

introduction

2016 AQUARIUM PUZZLE HUNT

welcome, class of 2020!

This is a puzzlehunt that will take place while you are at the aquarium.

It is recommended that you work in teams of 5-8 people (Orientation groups are fine).

There is a reward for the first 3 teams to solve all puzzles.

Your team will need 1 phone that is capable of sending texts. Always use the same phone.

To begin, **text your team name to (619)-MIT-2020**.

Need help? My accomplices located at Front Desk (where you received this sheet) are available for hints.

My Dear Inspector:

I hear rumors that you've put your investigative services on hold to pursue a degree in underwater puzzle-writing at that unnamable Institute in Cambridge, USA.

It might come as an unpleasant surprise that your prized pet, Tim the Beaver, is now in my stolen possession. Beaver-napped, as one might say? You needn't worry, Tim is with my accomplices unharmed, for now. Though I could use a nice fur coat come wintertime - you know how unforgiving ours seasons here do get.

If you want your bucktoothed pet back unshaved, you're going to have to play my little game of 20/20. 20 cases. 20 questions. 20 more chances to save the day! Ahah! on second thought, as the exalted 'MIT student' you now are, I'm sure you'll make do with only 10 of them. There there, you've always admired the extra challenge!

Tick tock.. Sherlock. Time is of the essence.

Mystery certainly does follow mystery!

Always in enmity,

P.F.T.H.I

There are 10 puzzles (mystery cases) scattered throughout the aquarium. Good luck!

Submit answers by texting **(619)-MIT-2020** with the format: [puzzle number] [your solution].

For example, if your answer for puzzle 6 was sherlock, you would text **6 sherlock**.

(THIS PAGE IS NOT A PUZZLE)

Mystery Case No. 10

THE FINAL PROBLEM

Dear Inspector,

Re: Undisclosed Address
Cambridge, MA, USA
January 4, 1945

The last Mystery that shall be overcome is Death.
Who will live to tell your story?

In death,

A. Lovelace M. Curie R. Franklin A. Einstein I. Pavlov

This is the last mystery case. You should be able to solve it once you have solved all (or most of) the other 9 cases...

The resident of the rightmost dorm is a BCS (Course 9) major

The Turtle owner lives to the right side of the Beaver owner

The Kresge fan lives in the center dorm

The BCS major lives next to Albert

Ada lives to the left of the Chemistry major

The leftmost dorm is McCormick Hall

The Baker resident lives next to the Manatee owner

The Penguin owner lives next to the MacGregor resident

The Seahorse owner likes sunbathing out in Killian Court

Name	(2)				→ <input type="checkbox"/>
Dorm		(5)			→ <input type="checkbox"/>
Major			(2)		→ <input type="checkbox"/>
Pet				(3)	→ <input type="checkbox"/>
Landmark					(1) → <input type="checkbox"/>

Mystery Case No. 1

DUPLICITOUS IDENTITIES

Dear Inspector,

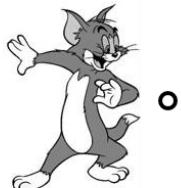
We've got a laughable Disney caricature running for President in my country. He goes by the name of Donald - Donald TRUMP. Some of his associates appear rather shady. I ask you to assist me in connecting the dots.

Re: DNCC Headquarters
Cleveland, OH, USA
August 2, 2016

Yours sincerely,

Hillary Rodham Clinton

Hillary Rodham Clinton



- Stepped foot on the Moon



- Composed nine symphonies



- Starred in Mission Impossible



- Ended a great World War



- Governs the most exalted Institute of Tech on earth!



- Transforms into a pet rat



Mystery Case No. 2

PERFECT HINDSIGHT

Dear Inspector,

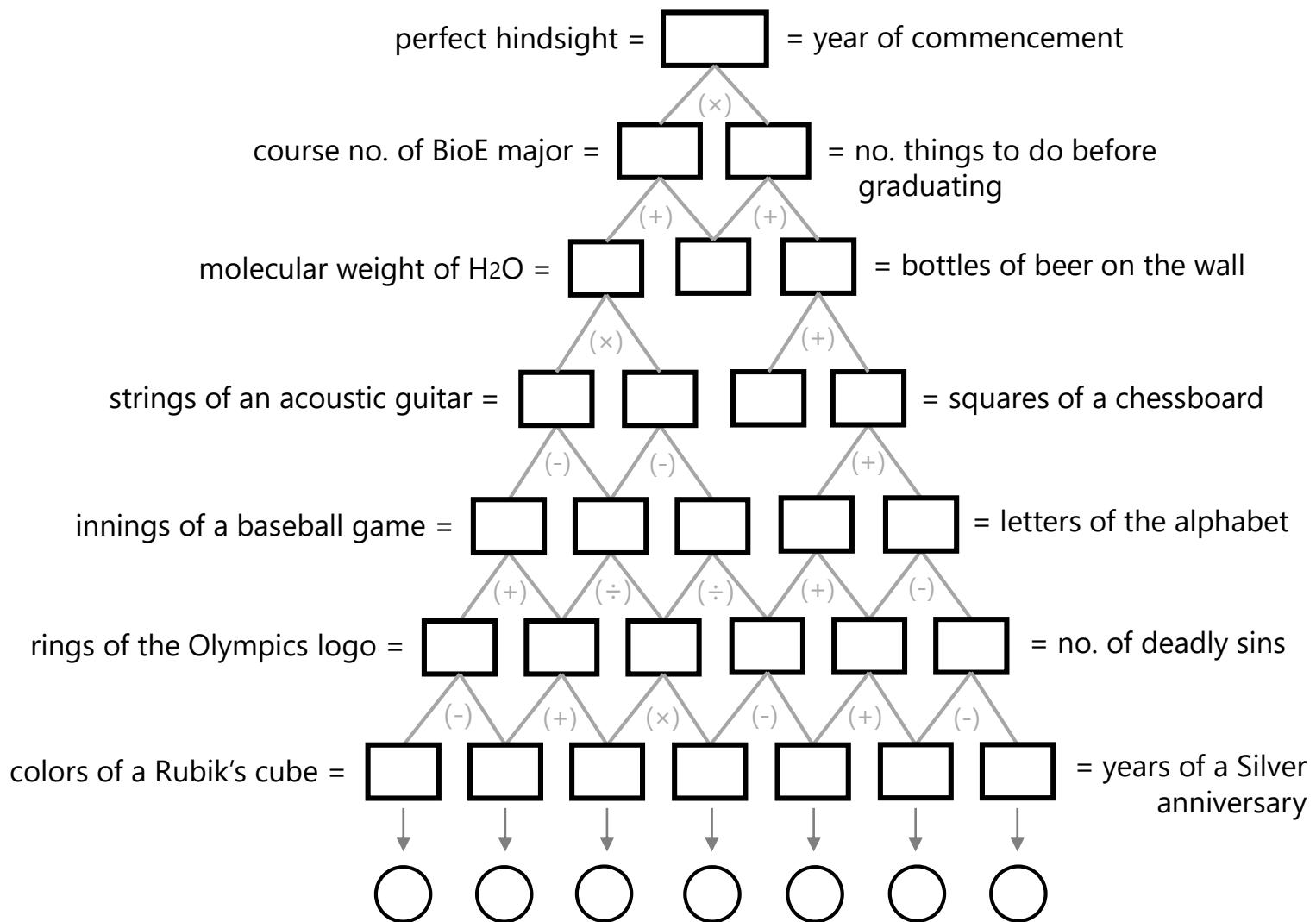
Re: L. Rafael Reif, Office of the President
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
77 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, MA, USA
June 5, 2020

Hindsight is indeed 20/20. Congratulations on completing your degree in underwater puzzle-solving - you've come a long way these four years. Now the only thing standing between you and your diploma is this puzzle I composed, just for you.

Yours sincerely,

Rafael Reif
L. Rafael Reif
President

The first operands of $(-)$ and (\div) are always taken to be the larger number!



Mystery Case No. 3

QUANTUM OF SOLITUDE

Dear Inspector,

I've discovered something truly unique, but no one believes a single word I say. I feel so alone in this universe. No one notices anything these days! Would you care to take a closer look?

I'm counting on these letters to find you well!

In solitude,

J.J. Horton

J.J. Horton

Re: 1 Seuss Dr.
Solla Sollew, A Lonely Universe
November 11, 2011

Serenity	History	Nile	Compound	Emu
Quietude	Chemistry	Ganges	Sometimes	Kiwi
Commotion	Literature	Charles	Churchyard	Ostrich
Tranquility	Linguistics	Caribbean	Superpower	Penguin
Peacefulness	Philosophy	Mississippi	Headquarters	Chickadee

Mystery Case No. 4

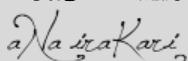
A VANDAL IN OKONOKO

Dear Inspector,

My race car was vandalized at 3:23 PM this afternoon. It was parked at 250 52nd St, at a mid-town gas stop. The assailant left behind these graffiti notes as well as... a thesaurus.

I'm just a middle-aged, middle-class mom. What would anyone have against me?

Yours sincerely,



Ana Irakari

Re: Ana Irakari
250 52nd St.
Okonoko District, Japan
1/17/11

1. HIGHEST PLACE

2. YELLOWFIN WHACKJOB

3. OLD-AGED CATS

4. COMPETITION VEHICLE

5. SOLITARY ACETAMINOPHEN

6. ZESTY MOSQUITO

Mystery Case No. 5

A STUDY IN COLORS

Dear Inspector,

Lately I've been having some rather colorful hallucinations. Oh, the HUE-manity! I fear someone's got it out for my life. Please help!

Re: Yellowstone Nat'l Park
Redding, WY, USA
February 13, 1995

Yours sincerely,

R.G. Biv

R.G. Biv

1. Con_____nism

2. The ____t Gatsby

3. ____ you <3

4. Brains over _____

5. ____tific method

6. _____lation is not causation



1. 2. 3.

4.

5. 6.

Mystery Case No. 6

JADED FANTASIES

Dear Inspector,

It all started with a child's dream and a mouse. The real unsolved mystery in this world is why so many people grow up. The adult world never looks the same again. Why don't you take a stab at solving that.

Re: Disney World Swan & Dolphin
1500 Epcot Resorts Blvd.
Orlando, FL, USA
March 15, 1997

Yours sincerely,

Walt Disney

Sir Walter Disney

1. "We've all heard the story countless times before: someone really pretty and someone who really isn't."
2. "I just want to be a part of this Earth - but I can't even walk the walk, or talk the talk."
3. "I'm just trying to be myself. Why isn't my stupid mirror working?"
4. "Yeah, sure... when you talk to a star, no matter who you are, you'll get whatever you want."
5. "Is it just me or does it feel like there's love in the air tonight? It's probably just me."



Mystery Case No. 7

A SHADY LETTER

Dear Inspector,

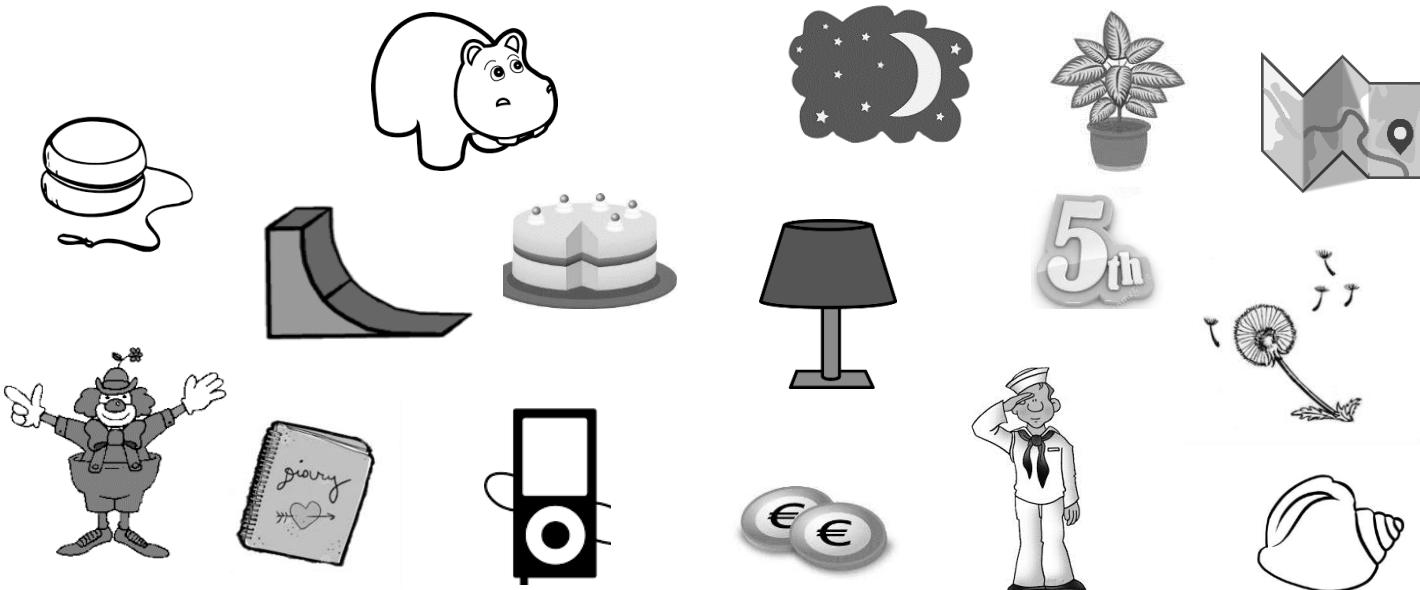
I received a rather shady letter in the mail recently. I can't make heads or tails of it... What's worse, all of the senders seemed to have signed their names in pictures.

Please help me track down these senders... maybe then I can finally make sense of this gibberish!

Re: Shader's Barn
1400 Massachusetts Ave.
Cambridge, MA, USA
September 19, 2015

Sincerely Yours,
Sindhee Shader
Sindhee Shader

I t w r o t e a v i o l e t s w i r l e d d i a r y H e
k n e w i t w a s n o t p o s s i b l e a l t h o u g h
S h e l l s t r i p e d a f a l l e n t r a y
E l l a n e v e r e x p e c t e d a f o x d e n D o t h a t
T i m a s k a c l o w n o f c a k e H e n o d d e d T h e r e
w a s a l o u d c a l l a m i n i s q u e a l P e t e r
t h o u g h t p a y i n g a f i s t u t i l i t y w a s b a d
H i s r e p l y a m i s t h a t T e a r t o p p e d i c e
s w a m S h e p l a n t a h i p p o o n t h e r o o f
S k y e m a p p e d f o o t p r i n t t o t h e r o s y
p i c n i c



Mystery Case No. 8

A HEATED RELATIONSHIP

Dear Inspector,

I'm in quite a heated relationship with my Thermodynamics professor.

I don't think belong in his class... I feel like an imposter. Please help me square this up.

Re: Dept. of Physics, Harvard University
17 Oxford St., Cambridge, MA, USA
July 7, 1997

Yours sincerely,

Gibbs Helmholtz

Gibbs Helmholtz, a confused Thermodynamics student

1

- qty. conserved in collisions
- most abundant element in air
- ten to the minus twelfth
- work per unit time
- likelihood of an event

2

- HTML hyperlink tag
- vitamin for eye health
- heaviest isotope of Hydrogen
- time derivative of velocity
- pairs with thymine in DNA

3

- 299,792,458 m/s
- element found in all organic compounds
- vitamin also known as ascorbic acid
- coefficient of correlation
- programming language that UNIX operating system is written in

4

- electric potential difference
- putrid element found in fool's gold
- always-increasing thermodynamic quantity
- phase in which DNA replication occurs
- SI unit defined by radioactivity of cesium

1 • 2 • 3

=

4

Mystery Case No. 9

ATOMIC BONDED COMPOUND

Dear Inspector,

Re: Niantic Labs, Inc.
San Francisco, CA, USA
October 20, 2015

Our company's been the victim of a super effective cyber attack. We've called the DA seeking investigative help, but he's always been a slow poke. Monday, a team of rocket scientists hacked into our labs and stole many of our assets. Please take up this case, you're our only hope!

Yours sincerely,

Ashley Ketchumi
Ashley Ketchumi,
President & CEO

Polly Wagner
Polly Wagner,
CFO

Du Gong
Du Gong,
COO


Sai Duchworth,
CTO

Company that sells car fuel &
Company that sells batteries

A diagram consisting of a 7x1 grid of white squares. A single grey circle is positioned at the top-left square. A dashed line originates from the center of the circle and extends diagonally down to the center of the bottom-left square of the grid.

Dorothy's pet & Enters telephone digits

A diagram consisting of seven rectangular boxes arranged horizontally. The first six boxes are empty. The seventh box contains a single grey circle. Dashed arrows point from the right towards this circle, indicating its position or movement.

A rather dull color &
Teenage mutant turtles

A horizontal timeline consisting of eight rectangular boxes. The first seven boxes are empty. The eighth box contains a small grey circle. A dashed line starts from the right edge of the eighth box and extends upwards and to the left, ending with an arrowhead pointing towards the second box from the left.

Sluggish & Shacklebolt wizard

Acorn-loving rodent & Oklahoman city

A horizontal sequence of seven rectangular boxes. The first five boxes are white, and the last two are shaded gray. A dashed arrow originates from the center of the fifth box and points diagonally upwards and to the right towards the center of the last box. Inside the last box is a small gray circle.

Supernatural & Rug

Gaseous state of liquid & Pop singer of 'Diamonds'

A sequence of seven rectangular frames arranged horizontally. The first six frames each contain a dashed grey line forming a zig-zag pattern that moves from left to right. The seventh frame contains a solid grey circle at the rightmost end of the path.

Youngest Kardashian & To mix or blend

A diagram consisting of a horizontal row of six vertical black lines. The second line from the left contains a solid grey circle. The fourth line contains a dashed grey line segment extending diagonally upwards and to the right.

Mystery Case META

TWENTY QUESTIONS

*This META mystery uses ALL the answers you've collected
in the previous 10 cases...*

Is it a _____ word ?

Is it a _____ creature ?

Is it a household _____ ?

Is it made in a _____ ?

Can it contain _____ ?

Can you buy it at the (MIT) _____ ?

Is it used for emergency _____ purposes ?

Does it have high _____ ?

Can it be attached to a _____ ?

Can you _____ from this ?

— — — — — — —

SEND IN THE ANSWER BY TEXTING "META [YOUR SOLUTION]"