

Adalogical Ænigmas

No. 5

Gentle patron,

Whilst perusing the despatches from the recently concluded Olympic competitions, I was most struck by the descriptions of the sport of *slalom skiing*. The very idea of racing *pell-mell*, twisting and turning, on a tear through such *extremely* narrow gates? Well, it *quite* took my breath away, and thereby provided the inspiration for this ænigma.

The circled number marks both the start and finish point for your slalom course; the number itself simply counts how many gates there are for you to pass through. The dotted lines are the gates; your route must pass through every gate exactly *once*, in strict numerical order. (Only *some* of the gates are labelled with their numbers, however, at one or both ends of the gate; the rest of the labels are for you to discover.)

Your route may not cross over or even *touch* itself, and it must never *turn* while passing through a gate. I advise you to ignore the letters and arrows on the gates whilst running the course.

Once you've completed your slalom run, you can move on to finding the final answer to my ænigma. Retrace your skiing route, going through the gates in *ascending* order. At each gate, collect the letter associated with an arrow showing the direction of your passage.

Shift that letter *forward* in the alphabet by the number of the gate to derive a new letter (wrapping around from Z to A if necessary). Be so good as to read those *derived* letters, in order, and they should yield a clue to your final answer.

Good luck!

Ada

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Example

$B + 1 = C$
 $Y + 2 = A$
 $C + 3 = F$
 $A + 4 = E$

Answer: CAFE

Need assistance with Ada's ænigma? Hints and other help are available at <www.pavelspuzzles.com/adas/5>

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 3/31/2014.)
