October 2022
Answer Sheet
Welcome to Puzzled Pint!

Give us Feedback!

Tonight
- We're here to help! This is not a competitive event. Ask the Game Control volunteers (GC) for hints as often as you'd like. The goal is to have fun, not to be frustrated!
- **If your location is running virtual,** go to the location page (linked on puzzle download page) and find out how to contact your local GC.

The Puzzles
- Each puzzle will solve to a short word or phrase. How? That's for you to discover.
- Need a code sheet or solving resources? Check out the Resources page on Puzzled Pint's webpage: http://www.puzzledpint.com/resources/
- You can use anything to help solve: Use your phone; the internet is fair game! Think your brother might have an insight? Give him a call!
- While each month has a theme, you need no special knowledge of the theme to solve.

About Puzzled Pint
- How did tonight go? Fill out the survey with the QR code above.
- We're an all-volunteer organization.
    - Help us run locally: Talk with Game Control about how you can volunteer.
    - Help us run globally: https://www.patreon.com/PuzzledPint

We are currently in need for puzzle sets for 2023! Check out how you can could write puzzle for Puzzled Pint by going here: http://www.puzzledpint.com/info/author/

Puzzle Answers	
Special Connections	
The Path to Spiritual Enlightenment	
Tic-Tac-Toe… taken to the next level	
The Ballad of Flo and Ebb!	
META: Best Tag Sale Ever	

Team Name: **Start Time:**

Team Size: **End Time:**

Puzzled Pint @¢+ 2@22

1. Special Connections

When Samantha Espinoza, an equal sign, met Claire Thomas, a space, they knew right away they had a special connection. In fact, on their first date, they were already talking quite openly about their life philosophies.

Sam E

Claire T

"Certain *things just go together*." Sam declared, "You know, foods, relationships, inevitabilities."

"I read you *like a dictionary*," Claire replied, "and my *inclination* is always to deal with those relationships *directly, point to point,* you know*, as the crow flies…*"
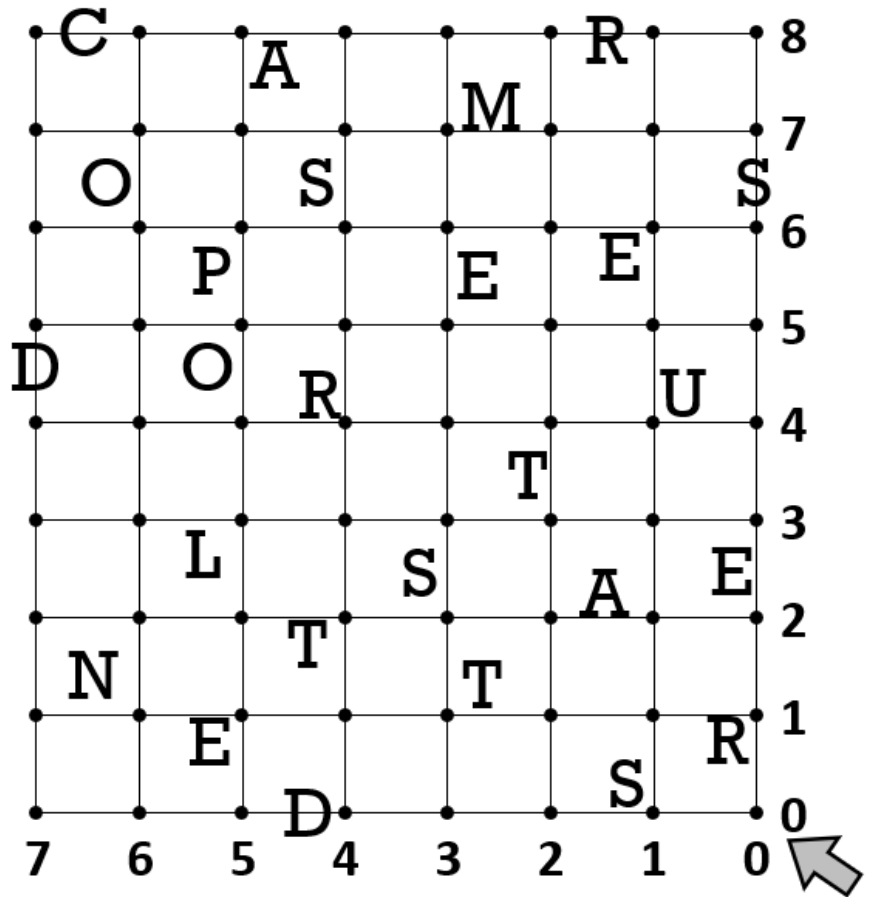
"And..?" Sam asked, sensing Claire had more to say.

"And always remember," Claire added, "to *focus on the big picture*. You know, the overall gestalt."

What best sums up what these two were really talking about?

↑0 Hansel	←1 Ivory
↓1 Death	→1 Tonic
↑1 Calvin	←2 Jerry
↓2 Ebony	→2 Daedalus
↓2 Fish	→2 Hobbes
↓3 Gin	→2 Taxes
↑3 Anthony	→3 Gretel
↑3 Icarus	←4 Chips
↑4 Ben	←4 Cleopatra

2. The Path to Spiritual Enlightenment

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Samantha was feeling pretty stressed. Sure, her Windows XP desperately needed to be updated, but she knew she had saved that important work file somewhere; she just couldn't remember which drive or folder it was in. And then Claire walked in reminding her that they had to leave soon for their church social action committee meeting which Claire had just signed them both up for. Samantha felt like screaming, but instead she took a deep breath and tried to connect with her zen. "You know, Claire, our days are pretty busy as they are. I'm not sure why you always feel the need *to squeeze in just one more thing*."
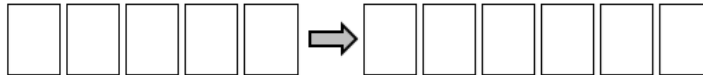
"That's just me," Claire conceded with a smile, "But at least I'm good at keeping track of *what exactly I am adding, and where it is being added*." Samantha rolled her eyes. What exactly might help her find which folder and directory she put that file in?

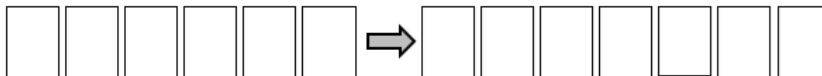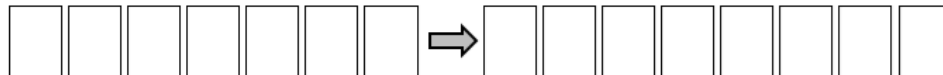| Clue (left)		Clue (right)
Parasitic insect found in children's hair (singular)	⇒	Long, loose shirt
Follower of market, Park, hundreds and 1st	⇒	Buckingham abode
Type of skate	⇒	Tilted plane
Strip the skin off, violently	⇒	Like pastry or a dandruff sufferer's scalp
Large bird dog	⇒	Colonist (perhaps in the land of Catan)
Scorsese, Van Buren or Luther	⇒	Inhabitant of fourth rock from the sun
These are difficult to find in haystacks	⇒	Unnecessary
Italian pasta dishes made with shrimp and garlic	⇒	Mischievous, rascally
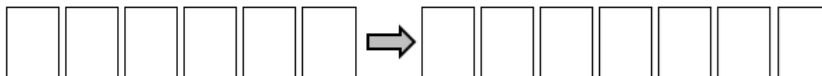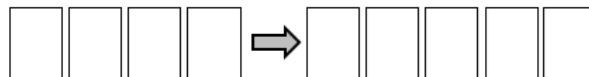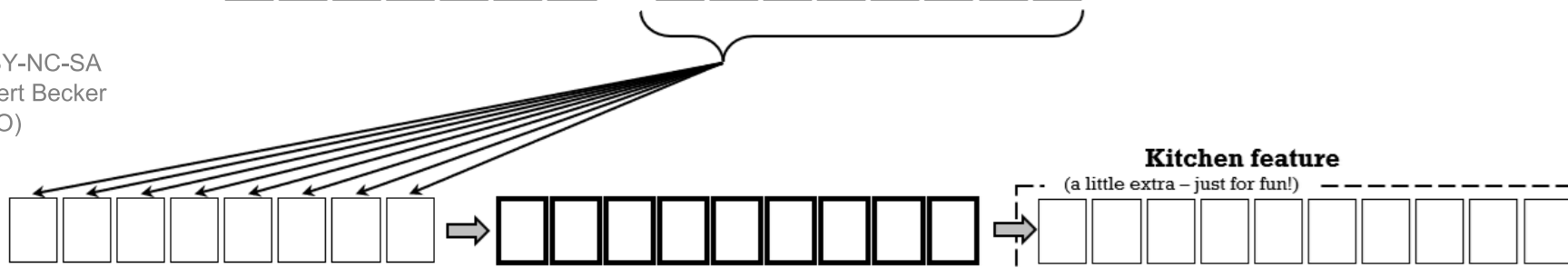
Kitchen feature
(a little extra – just for fun!)

3. Tic-Tac-Toe... taken to the next level !!!!!

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Samantha and Claire enjoy playing tic-tac-toe (#classicgame, #pointlesspastime), but they have made up some pretty crazy rules:

1. Rather that alternating turns, they flip a coin: if it comes up heads, it's X's turn; tails, it's O's turn. (Samantha always has X, Claire, always O.) This can make the games very lopsided!

2. Each game is played until the entire 3x3 grid is filled, so players can sometimes get several wins out of one grid.

3. The pattern of X's and O's must always end up symmetrical, with the line of symmetry running vertically, horizontally or diagonally. (Some patterns can have multiple axes of symmetry as the fourth example demonstrates.)

X X X	X X O	X O X	X O X	X O X
X O X	O O X	X X O	X O X	X O O
O O O	X X O	X X X	X O X	O X O
Yes	**Yes**	**Yes**	**Yes**	**No**
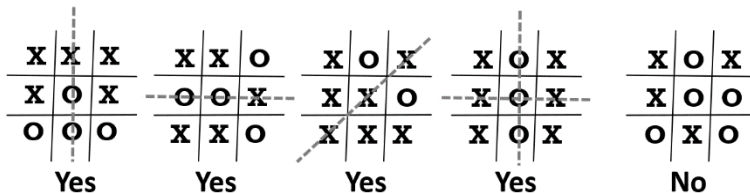
4. They play nine games at a time (in a 3 x 3 meta-grid, just for fun), and they keep track of the total wins and losses.

On this particular day, *it was a mess*! Samantha totally dominated, *hogging the pen* with all her X's and winning 32 games to Claire's 2! Of course, it helped that out of the 81 coin tosses, it came up heads 55 times!

- The axis of symmetry (or one of the axes) is shown with a dotted line for each 3x3 grid.
- One X (or one O) is filled in for you for each 3x3 grid.
- The small number next to that X or O indicates the # of wins that particular X or O was a part of.
- In the parentheses at the end of each row, column and diagonal is the X and O total number of wins for that row, column or diagonal. For example, (9,1) in the top row indicates that in the three games combined in that row, X had nine wins and O had just one.
- The large numbers below each set of parentheses represents the total # of X's in that entire row, column or diagonal. For example, the 17 for the top row means that of the 27 total spaces in that row, 17 contain X's and the remaining 10 contain O's.
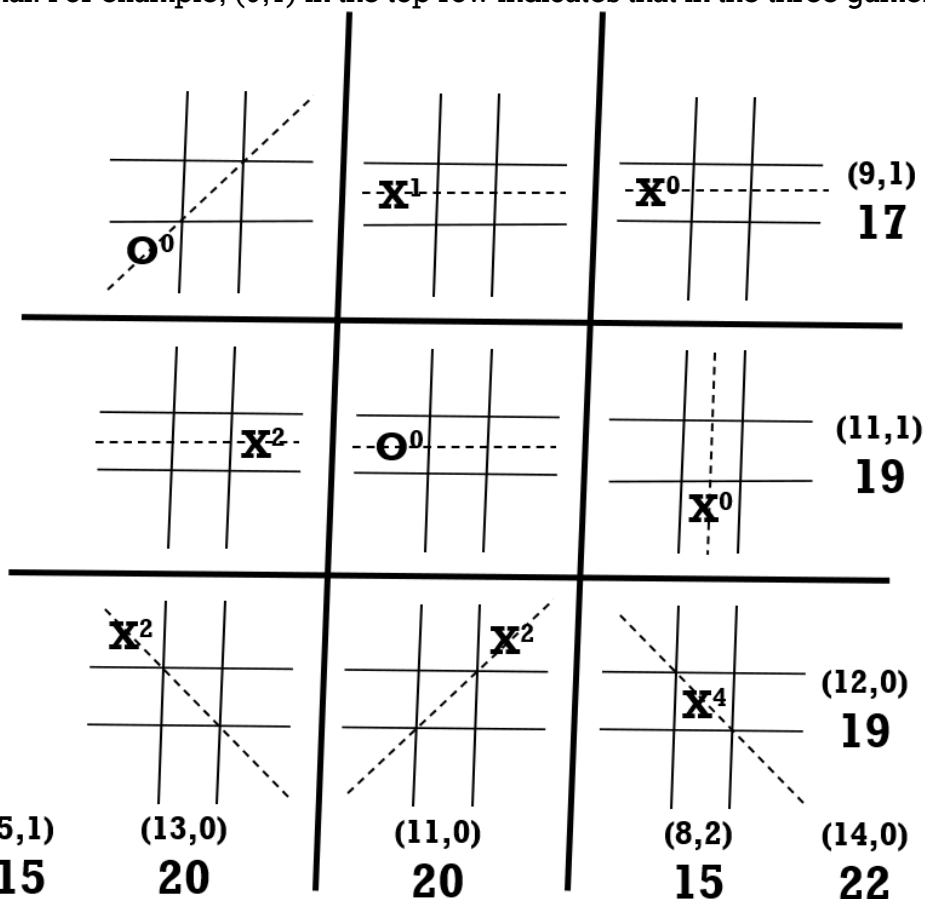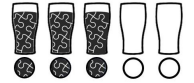
Fill in the rest of the grid and then shade in all the X's to reveal what gesture Samantha teasingly used to show the thorough thrashing she had just given Claire.

O^0 X^1 X^0 (9,1) **17**

X^2 O^0 X^0 (11,1) **19**

X^2 X^2 X^4 (12,0) **19**

(5,1) **15**   (13,0) **20**   (11,0) **20**   (8,2) **15**   (14,0) **22**

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Claire and Sam were quite fond of ballads.
This was one of their favorites:

Good ol' Flo and Ebb were _____ and brother;

They _____ sometimes but still loved one another.

When Flo asked for _____, which was actually quite often,

Ebb was apt to _____ – his old heart would _____.

Well, Flo owned an old cabin way down in the _____,

And the towns-_____ knew she was not one to dally.

Three times a week, old Flo'd have to _____

Down the steep path which had lots of loose _____

Speeding *'round the rim* with her heavy supplies,

She used pack animals. It _____ not be a surprise

That Flo had already lost two _____ and a mule.

So she went up to Ebb: "Ebb, don't think I'm a fool.

Could I _____ Bob, your burro - I swear I'll be cautious?"

This time Ebb said, "NO! You're _____ me nauseous...

__ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __

__ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __!
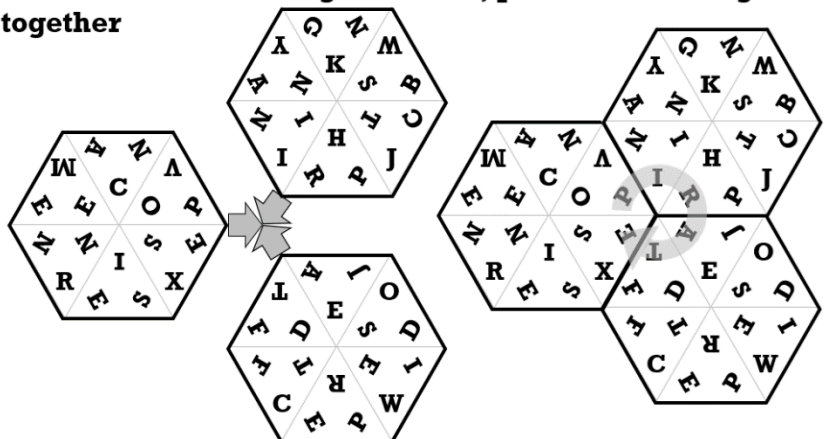
__ __ __ __ __ __ __ __, __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __

__ __ __ __ __ __ __ !"

(Different than the solutions to the other puzzles in this set, this solution is actually a homophone phrase.)

To make the first seven words, tape two trapezoids together to form a hexagon:
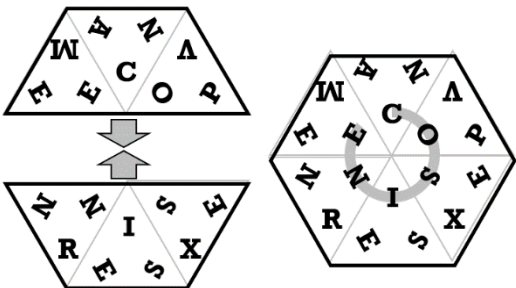
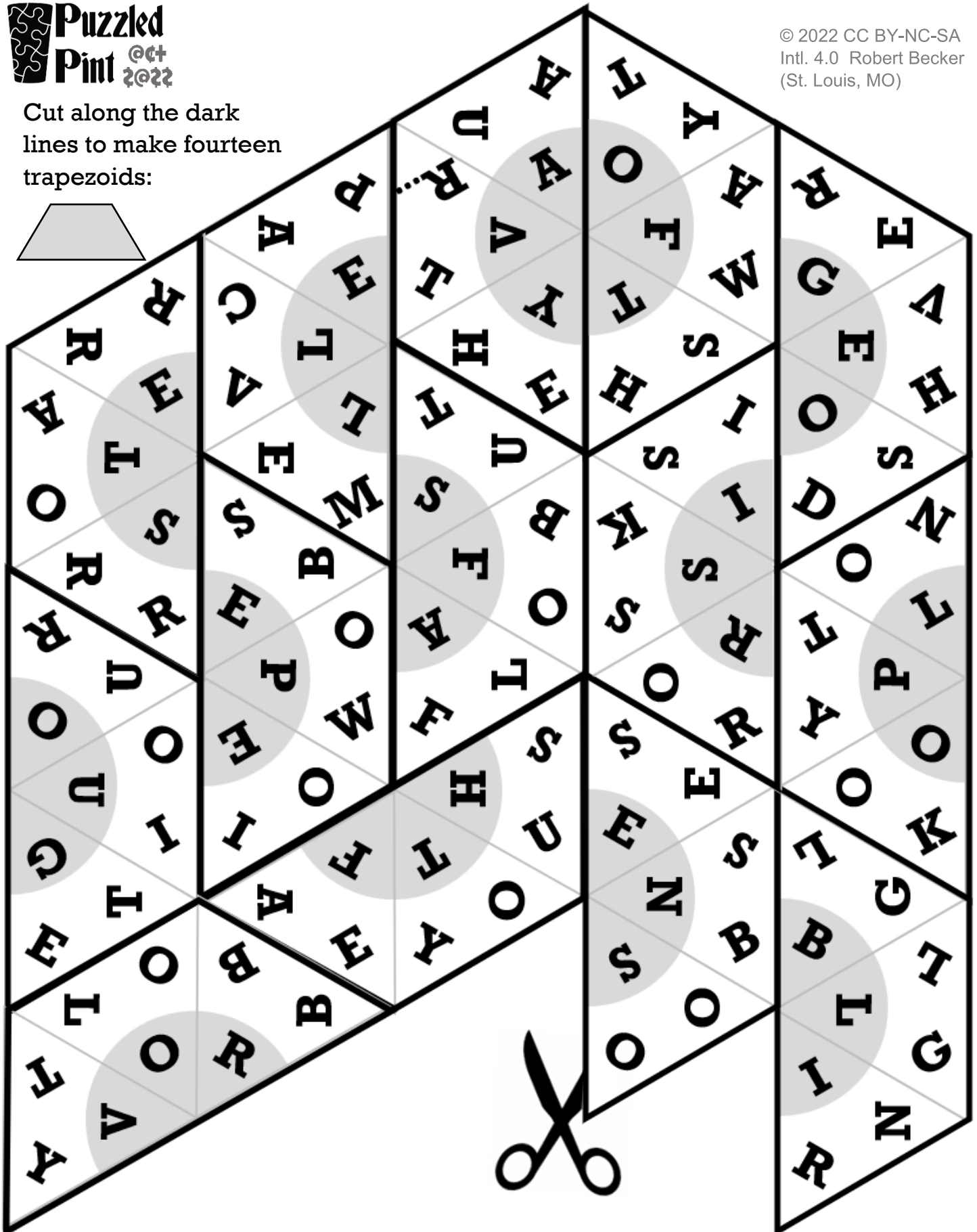**To make the remaining six words, place three hexagons together**

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$*#&^}\

Cut along the dark lines to make fourteen trapezoids:

$*#&^}\

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Meta: Best Tag Sale Ever

It looks like Claire is really letting the expletives fly, but she and Samantha have actually just found an amazing tag sale taking place on *Index* Avenue, and Claire is just hinting at the best way (symbolically) to let all their social media friends know about it. What would that be?

!!!!!!

_$!++ %/& \<&>#!+ >/!*!>%&*\, %/& +!\% ~_*}

#^ %/#\ \&^%&^>& #\ *&!++| ~/&*& #%'\ !%.

1. **Special Connections** ⬜⬜⬜⬜⬜⬜⬜⬜⬜⬜⬜ = ⬜ = 4

2. **Path to Enlightenment** ⬜⬜⬜⬜⬜⬜⬜⬜⬜⬜⬜ = ⬜ = 8

3. **Tic-Tac-Toe… Next Level** ⬜⬜⬜⬜⬜⬜⬜⬜⬜⬜⬜ = ⬜ = 7

4. **The Ballad of Flo and Ebb** ⬜⬜⬜⬜⬜⬜⬜⬜⬜⬜ = ⬜ = 6

Solution = ⬜

Bonus: A Little Friendly Competition ‼!!!

$*#&^}\

Puzzled Pint @ct 2@22

There are twelve special characters to find in the unusual word-search below. Just for fun, write your individual names in the "LEADERBOARD." Then keep a running score to see who finds the most! It's worth emphasizing: this is just for fun! (If you are solving this puzzle by yourself, then just write your name on the board; you have a very good chance of winning!)

```
N  N  W  H  O  I  E  V  E  R  T  E
O  S  A  L  T  P  L  H  E  O  R  K
I  T  E  H  U  E  S  D  Q  S  A  C
T  T  F  Q  T  A  H  T  O  U  B  A
A  E  T  O  L  R  N  I  U  O  L  R
M  B  E  S  B  E  E  O  B  T  A  B
A  L  R  O  R  T  W  N  L  E  C  T
L  T  A  A  A  E  M  H  E  S  I  H
C  E  C  E  S  A  T  O  S  D  T  G
X  C  R  E  O  R  R  L  I  E  R  I
W  G  I  S  U  N  I  M  G  L  E  N
E  S  I  T  A  K  L  R  N  A  V  L
```

CARET
DOLLAR SIGN
DOUBLE QUOTES
EXCLAMATION
GREATER THAN
LEFT BRACE
MINUS
QUESTION MARK
RIGHT BRACKET
SLASH
TILDE
VERTICAL BAR

LEADERBOARD

NAME	SCORE

So, what special character determined the winner?

☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐ = ☐