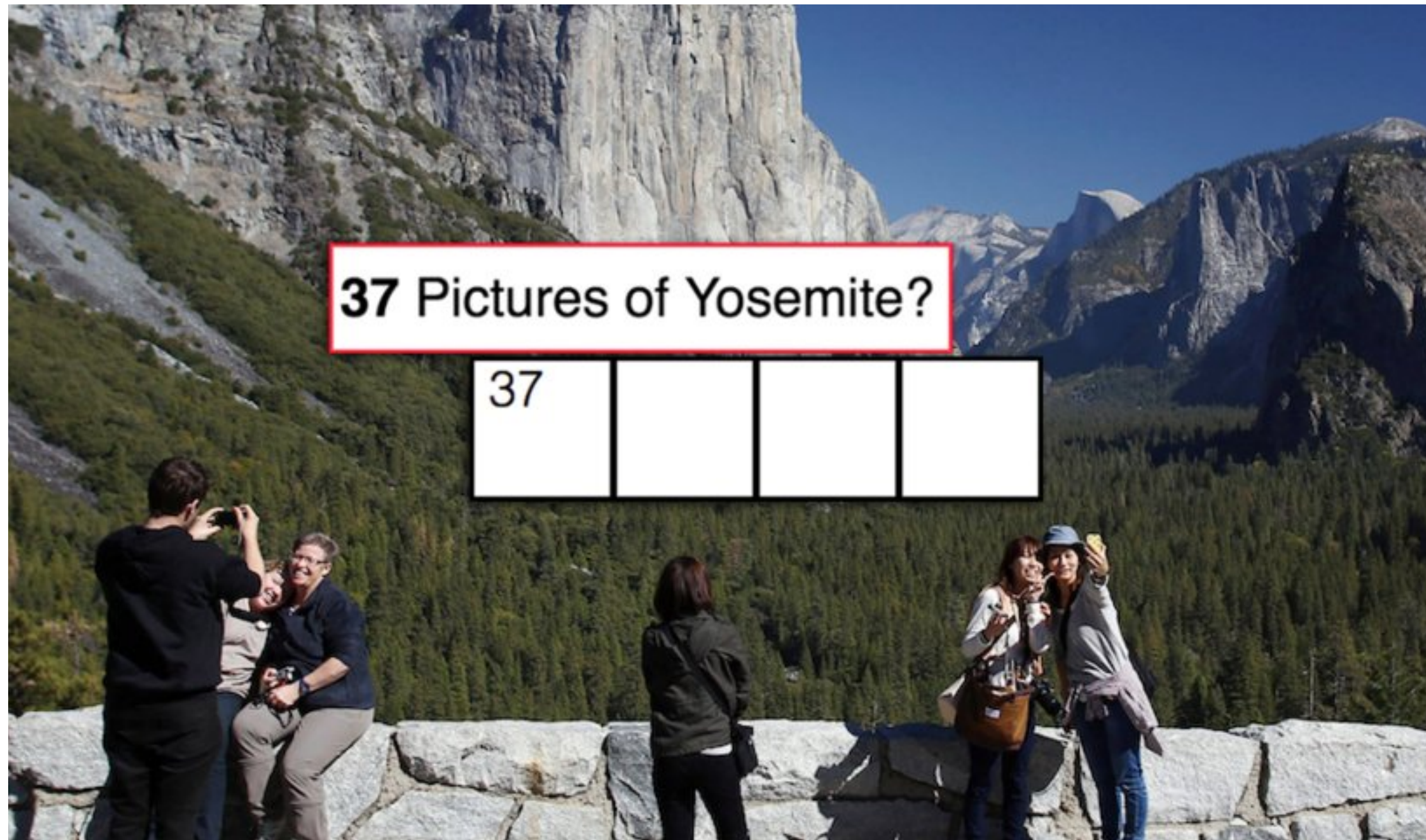
**SURFACE READING**

## 12. Strips in a club



# ANSWER: BACON

- What did you think of initially?



## ANSWER: CELS

- What did you think of initially?



```
async function getAddress () {  
  let [  
    streetAddress,  
  
    async function getAddress() {  
      const streetAddress = await getStreetAddress()  
      const city = await getCity()  
      const state = await getState()  
      const zip = await getZipCode()  
  
      return `${streetAddress}, ${city} ${state} ${zip}`  
    }  
  
    return `${streetAddress}, ${city}, ${state}, ${zip}`  
  }  
}
```

## getAddress()

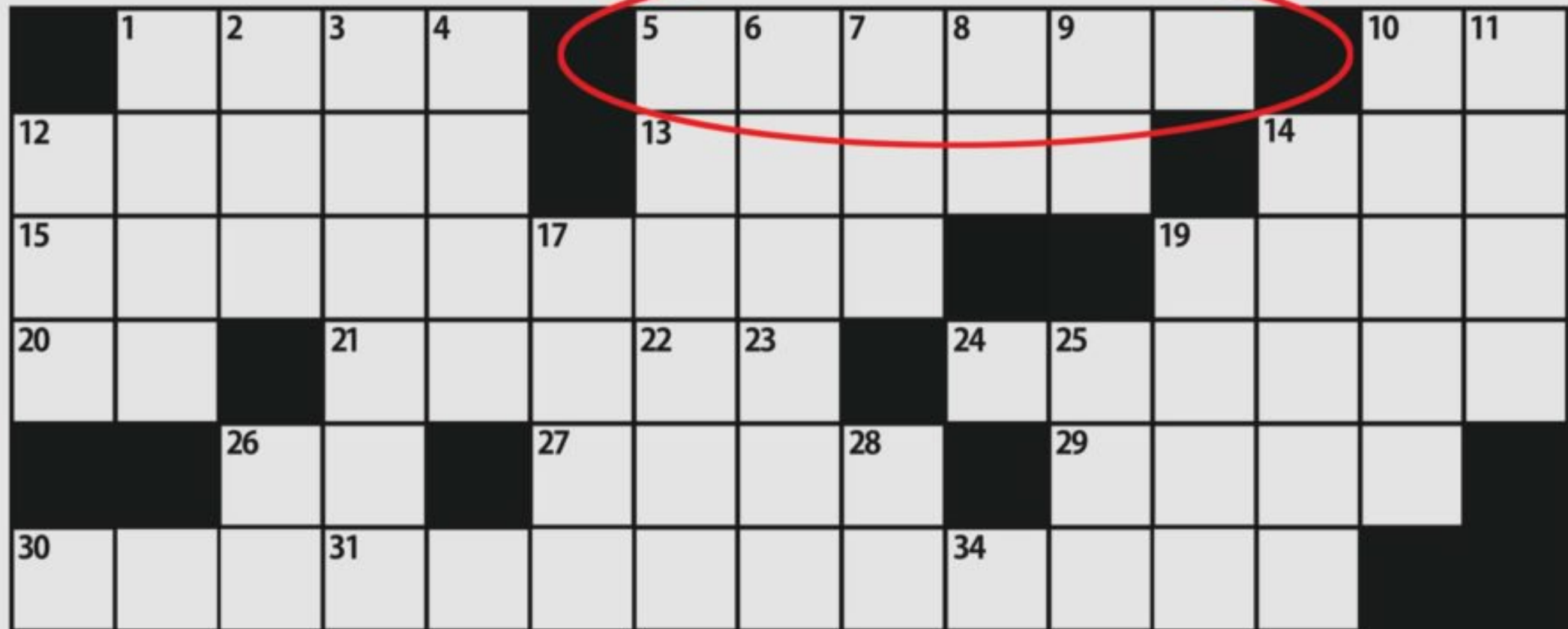
- Did the first one seem intuitive?
- Did you get the same feeling looking at the code snippet as you did when you heard the answer to the clue?

# BOTTOM-UP DESIGN

**[ BASIC/SPECIFIC ] => [ COMPLEX/ABSTRACT ]**



5. Town at the eighth mile of the Boston Marathon



ANSWER: NATICK

- The Natick Principle: clues that have a proper noun as an answer that isn't reasonably familiar to at least one-quarter of the solving public, should be crossed with "reasonably common words and phrases or very common names."

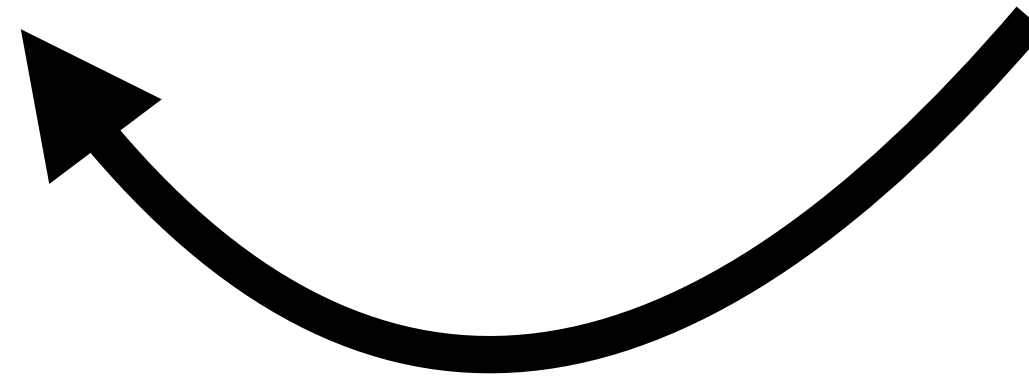
1	J	A	Z	Z			5	S	L	A	V		9	F	L	A	G
13	A	L	E	E		14	O	C	A	L	A		15	A	U	R	A
16	I	T	S	N	17	A	C	H	O	P	R	18	O	B	L	E	M
19	L	O	T		20	R	T	E	S		21	I	N	F	U	S	E
				22	I	T	E	M		23	C	A	T	O			
	24	25	L	E	T	S	T	A	26	C	O	B	O	U	T	I	T
30	S	A	L	T	Y			31	H	A	I		32	R	O	N	A
33	T	U	B			34	G	A	I	L	Y		36	T	O	N	
37	A	R	O	D		38		39	E	L	M		40	O	P	E	N
42	Y	A	W	A	43	N	N	A	P	44	I	45	Z	Z	A	M	E
				46	T	O	E	S		47	T	O	A	T			
48	49	50	R	I	D	E	U	P		51	G	R	O	W		52	S
55	I	C	A	N	N	O	L	I	I	M	A	G	I	N	E		
58	P	E	R	U		59	O	O	Z	E	S		60	U	R	G	E
61	S	E	N	T		62	L	O	A	D			63	V	E	E	P

CLUE: WRITER JAFFE

- 9-DOWN: BEATLES MONIKER
- 27-DOWN: \_\_\_\_ pole
- 28-DOWN: ENDING WITH TWO OR A HOLE
- 29-DOWN: LIES IN THE SUN

# TOP-DOWN DESIGN

**[SYSTEM] => [SUBSYSTEM]**





THEME: MICROLOANS

- 16A. Repulsive : ODIOUS
- 17A. Making a “Top Party Schools” list, e.g. : DUBIOUS HONOR
- 28A. “Heavens to Betsy!” : GRACIOUS ME

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Thank  
You!



close