Adalogical Ænigmas No. 94 of 100

Gentle solver,

How strange and wonderful are human beings! I learnt recently of a tradition hitherto unknown to me: as I hear it, some cultures deem it most unlucky to lie down to sleep with one's head being to the *north* of one's feet! Upon gaining this intelligence, I was *instantly* struck with the inspiration for the ænigma that follows.

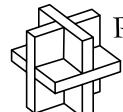
The grid below is a map (with north up, as usual) of a room in which a group of Japanese school children are to sleep. Each child requires a *futon*, represented as a 1×2 rectangle with a *pillow* at one end. In accordance with tradition, no futon may be oriented such that the pillow is at the *north* end. Winding and branching amongst the arrayed futons is a single *aisle*, represented as a connected set of blackened squares.

Circles represent *pillars*: no futon may overlap one, and the aisle mayn't pass through one. A *number* on a pillar specifies exactly how many futon pillows are horizontally or vertically *adjacent* to it.

Pray ensure that every non-pillar grid square is used by either a futon or the aisle, that every futon is adjacent to the aisle, and that no 2×2 area is wholly included within the aisle.

Once you have completed your arrangement, you may move on to finding the final answer to my ænigma. In each grid square containing a pillow, advance its letter in the alphabet (wrapping around from Z to A if necessary) by the number of aisle squares abutting its futon. Reading the resulting letters in left-to-right, top-to-bottom order will reveal a clue to your final answer.

Good luck!

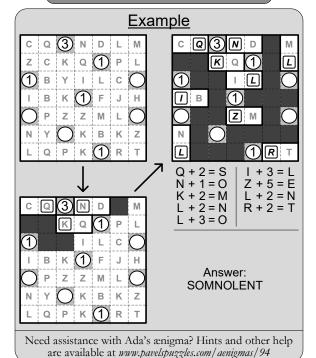


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 \bigcirc 2 D P J S Н Ν Α M G Ν R P D S G L (1)3 (4)P G В J L C В P D S Q Н G В K Н 2 3 C C В C K P C Т D S Ν D R D L В S A 3 M S U P G В F S P D R D C C L L R Q G J \bigcirc 3 C P $\mathbf{1}$ G Р 1 F P C D 0 Ν V В C K K R A \Im 2 2 C C R L В Z Ν M M P J В L S Q R D В 3 1 1 L Q P Е Z Q F S W Y C K В Q K В A K 2 2 ı F S P Ν U D M C C M G В S J J 1) S R R J M U C I Ε K U Q В В P F G K P 2 \Im 2 Α Y В D C Ν P L K L R Ν R F P C K C 2 2 \mathfrak{Z} Р C G W D V Y C L P A K L Н S U (0)C 2 G В 1` Z 0 R Ν M Q Ν R

Ata

Send your answer to aenigma@pavelspuzzles.com by 8/31/2021: you'll earn a 10% discount at Pavel's Puzzles and could win a free physical puzzle! Details at www.pavelspuzzles.com/aenigmas/94.