

Adalogical Ænigmas

No. 18

Gentle patron,

In my life-long study of those around me, I have oft observed that people are least *comfortable* in the presence of others whom they perceive as *different* from themselves. Generally speaking, our species tends to gather into groups defined by similarity. This appears to be true both at an interpersonal level and at the scale of whole *nations*.

I've created the ænigma that follows to explore these ideas.

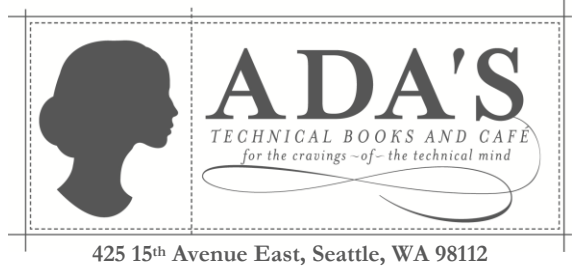
In the grid below, you should eventually enter a number into *every* square that does not already contain one. Please also partition the grid into *regions*, such that all of the numbers in each region are *equal*, and so that the *size* of that region is also equal to its contained numbers. For example, a region of size three will contain only threes.

You may think of each region as a *private* area, only for the use of its particular *kind* of number, much as people seem to enjoy congregating only with those of like mind. However, just as human groupings cannot grow without bound, so it is with our numbers: no two regions containing the *same* number may directly *abut* each other along a square edge. (It is acceptable for such regions to touch diagonally.)

Once you've completed the grid, you can move on to finding the final answer to my ænigma. Pray sum the numbers that appear in the *shaded* squares in each column, and advance the letter below that column forward in the alphabet by that sum (wrapping around from Z to A if necessary). Reading the resulting letters in order will reveal a clue to your final answer.

Good luck!

Ada



Example

6						6
	1	3		3	3	
	2				6	
			1			
	2				2	
	4	3		4	6	
3						1
P	F	U	R	O	T	V

↓

6						6
	1	3		3	3	
	2				6	
			1			
	2				2	
3	4	3		4	6	
3						1
P	F	U	R	O	T	V

6	3	3	6	6	6	6
6	1	3	6	3	3	3
6	2	2	6	4	6	6
6	6	6	1	4	2	6
3	2	2	3	4	2	6
3	4	3	3	4	6	6
3	4	4	4	2	2	1
P	F	U	R	O	T	V
+ 15 8 8 20 12 2 9						
E N C L A V E						

Answer:
ENCLAVE

Need assistance with Ada's ænigma? Hints and other help are available at <www.pavelspuzzles.com/adas/18>

	6	2						6						4	4	
3		6			1	4		6			5	6			4	4
	4		6	5		3		7		4			4		5	4
3		5			3	4				4			3	5		4
								2								
	2	2	6			2	4	2			5	6	1		1	5
	1	3	1			2	1	7			4	6	6		2	4
										2						
1		3			5	5				3			6	1		3
	7		1	5		1			2		5		2		4	4
7		3				2	4			4			2	3		6
	4		5							2						3
A	P	P	C	I	C	Q	W	Q	C	Y	L	E	F	B	G	D

Fill in your answer and give to a cashier for your prize.

This month's prize: **one free non-alcoholic drink!**

(Limit one per solver. Offer available through 4/30/2015.)

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