Habits to follow: Introduction to Puzzle Hunts (6)

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Puzzle hunts

- Puzzle hunts are games in which teams compete to solve all the puzzles first.
- Each puzzle has a single answer: a word or short phrase.

What makes them special?

- The puzzles have incomplete or no instructions.
- You have to make sense of the data.
Related: Pub quizzes

* A pub quiz with a hidden theme is like a puzzle-hunt puzzle.

1. This Grammy-winning Irish singer lives in a castle with a panic room.

2. Another word for Shakespeare’s foot?

etc...

adapted from http://www.mit.edu/~puzzle/2006/metas/buenos_aires.html by Aaron Dinkin
Related: Pub quizzes

* A pub quiz with a hidden theme is like a puzzle-hunt puzzle.

1. This Grammy-winning Irish singer lives in a castle with a panic room.

2. Another word for Shakespeare's foot?

1. ENYA
2. IAMB
3. ENDOSCOPIC
4. EAGLEWOOD
5. TEEPEE
6. WYCLEF

eetc...
Related: Pub quizzes

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Answer</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. This Grammy-winning Irish singer lives in a castle with a panic room.</td>
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etc...

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   - IAMB
   - ENDOSCOPIC
   - EAGLEWOOD
   - TEEPEE
   - WYCLEF

2. Another word for Shakespeare’s foot?

   “Answer extraction”

   etc...
The Obligatory Wordsearch:

SS EXIT L TUAMER
TIEACLHATOTNI
RRPI BTD BISAC
ENSKIAAEDTRIN
ETICEESERALFG
DTCREXRSFICY
IOGAI OFKCTPL
UDOMNSBEWAOAB
AB SUGGEEDBLRM
LLSTIONS COPEN
CEIEEEOTHHAS
SRPMSBEEYLMUS
TELOIVARTLUTA
The Obligatory Wordsearch:

EXIT LTUAMER
TIE ACLHATONTI
RPDBISAC
ENSIAAEDTR
ETUCEESERAF
DTCREXRSFIC
IOGAIKFTCL
UDOMSBWAO
ABSLUGGEDEDBLM
LLSTIONSOCPE
CEIETORTHHAS
SRPMSBEELYLMUS
TELIOIVARTLUTA
The Obligatory Wordsearch:

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

by Dan Gulotta, Charles Steinhardt, Lilly Chin, Alex Mun, and Jonathan Tidor
The Obligatory Wordsearch:

EXIT ROW
GRAPPLING HOOK
SUGGESTION BOX
STORY ARC
ULTRAVIOLET RAY

by Dan Gulotta, Charles Steinhardt, Lilly Chin, Alex Mun, and Jonathan Tidor
Cryptics seem crazy, but they have rules.

1. Every clue has a cryptic half and a crossword half.

2. The cryptic wordplay types repeat: anagrams, CHAR+ADES, con(taine)rs, puns, etc.
ARE THERE ANY RULES?

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Habits to follow: Introduction to Puzzle Hunts (6)

“Habits” are ROBES
introduction to “puzzle” is P
ROBES to follow P = PROBES = hunts
ARE THERE ANY RULES?

* Sort lists
* Take acrostics
* Look for patterns
* Make connections
* What information have I not used?
Are there any rules?

- Sort lists
- Take acrostics
- Look for patterns
- Make connections
- What information have I not used?

- Apply standard codes (Morse, Braille, semaphore...)
- Look for recursive patterns
- Look for puns
Meta puzzles

BOOKWORM
COCOON
COSPONSORS
ENTICING
ENUMERATE
MEDLEY
OCTOPOD
PINHEAD
SUBSTITUTE
TORCHWOOD
Meta puzzles

BOOKWORM
COCOON
COSPONSORS
ENTICING
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TORCHWOOD
PINHEAD
SUBSTITUTE
SUBSTITUTE
Meta puzzles

BOOKWORM  COCOON  COSPONSORS
ENTICING  OCTOPOD  TORCHWOOD
MEDLEY  ENUMERATE

COCOON  MEDLEY
OCTOPOD  PINHEAD
BOOKWORM  ENTICING
MEDLEY  ENUMERATE
TORCHWOOD  ENUMERATE
COSPONSORS  SUBSTITUTE
SUBSTITUTE  SUBSTITUTE
### Meta puzzles

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Meta puzzles

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COSPONSORS
SUBSTITUTE
SUBSTITUTE

ELEPHANT IN A TUTU!
Puzzles can get crazy

None of us know Greek, one of us knows English, and the two of us know Russian, but we still can’t understand this message.

ЭЛАВНРНХЭЮТИЮВБГХЙКЗМСХ

ВЁВХИР

ВРХИДКДГСТЗЮВЕВЕМВЭРКЯ

ВΨΡΙХЮΣΗΤ

ЁКДТХΥГУКΒΕΡΤΕ

ЮΛΙΧΠΓΗΥГЈΡΠΒΨΡΥΣΕΒΗΤСДЕΕΗΡΤΕΒΣКΣΑΡУΙΒЮЁД
None of us know Greek, one of us knows English, and the two of us know Russian, but we still can’t understand this message.

ΕΛΑΒΝΡΗΝΧΞΥΤΙΟΒΥΒΓΗΧЙΚΖΜΣΧ

ΒΞΒΧΙΡ

ΒΡΧΙΔΚΓΣΤΞΙΟΒΞΕΒΕΣΜΒΣΡΚЯ

ΒΥΡΙΧΙΟΣΗΤ

ЁКДТΧЧГУКΒΞΡΗТЕ

ЮΛΙΧПГНУГЖРПВΒΡΙΟΣΞΕΒΗΤΣΔΕΕΗΡΞΤΞΒΣΚΣΑΡΙΒΙЮЁД

Greek: 0
English: 1
Russian: 2
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Greek: 0

ΒΞΒΧΗΡ

English: 1

ΒΡΧΙΚΟΓΣΤΖΙΟΒΕΩΕΜΒΞΡΚЯ

Russian: 2

ΒΨΡΙΧΞΣΗΤ

ΣΕΡΕΑΡΕΒΕ ΒΥΣΒΑНΗ ΒΣΕΒΞΡΞ ΒΣΕΒΞΡΚЯ

Separate by alphabet and shift simultaneously

ёкдтчгьуквээрте

ΛЮИХПГНУГЗРПВВРЮСЭВНТСДЕНЭРТЕВСКСАРУИВЮЭД
Puzzles can get crazy

ΛΒΞΥΒΓΚΜΒΞΒΡΚΤΒΞΒΕΜΚΒΥΣΚΤΥΚΒΞΤΑΠΓΠΡΣΒΗΞΚΛΒ
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ЭРНЮЙЗХВХИГЮЭРЯЮЁХЬРЭЮЖЮЭЄÊТВСЮЁ
Puzzles can get crazy

"SHIFT": Caesar shift
e.g., +5: a -> f, b -> g, c -> h, ...

by Yasha Berchenko-Kogan
Puzzles can get crazy

“SHIFT”: Caesar shift
e.g., +5: a -> f, b -> g, c -> h, ...

+23: ΚΑΝΤΑΒΙΛΑΝΑΠΙΣΑΝΑΔΛΙΑΧΡΙΣΤΙΑΝΣΚΟΒΟΠΡΑΖΔΝΙΚΑ
+11: ΛΥΣΙΕΙΝΑΙΤΟΟΝΟΜΑΤΙΣΕΟΡΤΙΣΓΡΑΜΜΕΝΟΣΑΝΑΦΤΟ
+11: ЗЫШИФТАМАУНТИЗЗЫЙИРАВЗЫПИСИЗПРЭМЬИР

ΛΒΞΥΒΓΚΜΒΞΒΡΚΤΒΞΒΕΜΚΒΥΣΚΤΥΚΒΞΤΑΠΓΠΡΣΒΗΞΚΛΒ
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ΕΡΗΙΓΧΒΧΓΖΙΩΠΕΡΡΑΙΩΧΓΡΕΙΟΞΕΕΤΒΣΙΩ

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"SHIFT": Caesar shift
e.g., +5: a -> f, b -> g, c -> h, ...

These shifts "sound" better

+23: KANTATABILANAPISANADLIAKRISTIANSKOBOPORAZNIKA
+11: LYSIEINAITOONOMATISEORTISGRAMMENOSANAFTO
+11: ЫШИФТАМАУНТИЗЫЙИРАВЫПИСИЗПРЭМЫИР

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ΛΒΞΥΒΓΚΜΒΞΒΡΚΤΒΞΒΕΜΚΒΥΣΚΤΥΚΒΞΤΑΠΓΠΡΣΒΗΞΚΛΒ
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ЭРНЙЙЗХВХИГЗЮЭРЯЮЁХЧЭРЮЖЮЭЮЭЕТВСЮ

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+11: ЗЫШИФТАМАУНТИЗЗЫЙИРАВЗЫПИСИЗПРЭМЫИΡ

(these shifts “sound” better)

...they transliterate each other!

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ЭРНЮЙ3ХВХИГЗЮЭРЯЮЁХЭРЮЖЮЭГЮЭТБСЮ

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+23: КАНАТАБИЛАНАПИСАНАДЛАИАХРИСТИАНСКОЙОПРАЗДНИКА
+11: ΛΥΣΗΕΙΝΑΙΤΟΟΝΟΜΑΤΙΣΕΟΡΤΙΣΓΡΑΜΜΕΝΟΣΑΝΑΦΤΟ
+11: ЗЫШИФТАМАУНТИЗЗЫЙИРАЗЫПИСИЗПРЭМЬИР

(theses shifts “sound” better)

...they transliterate each other!

КАНАТА БЫЛА НАПИСАНА ДЛЯ ХРИСТИАНСКОГО ПРАЗДНИКА
ΛΥΣΗ ΕΙΝΑΙ ΤΟ ΟΝΟΜΑ ΤΗΣ ΕΟΡΤΗΣ ΓΡΑΜΜΕΝΟ ΣΑΝ ΑΥΤΟ
THE SHIFT AMOUNT IS THE YEAR OF THE PIECE’S PREMIERE

by Yasha Berchenko-Kogan
A cantata was written for a Christian holiday. Solution is the name of the feast written like this. [In Latin] The shift amount is the year of the piece's premiere.
Puzzles can get crazy

ΛΒΞΥΒΓΚΜΒΞΒΡΚΤΒΞΒΕΜΚΒΥΣΚΤΥΚΒΞΑΤΑΠΓΠΡΣΒΗΞΚΛΒ
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ЭРНЮЙЗБХИГЗЮЭРЯЮЁХЧЭРЕЮЖЮЭЕЁТВСЮ

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+23: ΚΑΝΤΑΤΑΒΙΛΑΝΑΠΙΣΑΝΑΔΛΙΑΧΡΙΣΤΙΑΝΣΚΟΒΟΠΡΑΖΔΝΙΚΑ
+11: ΛΥΣΙΕΙΝΑΙΤΟΟΝΟΜΑΤΙΣΕΟΡΤΙΣΓΡΑΜΜΕΝΟΣΑΝΑΦΤΟ
+11: ЗЫШИФТАМАУНТИЗЗЫЙИРАВЗЫПИСИЗПРЭМЫИР

...they transliterate each other!

ΚΑΝΤΑΤΑ ΒΥΛΑ ΝΑΠΙΣΑΝΑ ΓΙΑ ΧΡΙΣΤΙΑΝΣΚΟ ΠΡΑΖΔΝΙΚΑ
ΛΥΣΗ ΕΙΝΑΙ ΤΟ ΟΝΟΜΑ ΤΗΣ ΕΟΡΤΗΣ ΓΡΑΜΜΕΝΟ ΣΑΝ ΑΥΤΟ
THE SHIFT AMOUNT IS THE YEAR OF THE PIECE’S PREMIERE

A cantata was written for a Christian holiday.
Solution is the name of the feast written like this. [In Latin]
The shift amount is the year of the piece's premiere.

1727 is 23 mod 24, 11 mod 26, 11 mod 33
Puzzles can get crazy

“SHIFT”: Caesar shift

\[ e.g., +5: a \rightarrow f, b \rightarrow g, c \rightarrow h, \ldots \]

+23: \textit{ΚΑΝΤΑΤΑΒΙΛΑΝΑΠΙΣΑΝΑΔΛΙΑΧΡΙΣΤΙΑΝΣΚΟΒΟΠΡΑΖΔΝΙΚΑ}

+11: \textit{ΛΥΣΗΕΙΝΑΙΤΟΟΝΟΜΑΤΙΣΕΟΡΤΙΣΓΡΑΜΜΕΝΟΣΑΝΑΦΣΤΟ}

+11: \textit{ЗЫШИФТАМАУНТИЗЗЫЙИРАВЗЫПИЗИЗСПРЭМЬИР}

...they transliterate each other!

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"Ich Habe Genug", by Bach, premiered in 1727

Greek name: HYPAPANTE
Hunts

* MIT Mystery Hunt: 100+ puzzles, large teams, 2–3 days to solve

* Lots of smaller hunts in North America (puzzlehuntcalendar.com)

* Nice tradition in Australia (MUMS, SUMS, CISRA)

* Internet-based / crowd-funded hunts: Puzzazz, “Unique Puzzles for a YEAR”
I’m running a puzzle hunt!


Starts at UCL

10am to 5pm

Register online by this weekend:
playdash.org

Thanks!