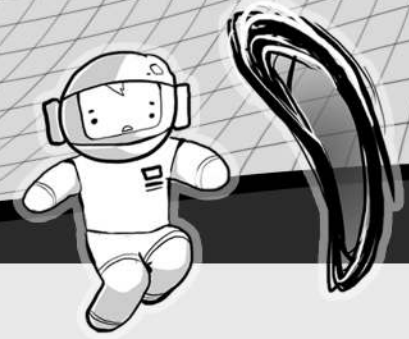


## Introduction

# 2013 AQUARIUM PUZZLE HUNT



## welcome freshmen

This is a puzzle hunt that will take place while you are at the aquarium. We recommend working in teams of 5-8 people, but there is no limit (orientation groups are fine too). There is a prize for the first team 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 617-326-5351**  
If you need help/have questions, find any of the staff members wearing a hat

It's the year 2017. Shortly after graduating you and your classmates are proudly working at a startup, McFly Portal Enterprises, that creates 127-bit 1080p hyperportals over SSL allowing humans to travel between parallel universes. This is done through a clever piece of technology you developed together called the portable fabricator over time hyperlapse inducer, or the piffy for short.

As thanks for the hard work and intellectual contribution you and your friends put into the company, the CEO has assigned you to customer support. It's cushy work ("have you tried powercycling your piffy?") and pays well, so you don't complain too much. However, tonight of all nights, right as you were about to leave to party with your friends, you suddenly receive 8 support calls.

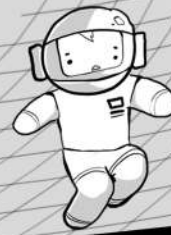
Each one of these poor individuals has gotten into a parallel universe they're not sure how to get out of. You must determine the names of these parallel universes (the solutions to the puzzles) so we can dispatch our team of highly trained beavers to fetch the poor customers and return them safely home.

**The 8 puzzles are scattered throughout the aquarium. Good Luck!**

To submit an answer, send a text to 617-326-5351 with the format [puzzle number] [your solution].  
E.g. if the answer for puzzle 6 was baloney, you would text **6 baloney**.  
Text your solutions to **617-326-5351**

customer no. 1

# ALTER RIVALS



*Customer:* Hello, is this Tannen Wormhole Incorporated?

*You:* Um, did you mean McFly Portal Enterprises?

*Customer:* Yeah, close enough. I'm not sure where I am right now

*You:* Okay, could you describe your issue a bit more?

well, let me explain to you what happened

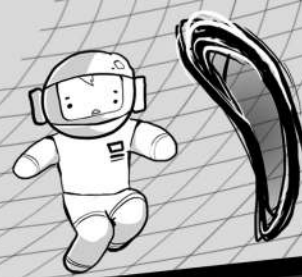
it was a cool, sunday evening. i took out my Visa card to pay for my souvenir Boeing 777. i explained to him how i'm a big aircraft enthusiast, but the man didn't seem like he cared. he looked at his Omega watch, and groaned as his break was still hours away.

i looked at my phone. no reception. typical AT&T. i asked him whether or not there was a phone i could use around the gift shop. he pointed to a rather old phone that looked like it hadn't been used for years. i lifted the receiver. two Duracell batteries fell out and rolled under a nearby shelf. frustratingly, i bent down to search for the batteries, but all i found was a couple of Megabloks.

none of anything that was happening made sense. it just seemed like my life was being pieced together strip by strip...

customer no. 2

# PARALLEL ENCLOSURES



*Customer:* High, eye am experiencing some trouble width my piffy

*You:* Come again? There's some noise with this call

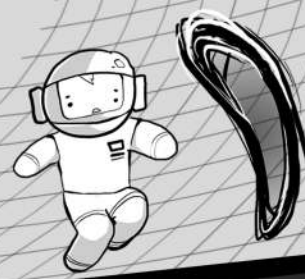
*Customer:* Are ewe shore? eye don't seam two notice anything

*You:* Let me put you on a parallel line

More pay ·	R	· Window segment
The wearer of shoes ·	L	· A balding man's friend
Vampire's death ·	M	· Beams of sunshine
Provoke ·	U	· Accomplishment
Extreme discomfort ·	E	· Enclosed by poles
American revolutionists ·	S	· Beer
Poet ·	T	· e.g. Sirloin, New York Strip
Sick ·	H	· Understanding
Bride's path ·	A	· Energy Unit
Results of weightlifting ·	I	· Medieval Weaponry
Sparkly Stones ·	A	· Crowd
Sailed through the air ·	R	· Chromosomes
Packrat's treasure ·	D	· Island
Levis ·	Y	· An edible bivalve
	L	

customer no. 3

# COMPANY TIMPANI



*Customer:* Good evening. I seem to be a little out of place. All these important CEOs are walking around!

*You:* Well, could you tell me a little bit more?

*Customer:* People are just referring to them by their first names. They don't even seem to know the names of their companies

*You:* Huh.

REIMBURSE & FRIEND (1)

SLIME & SEA BIRD (3)

FIRST NAME OF HERMIOINE & BOY CHILD OF FATHER (2)

PHONE DOWNLOADABLE & BOAT SHELL (1)

REALLY TINY & FLUFFY (2)

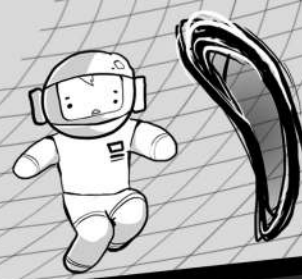
BRITISH FOOL & SOUND OF HESITATION (2)

CHAINS ARE LIKE THIS & NOT OUT (2)

NOT ME & CYLINDER (5)

customer no. 4

# CONSOLIDATION



Customer: Hi. I'm standing in a pile of video game consoles

You: Wait, what?

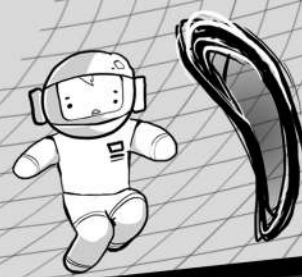
Customer: I only recognize the ones that were released **after** the year 11111010000

You: Did you just speak **binary**? Do you mean the year 2000?

Sony Playstation	Wii U	Playstation 3	iPad	Neo-Geo CD
Atari 2600	Playstation 2	Nintendo 64	Commodore 64GS	Wii
Sega Master	iPad Mini	Sony PS2 Slim	Xbox 360	Game Boy
PSP Go	Dreamcast	Gamecube	Atari 2800	Sega Mega Drive
Atari Jaguar	Sega Genesis	iPod Touch	PlayCable	Game Boy Advanced SP
Sega Genesis Nomad	iPhone 4S	iPhone 3G	Nintendo DS	NES Console
Atari 400	Super NES	Sony PSP	Atari 5200	Intellivision
Sega Genesis 2	Nokia N-Gage	Game Boy Micro	Xbox	Nintendo Gameboy Advance

customer no. 5

# PNEUMATIC PNEUMONIA



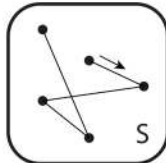
Customer: w.t.f. where am I?

You: Sir? Can you describe your surroundings?

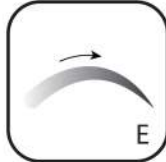
Customer: j.k. I'm in some sort of science classroom, but i.d.k. what's going on

You: I'm not connecting the dots...

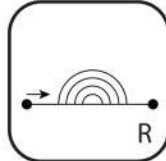
Keep plants  
contained or  
rinse giraffe  
socks.  
H



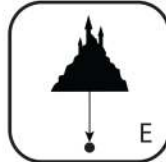
Housing  
oceans might  
endanger  
species.  
I



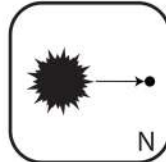
Burly bandits  
resist onslaught!  
Youths give bow;  
victory grows  
weak.  
E



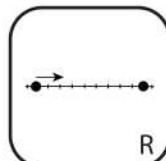
I propose  
mathy  
arithmetic.  
Touche.  
A



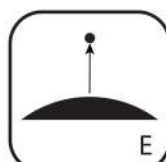
Those skies  
mismatched  
throughout  
elevation.  
W



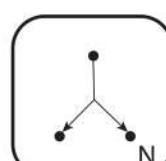
The granite  
cowboy fought  
audaciously,  
fearing quakes,  
to complete  
destruction  
O



Oh, burning  
arteries feel  
ghastly? Keep  
moping.  
D



Many varied  
entities mingling  
jubilantly startled  
universe  
nonchalantly.  
A



Solar  
System  
S



\_\_\_\_\_

Atmosphere  
R



\_\_\_\_\_

Great  
Lakes  
T



\_\_\_\_\_

Taxonomy  
W



\_\_\_\_\_

Moh's  
Hardness  
D



\_\_\_\_\_

Spectral  
Class  
C



\_\_\_\_\_

Cell  
Cycle  
T



\_\_\_\_\_

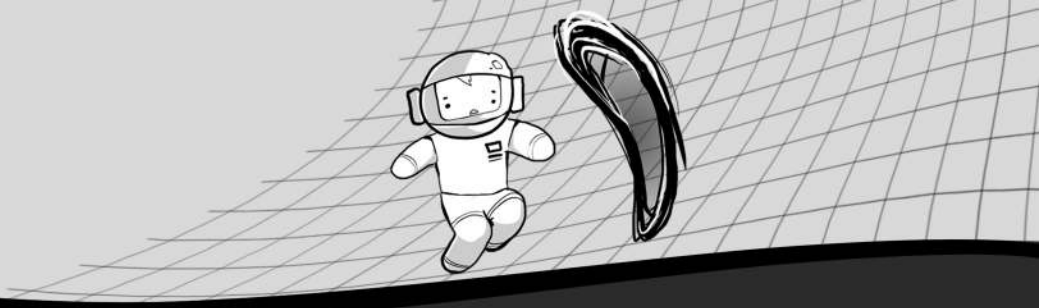
Electronic  
Color  
Code  
!



\_\_\_\_\_

customer no. 6

# CATTLEGORIES



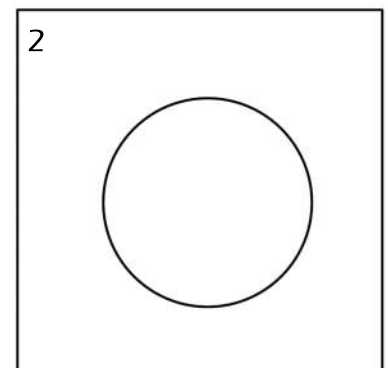
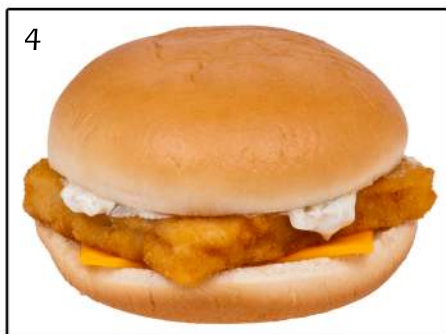
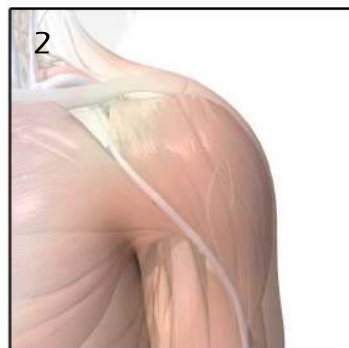
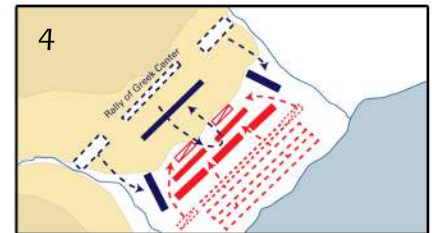
*Customer:* I need to get back for Labor Day.

*You:* How can I help?

*Customer:* No, I'm having a barbecue.

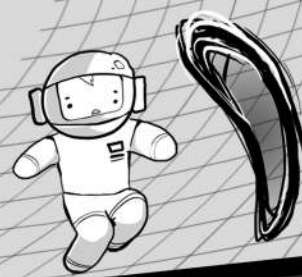
*You:* What?

*Customer:* You won't believe how much meat I have.



customer no. 7

# CONTENTS INCLUDE

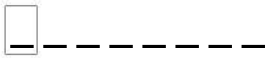


*Customer:* Help I'm not sure where I am!

*You:* Well, look around you. We can't help you with this one

*Customer:* Well at least I won't be bored.

12 Red cylinders  
12 Black cylinders



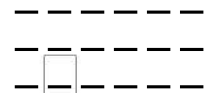
Monkeys  
Barrel



\$15,140  
Thimble  
Iron  
A Dog  
etc...



4 Hippos  
Balls



lamppost  
gears  
bucket  
bathtub  
a shoe  
a cage  
staircase  
diver  
diving board  
etc..



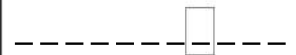
A few hundred cards  
Tray for holding cards  
A mini hourglass  
Buzzer



An assortment of pegs  
10 Ships

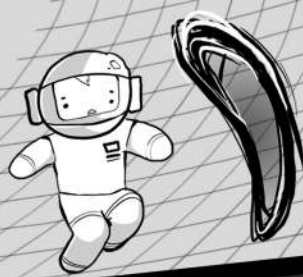


144 Letter Tiles  
Yellow Fruit  
Pouch

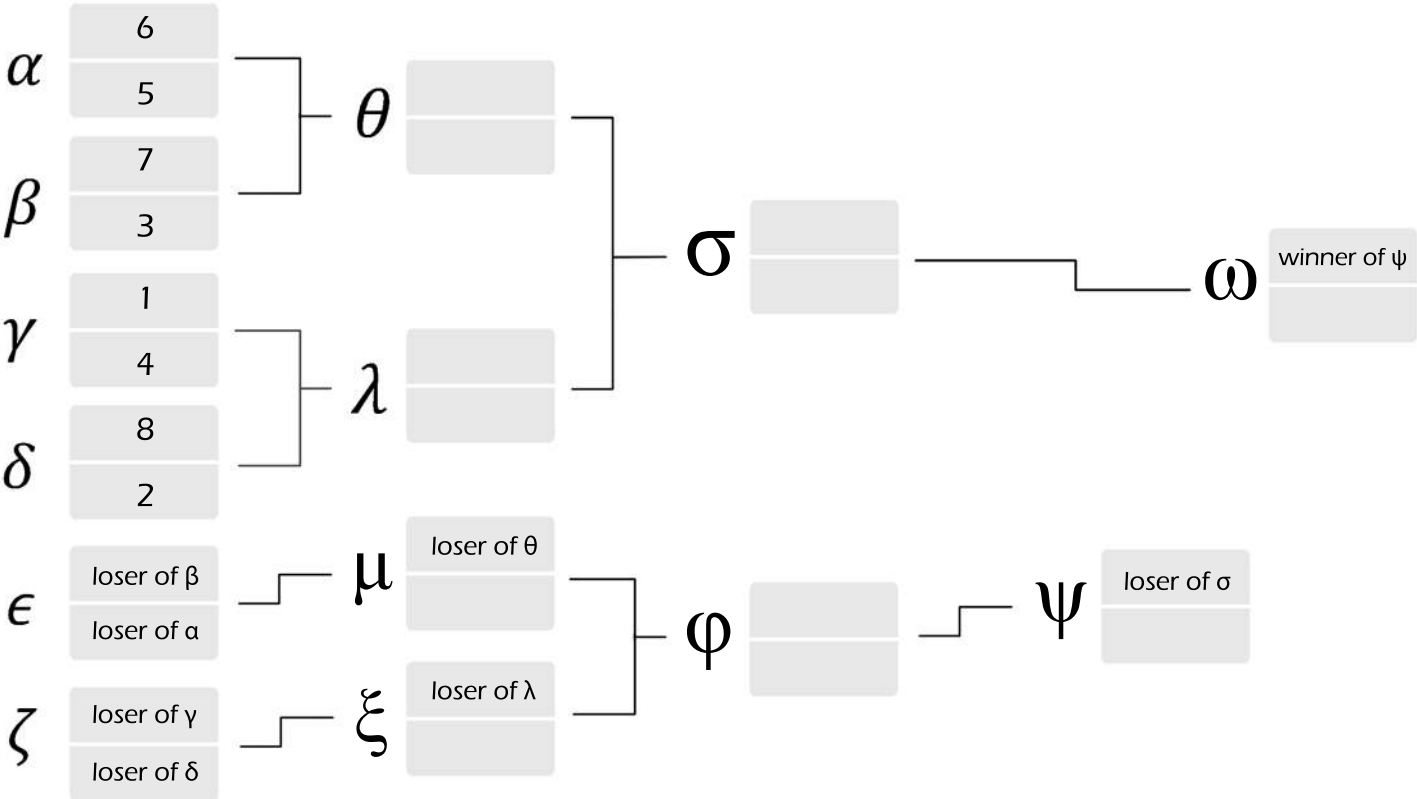




TOURNAMENT OF NUMBERS



Customer: You graduated from MIT right?  
You: Uhhh, yes?  
Customer: That means you can do numbers right?  
You: Uhhh...



MATCH

- alpha
- beta
- gamma
- delta
- epsilon
- zeta
- theta
- lambda
- mu
- xi
- sigma
- phi
- psi
- omega

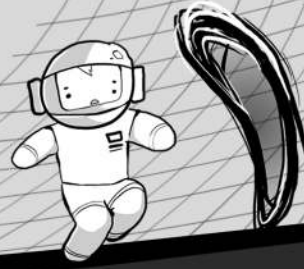
Statements

(TRUE for the WINNER and FALSE for the LOSER)  
 $x^2 + (\text{number})x + 5$  does not have integer roots  
Fights in theta  
Neither prime nor composite  
Greater than the loser of epsilon  
Has the same parity (odd/even) as the winner of gamma  
Is a fibonacci number  
 $i^{(\text{number})} \neq i$   
Shows up more times in pascal's triangle  
Wins the next match but not the tournament  
One more than the loser of sigma  
Fights in omega  
Does not divide the total number of matches  
Has not faced 8 before  
Is a triangular number

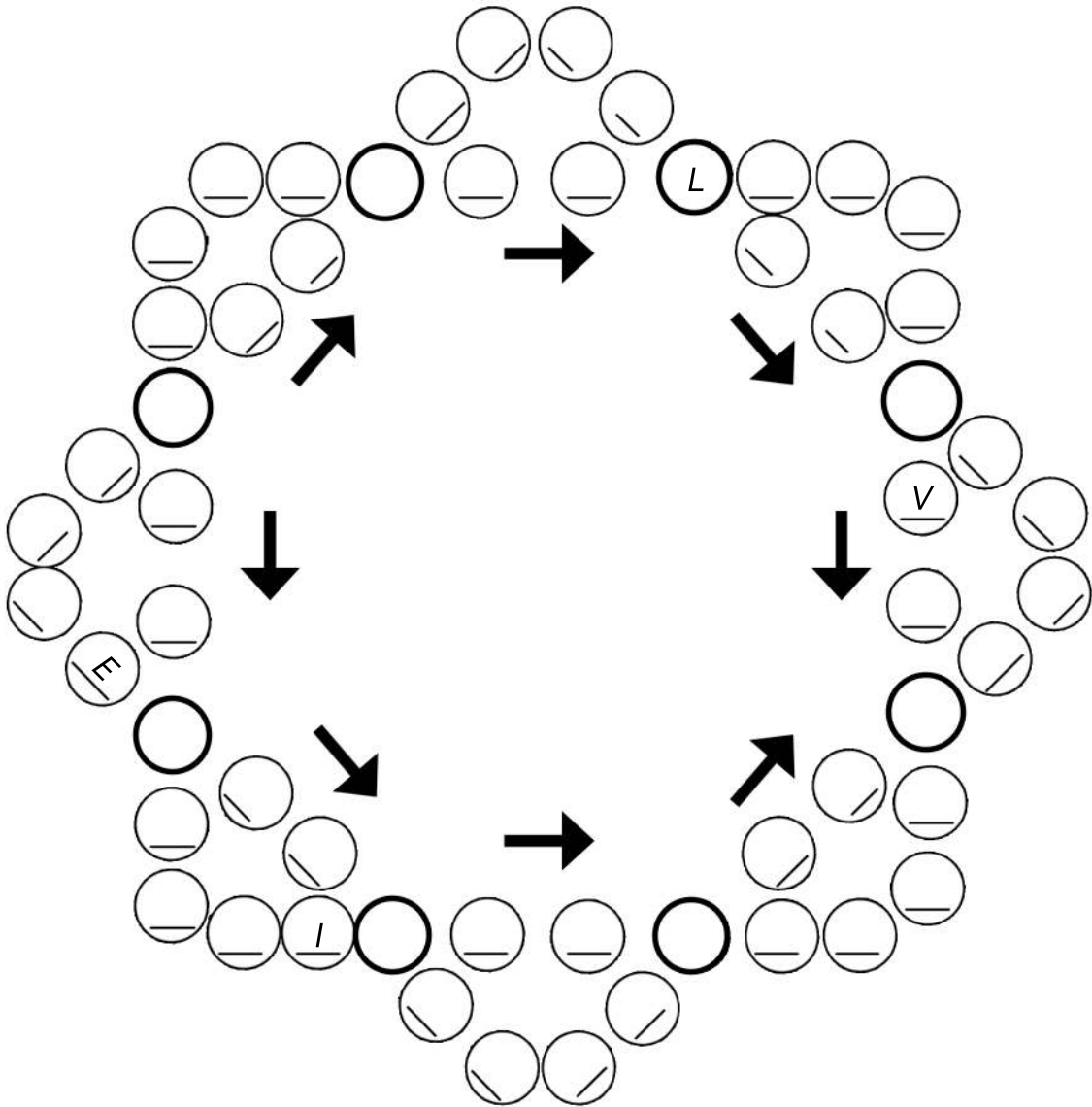
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
$\alpha$	P	E	J	D	A	L	Z	R
$\beta$	K	I	N	S	T	M	Y	H
$\gamma$	S	V	C	G	W	I	B	E
$\delta$	T	R	S	M	Y	K	J	W
$\epsilon$	P	F	U	A	V	G	E	L
$\zeta$	H	R	K	E	O	W	I	G
$\theta$	U	L	C	P	S	H	D	N
$\lambda$	A	J	Y	D	P	M	S	E
$\mu$	O	I	C	A	V	D	T	Y
$\xi$	S	A	Y	K	M	N	E	U
$\sigma$	T	I	L	O	A	H	C	R
$\phi$	J	B	K	U	I	Y	F	E
$\psi$	L	C	D	A	E	B	U	O
$\omega$	Y	H	R	S	W	T	E	T

company logo **meta**

# MCFLY PORTAL ENTERPRISES



*This is the meta puzzle for the aquarium puzzle hunt. You will be able to solve it once you have solved all (or most) of the other puzzles...*



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