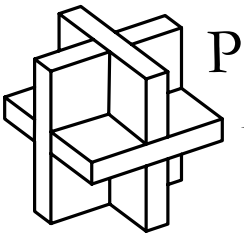
Adalogical Ænigmas

No. 55



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Gentle solver,

I fear we find ourselves in a contentious and *polarised* age, wherein we, all of us, too oft stake out positions, dig in our metaphorical heels, and then bewail the *intransigence* of our fellows. Whence has fled our ability to empathise, to see things from other perspectives, and to seek out common ground?

With this ænigma, I hope in some small part to draw attention to our ironically *shared* plight.

In the grid below, I pray you will partition the area into *regions* along the grid lines. Within every region thus created, you must arrange that there reside exactly *two* of the given numbers. In the spirit of reconciliation, please also ensure that the size of each region lies strictly *between* its two contained numbers.

Once you have completed your partitioning, you may move on to finding the final answer to my ænigma. In each region, identify those squares that do *not* lie on the shortest path between the two numbers; these squares represent *creative thinking*, outside our normal bounds of consideration. For each such square, advance its letter in the alphabet (wrapping around from Z to A as necessary) by the total size of its region. Reading those letters in left-to-right, top-to-bottom order will reveal a clue to your final answer.

Good luck!

Ada

Example

I	3	4	5	6	7	W
1	L	M	C	F	W	8
M	13	V	H	W	9	H
I	Z	12	H	10	L	J
L	B	H	11	M	Z	C
G	X	F	B	W	V	Y
10	E	8	L	6	W	4

I	3	4	5	6	7	W
1	L	M	C	F	W	8
M	13	V	H	W	9	H
I	Z	12	H	10	L	J
L	B	H	11	M	Z	C
G	X	F	B	W	V	Y
10	E	8	L	6	W	4

I	3	4	5	6	7	W
1	L	M	C	F	W	8
M	13	V	H	W	9	H
I	Z	12	H	10	L	J
L	B	H	11	M	Z	C
G	X	F	B	W	V	Y
10	E	8	L	6	W	4

I + 4 = M
W + 8 = E
Z + 5 = E
L + 8 = T
B + 7 = I
H + 6 = N
M + 7 = T
Z + 8 = H

X + 7 = E
F + 7 = M
B + 7 = I
W + 7 = D
V + 8 = D
E + 7 = L
W + 8 = E

Answer:
MEET IN
THE MIDDLE

Need assistance with Ada's ænigma? Hints and other help are available at *www.pavelspuzzles.com/aenigmas/55*

T	Z	14	7	V	W	K	J	W	4	J	3	W	Y	G	W	Y	7	6	Z	F
U	15	K	T	6	16	D	L	S	J	2	J	G	A	X	5	4	C	M	7	G
A	10	W	I	G	Z	15	K	J	Y	J	K	J	N	6	H	P	V	X	7	Y
I	J	10	D	A	Q	7	A	E	G	Q	F	S	F	7	G	Y	U	7	G	F
I	L	Z	P	9	D	S	9	11	G	6	L	6	7	O	D	5	N	Q	J	A
2	5	V	L	A	8	X	P	X	6	G	9	L	Y	M	10	E	K	U	9	8
3	4	D	R	E	3	J	Y	U	11	F	7	E	I	C	5	C	F	S	10	11
O	Z	T	Z	6	U	Y	11	11	G	11	W	3	5	T	W	5	K	N	V	V
Y	W	5	E	U	W	11	M	Q	T	K	F	W	X	9	C	L	V	8	V	Q
W	5	V	I	Y	N	4	F	W	V	W	U	U	E	9	I	S	I	H	13	V
I	6	M	Z	5	5	I	C	E	K	4	N	Y	Y	F	3	6	Q	A	14	Z
G	G	7	4	S	Y	D	A	E	3	R	1	G	N	G	R	F	12	13	T	K

Send your answer to *aenigma@pavelspuzzles.com* by 5/31/2018: you'll earn a **10% discount** at Pavel's Puzzles and could win a **free physical puzzle**! Details at *www.pavelspuzzles.com/aenigmas/55*.

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