

Suggestion: Create A New Mascot

One that captures our company's deep and ancient traditions? That's almost music to my ears...

We're striping up in the corner
Can't change the teeth in me, I tried to warn her
But you can't blame the kittens for what they're born into
Still it just makes me sick, to take a bite of you
Another stupid magician, let's just make up the rules
As we go along, makes us so dumb we purr
And man, I hate when they fool me with those back-of-the-head masks

There ain't no rest for the tattlers
Blabbin' don't grow on trees
I got bills to pay, I got mice to feed
And I sure want a tasty piece of cheese
I know I can't slow down, I can't scurry back
Though you know, I squeak, I could
No there ain't no rest for the tattlers
Until we close our holes for good

You're gonna go to the record sty
You're gonna give them all your slop
I wallow in mud and I grunt all day
They tell me it's ham, I just don't believe it

I was following the pack, all galloping in their coats
With reins of red tied around their throats
The derby complete, someone gave me some oats

Something in the way she never bleats my way
I'm in love, I'm in mohair
You may question me but eating trash is okay
I'm in love, I'm in mohair
But people say we're bearded the same

Well, we scheme and we sniff but we always blow it
We've yet to bark, but we still might as well enjoy it
Standing at a light leash to each east and west horizon
When the mailman comes, it's a significant crisis
See, it wasn't quite as canine as...

With a purposeful comb and a terrible sound
He pulls the barnyard high-tension wires down
Helpless hens on subway trains
Scream, bug-eyed, as he crows on at them
He wakes up the farmer so the eggs can be found
As he clucks through the buildings toward the center of town

I never realized I was scaled too thin
Till it was too late and I was toothless within
Adventurers came, not a one scored a win
Firebreathing spiral, where do I begin
It all started when I lost my treasure

People mimic attentively
I mean about baboon calamity
I used to think the climbing was obsolete
Until I heard the old man swinging his feet
When the scientists capture you, you're not free
Shock is applied to the body
Teeth are extruded and brains are ground
Then baked into bananas which are passed around

And half an hour later, we packed up our ears
We said we'd send carrots and all those little things
And they knew we were lying but they hopped just the same
Then my dear Uncle Wiggily let us play with his game

All I wanna do is have my venom erased
I'm begging you, pleading you, stop constricting us all
Rattle company, where's a pill for me?
It reads poison eraser, no chaser (in bright lights)
On permanent leave of warmbloodedness
New age slither on a karma collision
Excuse me if I molt

What a strong achievement it was
To find someone who pulls such little self-restraint
I'm a nonbeliever but I believe in these dirty little bovine games
Yokes and ladders abandoned here, love
My horns are long but there's not much down below
I'm only here because I feel the cart deserves a truly sordid end

Suggestion: Cut Back On Travel Costs

I suppose it would save money if everyone didn't fly their own planes to work.

You're taking the company jet to a board meeting, and it looks like you're running pretty late. That introduces two major difficulties: You'll need to take a shortcut through a network of dangerous caverns, and since you have a PowerPoint presentation to finish, you'll have to do it on autopilot.

The onboard computer has five program slots. Once you've loaded the five programs below in an order of your choice, they will run sequentially in that order, over and over again until either (a) you escape the caverns through one of the exits on the right or (b) the autopilot moves the plane forward through a wall, causing you to crash the jet, possibly perish, and worst of all, miss the big meeting.

Program A: Turn 90 degrees to the right.

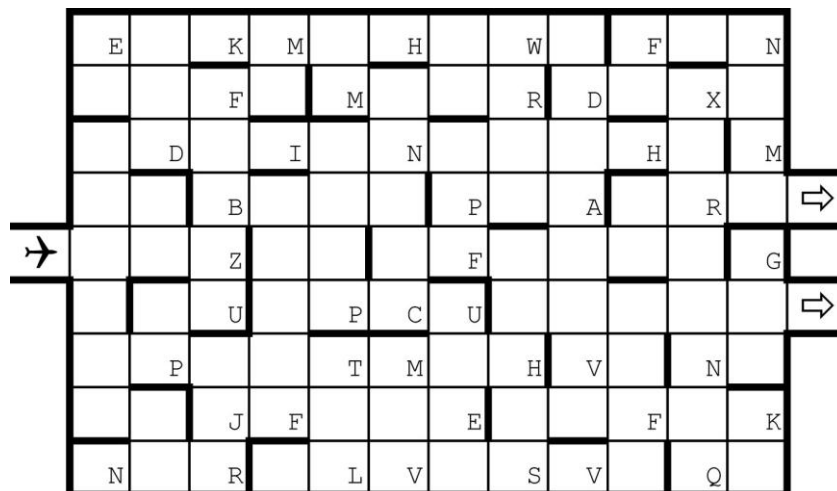
Program B: Turn 90 degrees to the left. If, after doing this, there is a wall immediately in front of you, then turn 90 degrees to the left again; continue turning until you are no longer facing a wall.

(NOTE: PROGRAM B CONTAINS A SELF-DEACTIVATION FEATURE; AFTER IT RUNS THREE TIMES, IT WILL BE SKIPPED IN ALL SUBSEQUENT PROGRAM CYCLES!)

Program C: Move forward two spaces. If after doing this, there is a wall immediately in front of you, then turn 90 degrees to the left. [DMBNCD KDSSDQR SGTRKX]

Program D: Move forward one space. If, after doing this, there is no wall immediately to your right, then turn 90 degrees to the right and move forward one space. [RAPBQR YRGGREF GUHFYL]

Program E: Move forward (at least one space) until there is a wall immediately in front of you. If, in doing so, you have moved at least three spaces, move forward one additional space forward through the wall. This does not cause you to crash. [VMXLWV OVGGVIH GSFHOB]



Suggestion: Expand Our Product Line

Our sales have been in the red for a while, but I think these new varieties will make history.

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JOSEPH
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EVANS
VIVID
SINGS

GENDERS
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HAMLET
MAN
PUNCH
1969
5
SALT

HORROR

WILD
PARK

KETTLE

REMIX

MYSTICA

OF
CLUB
IN

WHITE

KETCHUP

LECHE

FUSION

OF

JAM

FILM
ORCHARD
VISION

BRIGHT
OF
CODEFENDANT

NAME

LAST

FRENCHMAN

MUSICIAN

TEAM

BEARDED
TEAM

BROOKS
KENNETH

OF

CREAMY

ENGINE

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MAYAN
A
FROM

CHOC

PLAYS

ABOUT

REMAKE

DIFFERENT

HOOK

CORN

ARUBA

LIVES

PEACH

DEFENSE

HINT

SNAPS

REGION

THE
HONEY
BREED

SPLASH

EGO

THE

POP
YOGURT

CRIMSON

THAT
SERIES

NAME
OF

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26

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WHOSE

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MOVIE

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9/10
16/17
8/15

Suggestion: Invest in Real Estate

Really? That's a pretty volatile market... it's hard to be sure exactly what a parcel of land is actually worth.

The large rectangle on the next page represents a large tract of land; your task is to subdivide it into smaller rectangles. Every cell in the grid, including the black squares, must be contained in exactly one rectangle, and every rectangle should contain exactly one black square. The number in this black square indicates the total value of the corresponding rectangle.

Most cells, including black squares, have a value of 1. However, each of the eighteen 3x3 patches below the grid, which represent real estate improvements, should also be placed into the grid. These patches will change the value of certain squares to the numbers on the patch; for example, wherever the first patch is placed in the grid, the lower-right square of that patch will have a value of 12 instead of 1. The patches may not overlap black squares, and they may not overlap each other.

The letters in the grid and the flags on the patches may be ignored during the subdividing process.

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| T | O | 14 | S | A | N | D | B | L | A | S | T | E | D | 11 | F | I | G | 50 | P | L | A | C | E |
| C | O | U | N | T | R | Y | 36 | C | I | R | C | U | M | N | A | V | I | G | A | T | I | O | N |
| 13 | I | N | S | P | I | R | I | N | G | 6 | 42 | P | R | E | D | I | C | A | M | E | N | T | S |
| M | E | T | H | O | D | I | C | A | L | 20 | 5 | M | E | 9 | S | E | E | S | A | W | 20 | O | R |
| 19 | D | O | 35 | U | P | 28 | H | O | S | P | I | T | A | L | I | T | Y | 29 | C | L | A | S | P |
| M | I | X | T | U | R | E | 6 | W | H | A | T | C | H | A | M | A | C | A | L | L | I | T | S |
| P | O | I | S | O | N | O | U | S | 13 | D | I | S | S | O | L | V | E | D | 30 | P | A | N | G |
| S | N | I | C | K | E | R | I | N | G | 5 | A | X | 23 | B | U | D | 27 | Z | I | T | H | E | R |
| J | U | G | 22 | E | L | K | 10 | F | O | L | K | 2 | G | O | 3 | A | 6 | B | Y | 6 | I | F | 21 |
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Suggestion: Network With Interesting Characters

Don't take this lightly! There's a lot we can take away from our friends in exotic far-away lands.



1



6



5



1



4



4



3 (2 wds)



7



2



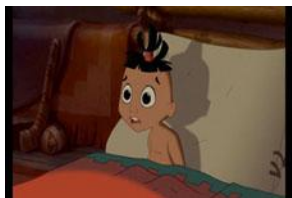
1



1



4 (2 wds)



3



3



2



4 (last name)



2



1



4



3



4



5



3



4



5 (2 wds)



1



5 (2 wds)



2



8



2



2



8



3



2



4



3 (2 wds)



1 (2 wds)



4



4



3



5



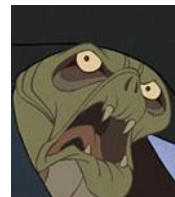
6



3



4



2 (2 wds)



1 (2 wds)



3



5



2



5



2



2 (2 wds)



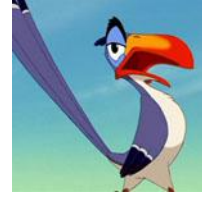
6



4



4



1



2



1



5



4



4



5



2 (3 wds)



4



3



3



2



4 (2 wds)



5



2



2



6

Suggestion: Reassess Our Healthcare Plan

What could operate more perfectly than the one we have now? Something pops out, you stick it back in, all better. What is this, some kind of game to you?

[Note: The answer to this puzzle is fourteen letters long.]

A => U: 3

B => D: 9

B => G: 1

B => Z: 4

H => P: 4

O => A: 7

P => M: 6

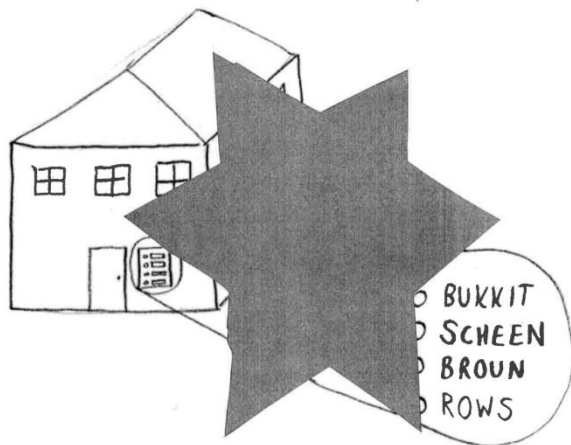
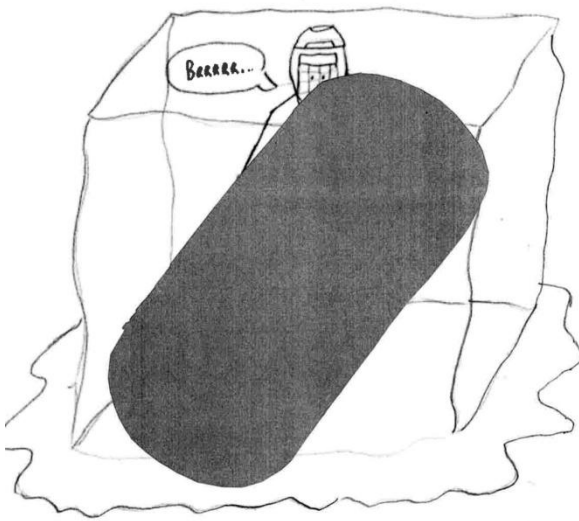
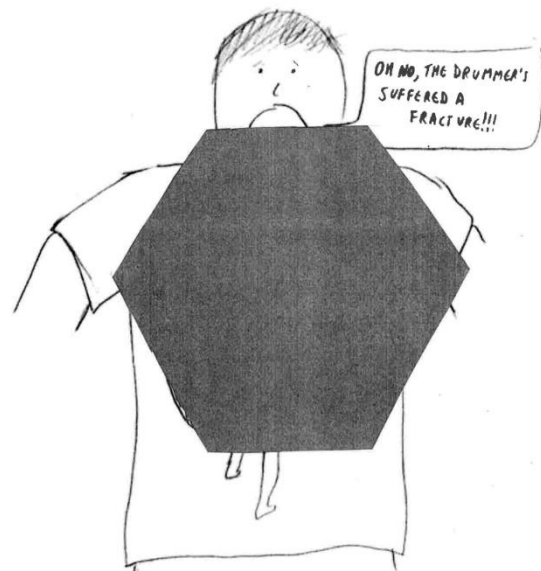
R => B: 2

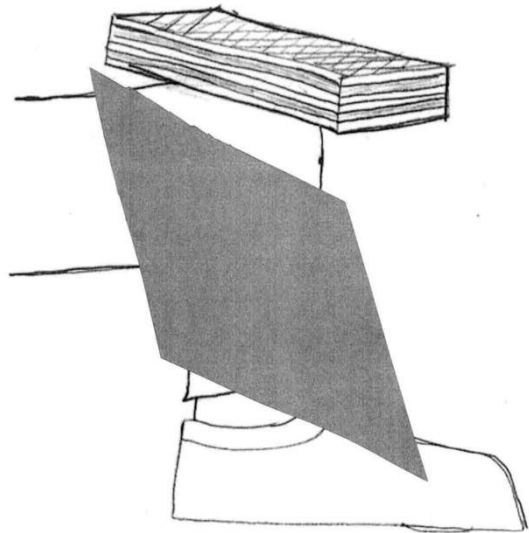
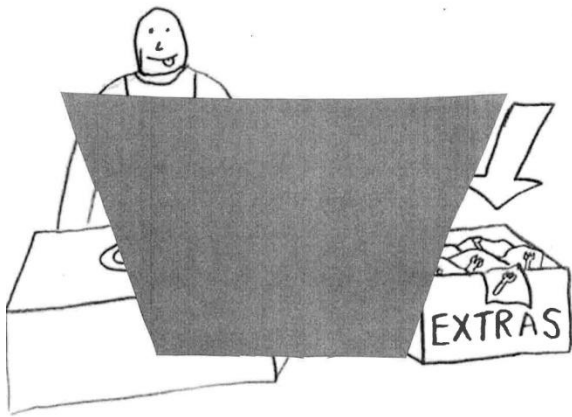
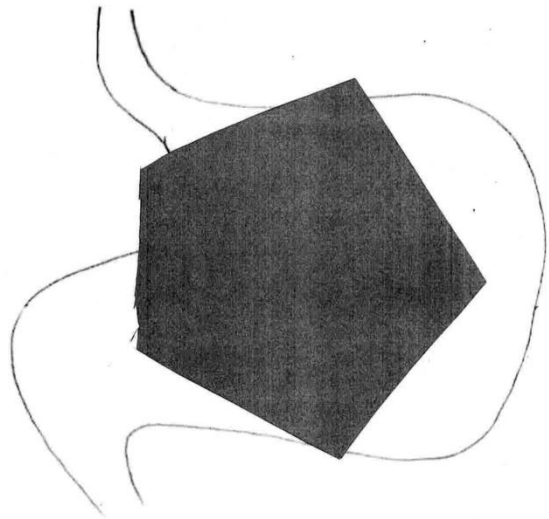
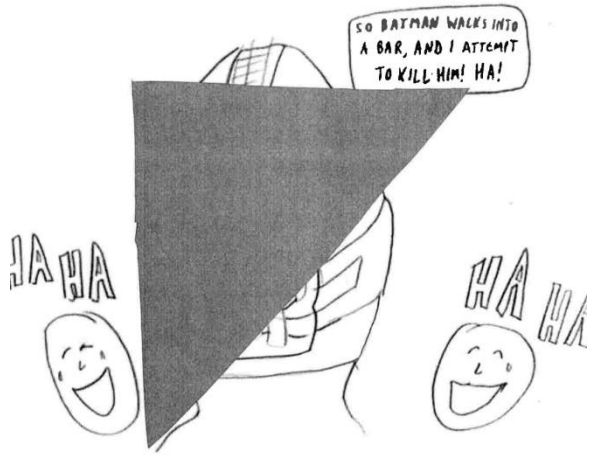
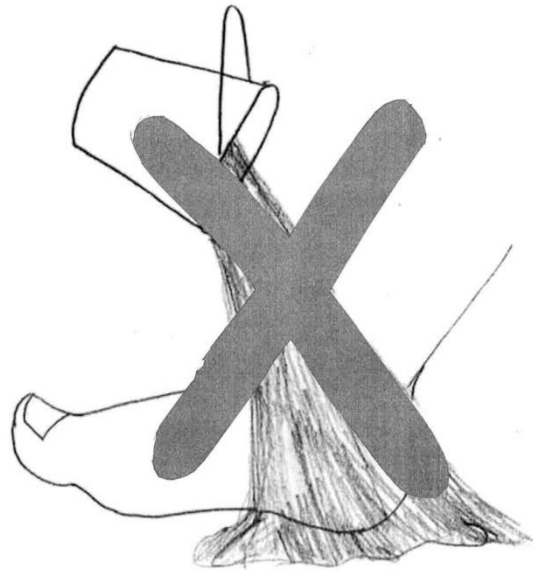
R => L: 6

R => U: 5

T => F: 2

W => D: 3





Suggestion: Reorganize Management

It's hard enough to find competent executives, much less executives with anything in common.

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- Edge of a fedora (4)
- Ingress (5)
- Toronto's prov. (3)
- You get six of them for a TD (3)
- Direct a vehicle (5)
- Autocrats (5)
- Hairstyles for prom, perhaps (5)
- Convenience store where Mitt Romney had a hoagie (4)
- Own up to (5)
- Bulls and rams (3)
- Snack for a kid in art class? (5)
- Horrible cult movie, with *The* (4)
- Dionysian companion (5)
- Reject the advances of (5)
- Ukr. Or Uzbek., formerly (3)
- *Wreck-It Ralph* racer (5)
- Word 4 from Line 12 of Sonnet 28 (5)
- Have a yen for (4)

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- *Paradise Lost* author (6)
- Intricate and showy (6)
- Spanish word for "bear" (3)
- Opposite of FF on a remote (3)
- Dove for third (4)
- Afflictions avoided by abstinence (4)
- Trump casino, familiarly (3)
- Joyful interjection (3)
- Regarding (4, 2 wds)
- Credit alternative (5)
- Things (5)
- Recipient of a breakup letter? (4)
- Connected computers (3)
- Long in the tooth (3)
- Grand Ole ____ (4)
- Large flightless bird (4)
- Blanketed in white (5)
- Chauvinistic term of address (5)

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- Letter before the last clue answer (3)
- Board game that ends when a meteor strikes (3)
- Demon (5)
- Have as a plan (6)
- Noted moocher (6)
- Their HQ is near Stockholm (3)
- Celery unit (5)
- Letter after the first clue answer (3)
- French word paired with “garde” (5)
- Removes, as a proofreader would (5)
- On the mother’s side (5)
- Discover (4)
- “Product” (3)
- “Ltd.” alternative (3)
- Animal that might become a stole (4)
- Son of Marty and uncle of Frederick (5)
- Trailers with no front axles (5)
- In a way, slangily (5)

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- Mimics (4)
- Woody’s son (4)
- Music video featuring four Alanis Morissettes (6)
- Tennis do-overs (4)
- Armor made of chain or plate (4)
- The Speed Wagon and others (4)
- Tyler or Spielberg (6)
- Ingredient scraped off a lemon (4)
- Famous cookie maker (4)
- Corporation head honcho (3)
- “_____ la vie!” (4)
- Places for triage (3)
- Reduces swelling, perhaps (4)
- Legal property claims (5)
- Inmate indefinitely (5)
- Dark shade of green (5)
- Huck Finn’s conveyance (4)
- Umbridge replacement (5)
- 8 on the Mohs scale (5)

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- Amount of life experience (3)
- Illinois's "Lovable Losers," familiarly (7)
- Weak enemy in *Arkham Horror* (7)
- Geisha's sash (3)
- Demonstrates exhaustion (5)
- One who spills the beans (3)
- Duran Duran hit with a sax solo (3)
- Arizona State city (5)
- Assist in a heist (4)
- Approximately (5)
- 24-hr. cash source (3)
- Bit of video brought to a talk show (4)
- *Community* network (3)
- Boxer's prize money (5)
- On-campus military org. (4)
- Commissioner Bud (5)
- Fruit used to infuse gin (4)
- Beauty queen's headgear (5)
- Prince, or *The Prince* (5)

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- Insect Chris Quinn (not Michael Ellis) wants to purchase (3)
- Leave early, slangily (4)
- Earlier than, poetically (3)
- U.S. agency depicted on *Bones* (3)
- Subject taught by the inventor of the game *Snood* (7)
- Croach the Tracker, e.g. (7)
- Xbox currency, for short (3)
- U.S. agency that funds theater (3)
- Breathlessly attentive (4)
- Bars on the back of the box? (3)
- Boy scout's goal (5)
- Ten times the unit Albert Mudrian's magazine is named for (3)
- Burial chamber (5)
- End of an Italian film? (3)
- Answer Ken Jennings gave instead of "rake" (3)
- Prefix with galactic (5)
- WWF fake attorney Clarence (5)
- Song of joyful praise (5)
- Burning Man locale (5)
- Extended attack on a city (5)
- Small child (3)
- Darkest region of a shadow (5)

Suggestion: Replace The Workforce

Seems like a good idea, but training new staff is time-consuming. Once a worker has begun their job, it's generally easier to have them keep going.

[Fair warning: Capitalization and punctuation in these clues may be intentionally deceptive.]

- A complete set of directions leads to right response
- Most rambling airport in Chi-town is initially in left half of country
- Sporting facial hair, Victor becomes 1000 without being surprised
- Wandering statement from a prong that complains verbosely?
- We uproot ground to provide more electricity

- A pit lord's dancing on three legs
- Beast of burden in fort breaking down technical dance
- Boston University companies securing "corn syrup for cowboys"
- Lacking ID, radical disturbs with explosions
- Nope, Ty replaced Eli's brother

- Action beginning in 3D, ending with year in PA
- Oddly, waifs jetset with the most learned
- Person from the Far East portraying Gandalf off camera
- Sea bordering Kazakhstan concealed by Sahara landscape
- Soft headwear is hot, in the nineties
- Waiter's implement is extremely French, we hear

- Any of five letters promise a way to get around Chicago
- Fighting hepatitis... losing cool... is gone
- Irate RN mangled features when describing land
- Left at the start, nominee was cut
- Spiritual raver's drug in that place with gore

- At most, Abe disassembled Mickey's first vessel
- Contemptible fool's beginning to invade, close to records of debt
- Get rid of animator's creation!
- Masculine criminal's usual routine includes German interjection
- Reeds jockeys pass over dinner?
- Revolutionary European designs that appear on a man's figure on Liberty Island

- Aunts panicked before military intelligence's disaster
 - Famous explorer's regular newspaper feature is cut off by proxy, overturned
 - Naval officer is worthy of respect, disregarding brittle exterior
 - Reportedly, dairy orders mineral
 - Two from New England attending Brown from New York borough
-
- Caught two times entering, gone crazy
 - Essentially, Homer takes mafia oath
 - Mean rite confused member of Cinderella's family
 - Page the author of *Man and Superman*? That'll be the day
 - Prudes and rams playing basketball in funny pants
-
- Close-range weapon director from Pearl Harbor appearing with Nancy O'Dell?
 - He guards the door from deranged magnate
 - Losing head (dummy), Mortimer is social misfit
 - Principled lunatic: "Halt, ice!"
 - Teeth possessed by mammoth university amidst sounds of disapproval
-
- Dispose of rocker, berry
 - Get the poison out of brief investigator with a hug and a kiss
 - Ground nuts encapsulating empty experience
 - Picked a time for giant Mel in sleigh
 - Two taverns ultimately sway African coast
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- Eighth Thalberg recipient scored victory, from the sound of it
 - European tennis player Martina's tased resident
 - Most roly-poly bear, witness after Friday
 - Raft ads void doomed combination of two equilateral triangles (3 wds)
 - Returning Shakespearean king is one thing associated with previous entry?

(6 5) → S B D C U →

(3 5) → N S I F G →

(3 5) → S E T A V →

(6 5) → B F T B P →

(5 5) → P G T O P →

(4 4) → C M T A Q →

(3 4.) → T E N G B →

(7 4) → W P A T A D →

(3 7...) → A I W O U →

(...3 7) → S S N S M C →

Suggestion: Take The Money And Run

Hmmm...

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|-----|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|-----|----|----|-----|-----|
| \$ | -1 | +6 | +0 | +6 | -7 | | | | | | | |
| \$ | +12 | -6 | -6 | -6 | +0 | +11 | | | | | | |
| \$ | +6 | -5 | -1 | +10 | +13 | +8 | -8 | | | | | |
| \$ | -1 | +4 | +1 | -4 | -11 | -8 | -1 | +8 | | | | |
| \$ | +0 | +6 | +0 | +1 | -3 | +1 | -8 | -10 | +6 | | | |
| \$ | +4 | -4 | -4 | +7 | -4 | -3 | -5 | +2 | +8 | +8 | | |
| \$ | +11 | -9 | -10 | +5 | -7 | +9 | -4 | -2 | -8 | -1 | -12 | |
| \$ | +6 | +6 | +8 | +7 | -8 | +7 | -1 | -6 | -5 | -3 | +4 | +13 |