



# Introduction

## instructions for success

this is a puzzle competition that will take place while you are at the aquarium.

the **grand prize** is a lifetime supply of skittles\*

we recommend working in teams of 4 - 6 people, but there is no limit to the team size

you'll need 1 phone that is capable of sending texts. **always use the same phone.**

expect to receive about 20 text messages

to get started, **text your team name** to **617-981-4677** (12 characters or less)

\*prizes of equal value is negotiable

You wake up.

>> **North**

You can't go north. You don't know where north is.

>> **East**

You can't go east. You're kind of dumb, aren't you?

>> **Look**

Look at what?

>> **Look around**

You look around you. You're in a corn field. Miles and miles of corn.

There's a barn in the distance with what looks like a penguin on it? You can't really see it too clearly.

>> **Inspect**

Inspect what?

>> **Inspect me**

You inspect yourself. You are wearing clothes. You are a young student, very fresh. You have two pockets, including a right pocket.

>> **Inspect pocket**

Inspect which pocket?

>> **Inspect right pocket**

You inspect your right pocket. There is a letter.

>> **Read letter**

(backside)

Dear Me,

(tl;dr: This is me/you from 2016. You don't remember anything. You screwed up big time, back/here in 2012, and now you have to travel through time to set things right. Your mission includes but is not limited to: solve puzzles, save the penguins, save the world. Optional side-quests: save the cheerleader, kill some mass murdering dictators, alert Benjamin Franklin that he's got the proton/electron thing backwards and is going to screw up the intuition of 8.02 students for quite some time.)

If you're reading this, that means you are four years in the future. It is now the year 2016 and the world has plunged into violent, senseless, zoological chaos. I won't go into details, but suffice it to say the complete and catastrophic destruction of human civilization at the hands of terrorist penguins is your fault. Entirely your fault. Well, I suppose it's actually my fault, but eh.

What? What's that I'm thinking? Penguins don't have hands? They do. They do now. They mutated hands. Flipper-like and unrelenting in their pursuit of fish. I hope you understand the gravity of the situation.

I assume you found this note in your right pocket before you checked your left. How do I know? Because I'm ... eh, lucky guess. In your right pocket is a handheld, solar-powered, low-carbon-emission time-and-space dilation device, standard issue of the Penguin Federation for Testing and Human Integration (PFTHI). It has been preprogrammed with nine destinations in time and space that PFTHI believes will give you necessary information to reverse the apocalypse. (To initiate time dilation, press the big red button on the device) PFTHI's research suggests that there is a small data packet to be uncovered at each destination; only with all nine data packets can we save the penguins and ourselves by reverting them to their original, fantastically cute forms. Only in this way can we hope to restore our world, and can you hope to atone for all the penguin stuff you messed up.

Toodles!

You

You have read the letter.

>> **Press button**

Press what button?

>> **Press the big red button**

Let's go.

>>

At this point, you should have a text response for how to proceed to submit an answer, type in the **puzzle number** immediately followed by your **answer**. eg: '6whales' would be what you would text if your answer to puzzle 6 was whales answers are always **one word**

If you are having problems receiving responses - text 617-710-7806 (with any phone)  
If you cannot reach this number, find anyone wearing a top hat.