WPF SUDOKU/PUZZLE **GRAND PRIX** 2026

ROUND 6

WPF PUZZLE GP 2026 INSTRUCTION BOOKLET

Host Country: Netherlands

Chiel Beenhakker, Lennart Muijres, Saskia Benedictus, Mark Sweep

Special Notes: Note that the spelling of "Neighbours" in this booklet uses the British spelling, where past appearances of the puzzle type used American spelling.

Points:		
1.	**Letter Bags**	**16**
2.	**Letter Bags**	**50**
3.	**Dominion**	**19**
4.	**Star Battle**	**23**
5.	**L-Triominion**	**16**
6.	**L-Triominion**	**32**
7.	**Star Battle (Different Neighbours)**	**10**
8.	**Star Battle (Different Neighbours)**	**27**
9.	**L-Podia**	**8**
10.	**L-Podia**	**22**
11.	**L-Podia**	**30**
12.	**Tetropia**	**31**
13.	**Pentopia**	**24**
14.	**Pentopia**	**47**
15.	**Blokus (Given Set)**	**28**
16.	**Blokus (Given Set)**	**30**
17.	**Blokus (Given Set)**	**62**
18.	**Spiral (Given Set)**	**22**
19.	**Spiral (Given Set)**	**25**
20.	**Spiral (Given Set)**	**70**
21.	**Slitherlink (Latin Liars)**	**36**
22.	**Slitherlink (Latin Liars)**	**47**
23.	**Slitherlink (Latin Liars)**	**72**
24.	**Neighbours (Regions)**	**15**
25.	**Neighbours (Regions)**	**60**
26.	**Neighbours (Regions)**	**75**
27.	**Spokes**	**13**
28.	**Spokes**	**29**
29.	**Spokes**	**59**
30.	**Greater Wall**	**17**
31.	**Greater Wall**	**68**
32.	**Greater Wall**	**107**
33.	**Scrabble**	**13**
34.	**Scrabble (Letter Set)**	**16**
35.	**Scrabble (Letter Set)**	**126**
36.	**Japanese Sums**	**42**
37.	**Japanese Sums**	**118**
TOTAL:		1505

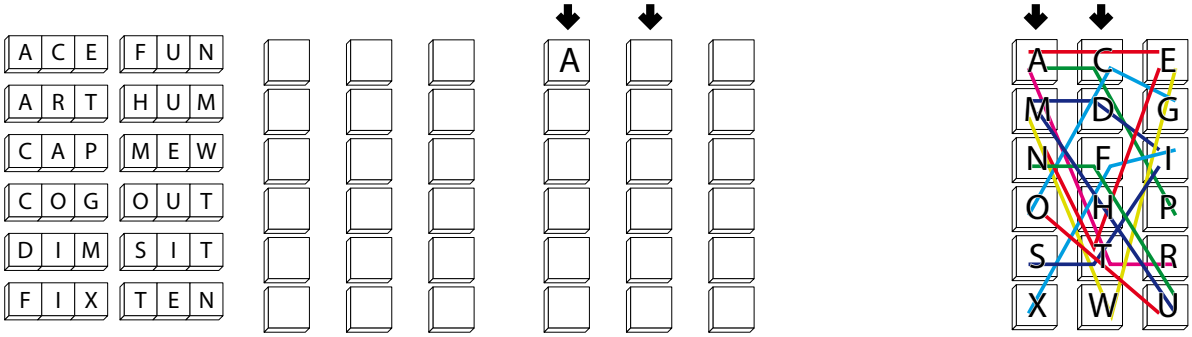
1-2. Letter Bags [Lennart Muijres, Saskia Benedictus] (16, 50 points)

There are multiple bags (represented by columns), each of which has an equal number of tiles with letters in them. No letter appears in more than one bag. For each of the words in the list, it is possible to spell the word by drawing one letter from each bag (but not necessarily in the same order). Every letter in the bags is used at least once. Determine which group of letters are together in which bag.

An extra set of blank spaces are provided for your solving convenience. The colored lines in the example solution are for illustrative purposes and do not need to be drawn in your solution.

Answer: Alphabetically sort the letters in each bag, then sort the bags by their first letter. (The order of the alphabet is ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ.) Enter the contents of all except the last bag.

Example Answer: AMNOSX,CDFHTW

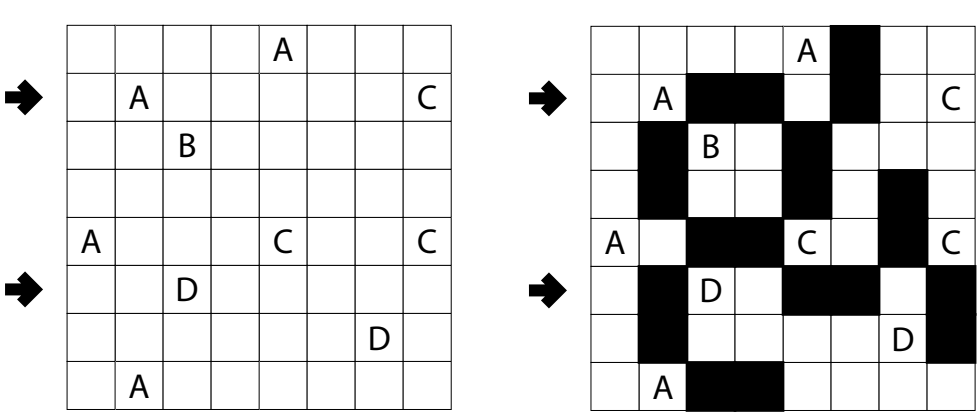


3. Dominion [Chiel Beenhakker] (19 points)

Shade some empty (non-lettered) cells black (leaving the other cells white) so that the grid is divided into non-overlapping regions; cells of the same color are considered in the same region if they are adjacent along edges. All black regions must have exactly 2 cells. All white regions must contain at least one lettered cell. All lettered cells within the same (white) region must contain the same letter. All cells that contain the same letter must be in the same region.

Answer: For each designated row, enter its contents from left to right. For the contents of a white cell, enter the letter for a lettered cell in that region. For the contents of a black cell, enter the letter 'X'.

Example Answer: AAXXAXCC,AXDDXXDX



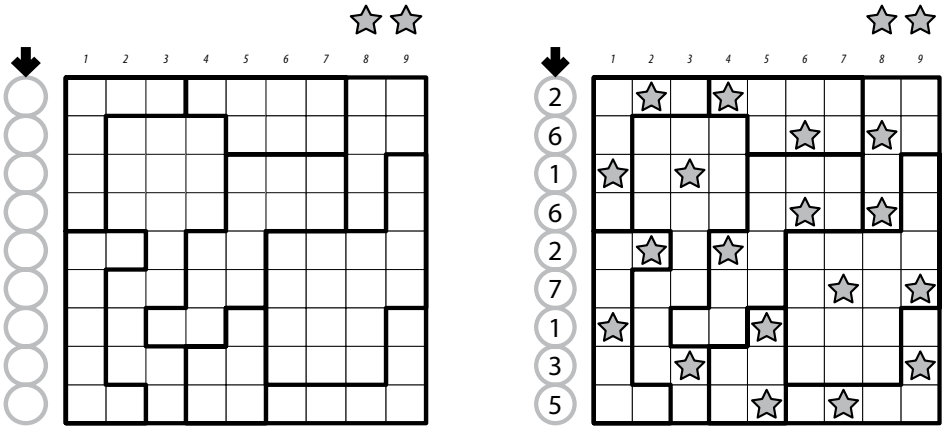
4. Star Battle [Saskia Benedictus] (23 points)

Place stars into some cells in the grid, no more than one star per cell. Each row, each column, and each outlined region must contain exactly the same number of stars; that number of stars is shown outside the upper-right of the grid. Cells with stars cannot touch each other along an edge or a corner.

The numbers on top of the diagram are for Answer purposes only.

Answer: For each row from top to bottom, enter the number of the first column from the left where a star appears (the number on top of that column). Use only the last digit for two-digit numbers; e.g., use '0' if the first star appears in column 10.

Example Answer: 261627135

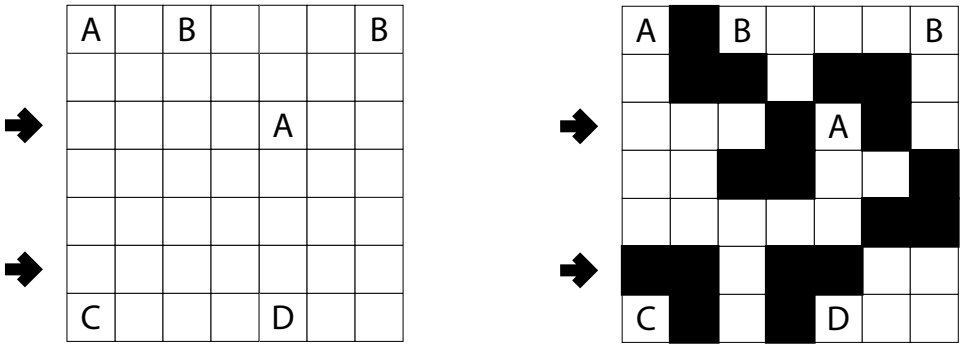


5-6. L-Triominion [Chiel Beenhakker, Saskia Benedictus] (16, 32 points)

Shade some empty (non-lettered) cells black (leaving the other cells white) so that the grid is divided into non-overlapping regions; cells of the same color are considered in the same region if they are adjacent along edges. All black regions must have exactly 3 cells not all in the same row or column (in other words, each black region is an L-triomino). All white regions must contain at least one lettered cell. All lettered cells within the same (white) region must contain the same letter. All cells that contain the same letter must be in the same region.

Answer: For each designated row, enter its contents from left to right. For the contents of a white cell, enter the letter for a lettered cell in that region. For the contents of a black cell, enter the letter 'X'.

Example Answer: AAAXAXB,XXAXXDD



7-8. Star Battle (Different Neighbours) [Lennart Muijres, Mark Sweep] (10, 27 points)

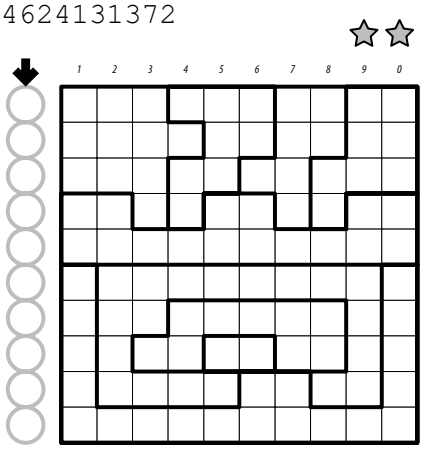
Place stars into some cells in the grid, no more than one star per cell. Each row and each column must contain exactly the same number of stars; that number of stars is shown outside the upper-right of the grid. Cells with stars cannot touch each other along an edge or a corner.

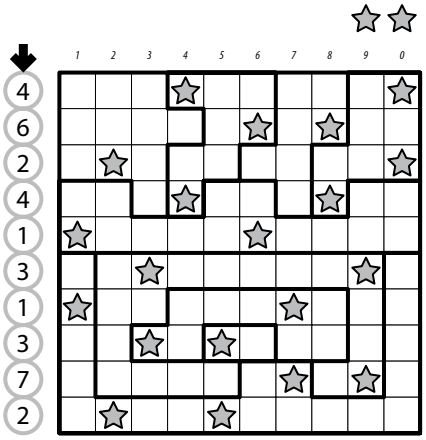
If two outlined regions share at least one cell edge in common, then the two regions must contain a different number of stars from each other. Each region must contain at least one star.

The numbers on top of the diagram are for Answer purposes only.

Answer: For each row from top to bottom, enter the number of the first column from the left where a star appears (the number on top of that column). Use only the last digit for two-digit numbers; e.g., use '0' if the first star appears in column 10.

Example Answer: 4624131372



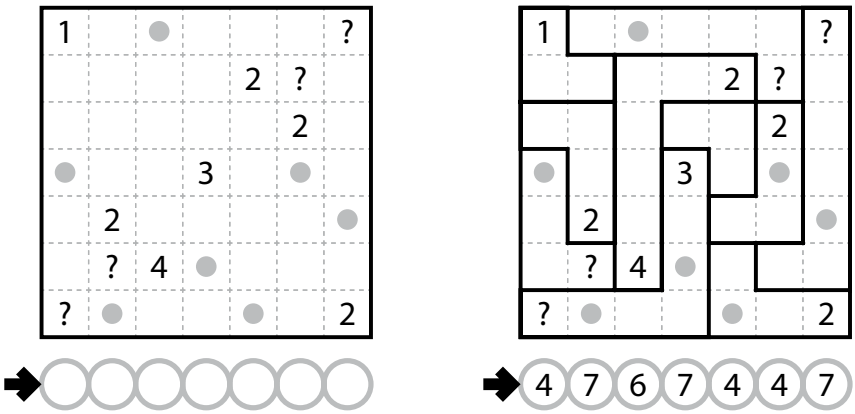


9-11. L-Podia [Mark Sweep] (8, 22, 30 points)

Divide the grid into "L"-shaped regions along the grid lines. An "L"-shaped region includes one "pivot" cell and two "end" cells (all three must be distinct). Each end cell must be in the same row or column as the pivot, and all cells between the end and pivot along that row or column must be in the region. No other cells are allowed to be in the region. The two end cells cannot be in the same row or column. A cell containing a question mark ('?') must be an end cell. A cell containing a number must be an end cell, where the number is the distance (in cells) from the center of that cell to the center of the corresponding pivot cell.

Answer: Enter the area of the region each dot is in, reading the dots from left to right. (Ignore which row the dots are in.) Use only the last digit for two-digit numbers; e.g., use '0' for a region of size 10.

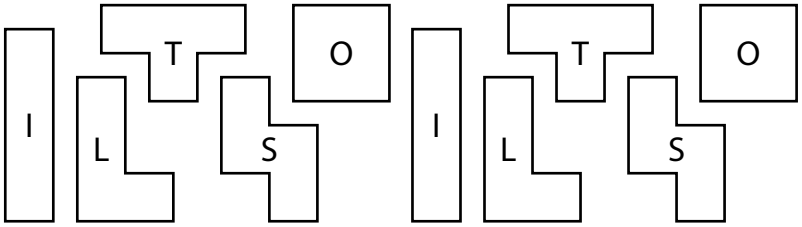
Example Answer: 4767447

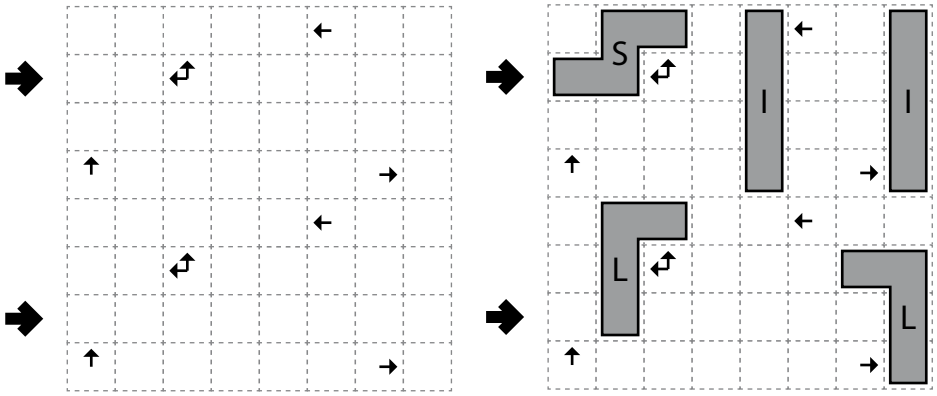


12. Tetropia [Mark Sweep] (31 points)

Shade some empty cells so that the shaded cells form the shapes of different tetrominoes. Each tetromino shape is used at most two times, but can be rotated or reflected. Tetrominoes cannot touch along edges or corners. Arrows in a cell indicate *all* closest shaded cell(s) to that cell along the four orthogonal directions (if there are multiple cells of the same closest distance to the cell, there will be multiple arrows).

The diagram that shows the letter for each tetromino is only used for entering your answer; it shows each tetromino two times as a reminder that each tetromino may appear two times.





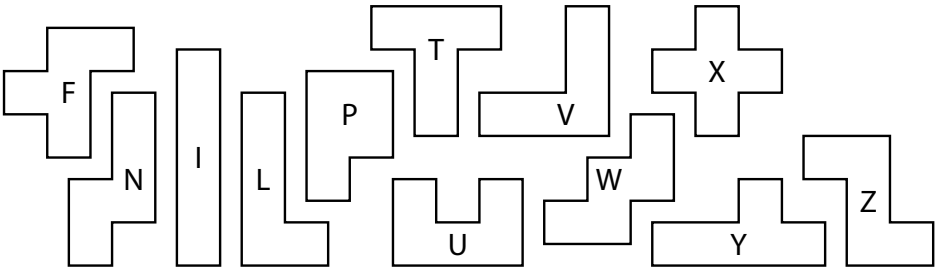
Answer: For each designated row, enter the letter for each cell, from left to right. The letter for a cell is the letter for the corresponding tetromino, and is '`A`' if the cell is not part of a tetromino.

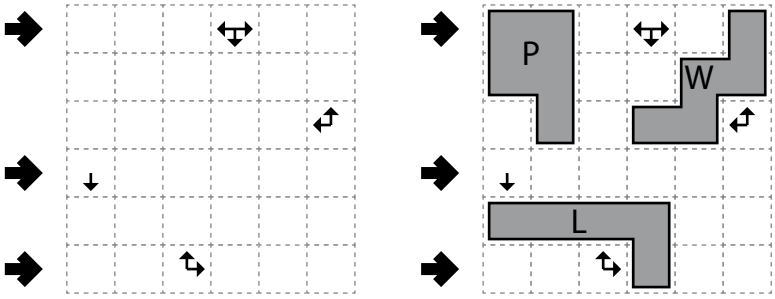
Example Answer:
`SSAAIAAI,ALAAAAAL`

13-14. Pentopia [Chiel Beenhakker] (24, 47 points)

Shade some empty cells so that the shaded cells form the shapes of different pentominoes. Each pentomino shape is used at most once, but can be rotated or reflected. Pentominoes cannot touch along edges or corners. Arrows in a cell indicate *all* closest shaded cell(s) to that cell along the four orthogonal directions (if there are multiple cells of the same closest distance to the cell, there will be multiple arrows).

The diagram that shows the letter for each pentomino is only used for entering your answer.



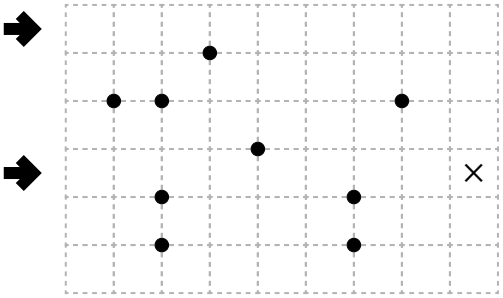


Answer: For each designated row, enter the letter for each cell, from left to right. The letter for a cell is the letter for the corresponding pentomino, and is '`A`' if the cell is not part of a pentomino.

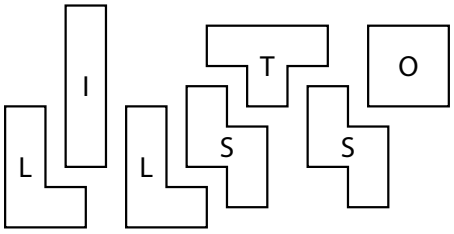
Example Answer:
`PPAAAW,AAAAAA,AAALAA`

15-17. Blokus (Given Set) [Chiel Beenhakker, Saskia Benedictus, Lennart Muijres] (28, 30, 62 points)

Shade some cells so that the shaded cells form all the shapes in the given set (with rotations and reflections allowed). Shapes cannot touch along edges, but can touch at corners. If a corner is marked with a dot, then two shapes touch at that corner. If a corner is not marked with a dot, then two shapes do not touch at that corner. Some cells might be marked with a cross; do not shade those cells.

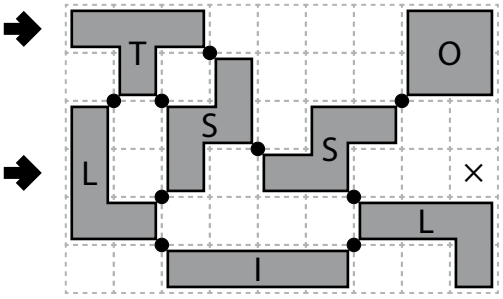


A letter-to-shape correspondence has been supplied for you, for Answer purposes only.



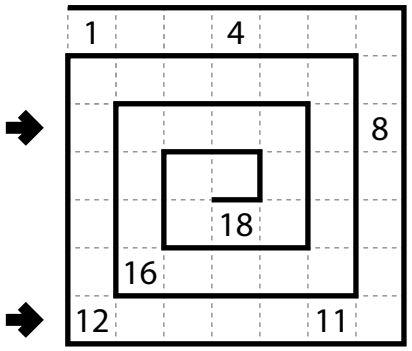
Answer: For each designated row, enter the letter for each cell, from left to right. The letter for a cell is the letter for the corresponding shaded shape, and is 'A' if the cell is not part of a shaded shape.

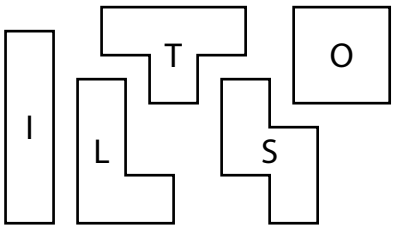
Example Answer: TTTAAAAOO,LASASSAAA



18-20. Spiral (Given Set) [Mark Sweep, Mark Sweep, Saskia Benedictus] (22, 25, 70 points)

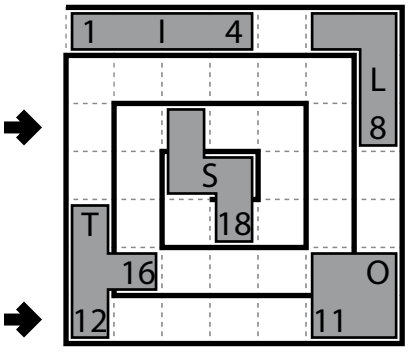
Shade some cells so that the shaded cells form all the shapes in the given set (with rotations and reflections allowed). Shapes cannot touch along edges or corners.





There is a spiral-shaped path depicted on the grid by the solid lines. Starting at the upper-left corner, each shaded cell is numbered in the order it appears on the path, starting at 1. Some of these numbers are supplied for you.

A letter-to-shape correspondence has been supplied for you, for Answer purposes only.



Answer: For each designated row, enter the letter for each cell, from left to right. The letter for a cell is the letter for the corresponding shaded shape, and is 'A' if the cell is not part of a shaded shape.

Example Answer: AASAAAL,TAAAAOO

21-23. Slitherlink (Latin Liars) [Chiel Beenhakker, Mark Sweep, Chiel Beenhakker] (36, 47, 72 points)

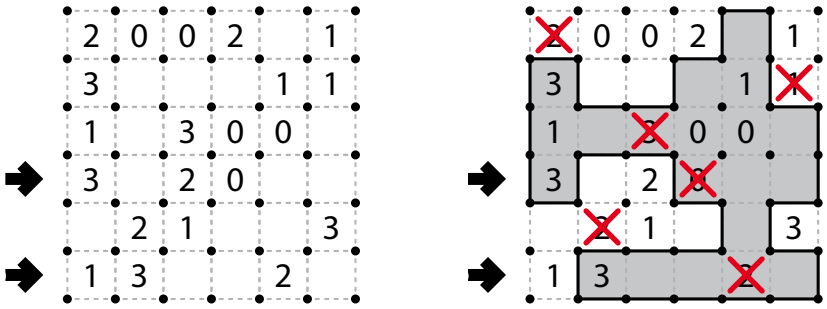
Draw a single, non-intersecting loop that only consists of line segments between the dots along the dashed lines. A number inside a cell indicates how many of the edges of that cell are part of the loop.

Exactly one number in each row is incorrect. Exactly one number in each column is incorrect.

The incorrect numbers are marked in the example solution for illustrative purposes, but this is not needed for a correct solution.

Answer: For each designated row, enter its contents from left-to-right. Use 'O' for a cell inside the loop and 'X' for a cell outside the loop. You may use other letters or digits instead, as long as they are distinct from each other.

Example Answer: OXXOOO, XOOOOO



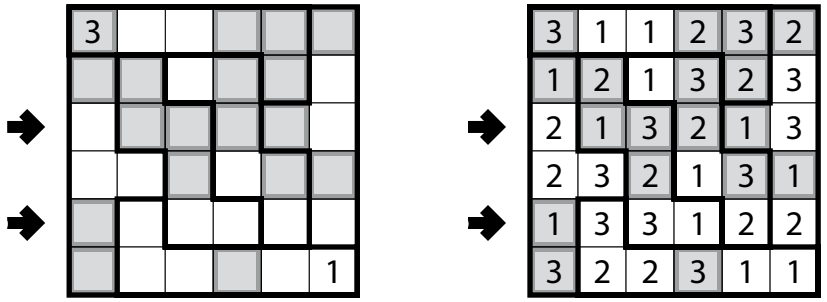
24-26. Neighbours (Regions) [Lennart Muijres, Mark Sweep, Saskia Benedictus] (15, 60, 75 points)

Place one of the digits 1, 2, or 3 into each cell, one digit per cell, so that each digit appears the same number of times in each row and column. Some digits may already be placed for you. After placing all digits, each white cell must touch at least one cell with the same number along an edge, and each gray (outlined) cell must not touch any cells with the same number along an edge.

The grid is divided into regions by thicker lines. Each digit must appear the same number of times in each region.

Answer: For each designated row, enter its contents.

Example Answer: 213213, 133122



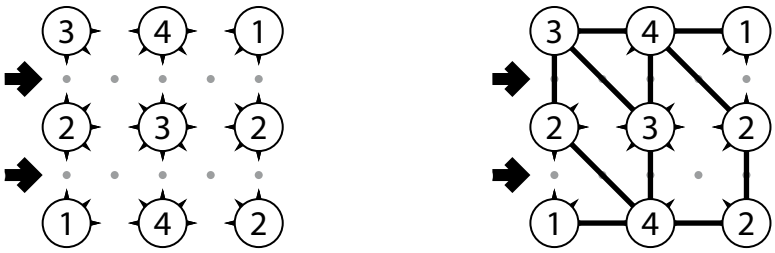
27-29. Spokes [Chiel Beenhakker, Mark Sweep, Chiel Beenhakker] (13, 29, 59 points)

Draw "spokes" (line segments) connecting pairs of circles. Each spoke is either orthogonal or at a 45-degree angle. Spokes cannot cross other spokes or other circles. Some circles have numbers in them; the number indicates how many spokes are connected to that number. It must be possible to reach every circle from any circle by going through spokes and other circles (in other words, all circles are connected).

The dashed squares are only used for entering your Answer.

Answer: For each designated row, enter its contents from left to right. Use 'O' for dot that does not have a spoke crossing it and 'X' for a dot that does have a spoke crossing it. You may use other characters, as long as they are distinct.

Example Answer: XXXXO, OXXOX



30-32. Greater Wall [Chiel Beenhakker, Chiel Beenhakker, Lennart Muijres] (17, 68, 107 points)

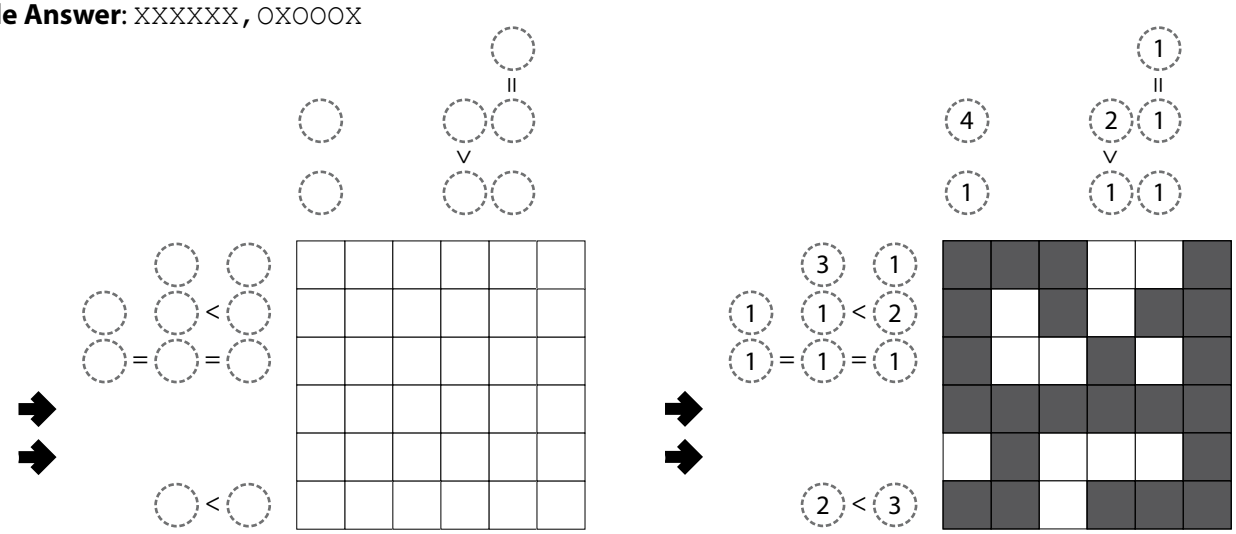
Shade some cells black. All black cells connect along edges to create a single connected region. (It is permissible for the region to touch itself at a corner, but touching at a corner does not connect the region.) No 2×2 group of squares can be entirely shaded black.

The dashed circles to the left of (and above) the main grid represent unspecified lengths of contiguous shaded cell blocks in the corresponding row (or column). The circles are given in order from left to right (or top to bottom), and cell blocks must contain at least one unshaded cell between them. Lengths cannot be 0 (zero). Some comparative relationships between adjacent circles are given. Not all rows (or columns) have given circles, but if a row (or column) has circles, then all of its circles are given.

The numbers in the circles are filled in the example solution, but this is not needed for a correct solution.

Answer: For each designated row, enter its contents from left to right. Use 'O' for an unshaded cell and 'X' for a black cell. You may use other characters, as long as they are distinct. Do not include anything outside the grid.

Example Answer: XXXXXX, OXOOOX



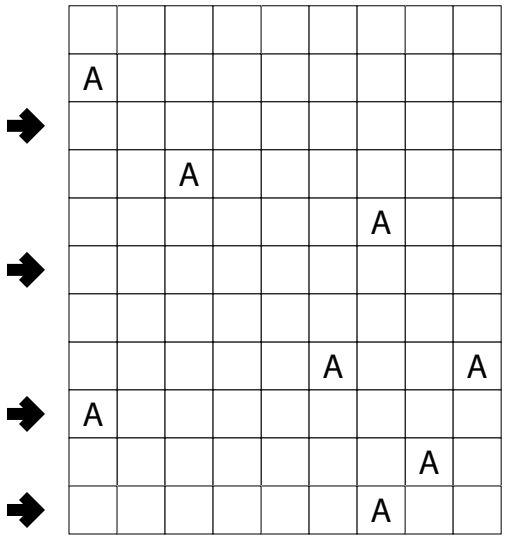
33. Scrabble [Mark Sweep] (13 points)

Put at most one letter into each cell so that the given words can be read either across (left-to-right) or down (top-to-bottom) in consecutive cells in the grid. Every word must appear in the grid exactly once, and no other words of two or more letters may appear in the grid (that is, if two cells are filled and are adjacent orthogonally, then there must be a word that uses both of them). Every word must have either a blank cell or the edge of the grid before and after it. All letters must be (orthogonally) connected in a single group.

Some letters may be already supplied in the grid. For any such letter, all instances of that letter are given.

Answer: For each designated row, enter its contents from left to right, ignoring any blank cells. If all cells in the row are blank, enter a single letter 'X'.

Example Answer: CYPRUSO,ONMUO,AUR,GA



AUSTRIA
CROATIA
CYPRUS
GEORGIA
ICELAND
LUXEMBOURG
MACEDONIA
MOLDOVA
SPAIN

34-35. Scrabble (Letter Set) [Lennart Muijres] (16, 126 points)

Put at most one letter into each cell so that the given words can be read either across (left-to-right) or down (top-to-bottom) in consecutive cells in the grid. Every word must appear in the grid exactly once, and no other words may appear in the grid (that is, if two cells are filled and are adjacent orthogonally, then there must be a word that uses both of them). Every word must have either a blank cell or the edge of the grid before and after it. All letters must be orthogonally connected in a single group.

A set of letters is provided. The correct locations of all copies of those letters are marked with a dashed circle.

Answer: For each designated row, enter its contents from left to right, ignoring any blank cells. If all cells in the row are blank, enter a single letter 'X'.

Example Answer: EZEBRA,ASP

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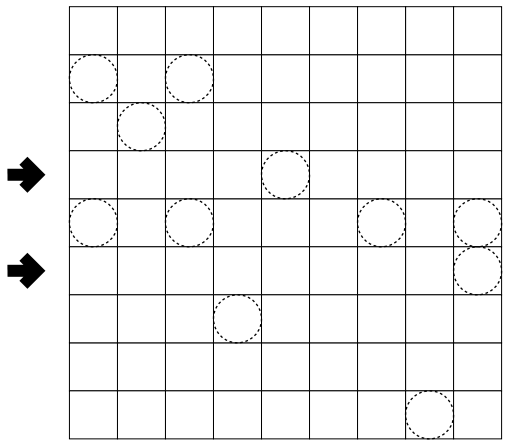
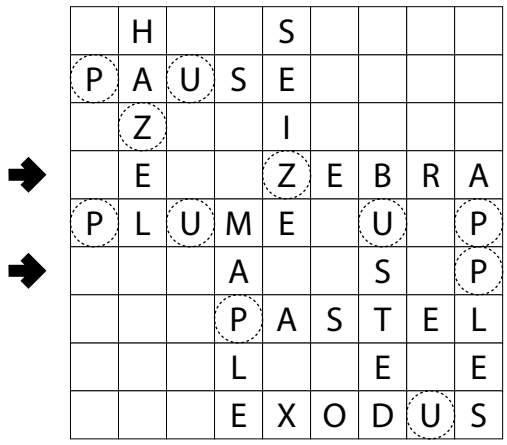


APPLES
BUSTED
EXODUS
HAZEL
MAPLE
PASTEL
PAUSE
PLUME
SEIZE
ZEBRA

{PUZ}



36-37. Japanese Sums [Chiel Beenhakker, Lennart Muijres] (42, 118 points)

Place a number from the specified list into some cells so that no number appears more than once in any row or column. Cells may remain empty. Numbers outside the grid (when given) indicate *all* sums of contiguous groups of numbers (including "sums" of a single number) along that row or column, in positional order. These groups are separated by empty cells. A question mark (?) indicates an unspecified, but non-zero, sum. Some cells might be marked with a cross (×); do not put any numbers into those cells (and consider them to be empty for purposes of separating groups).

Answer: For each designated row, enter its contents, using 'X' for an empty cell (or a cell with a cross). Do not include any numbers outside the grid.

Example Answer: 7X1X4,127X5