

Dominoes and Butterflies

Read the following account. Each person's comment reflects a worldview rooted in their philosophical stance.

Match each speaker to one of the philosophical positions. Answers are on the last page.

A group of philosophers walks into a bar. As they sit down, one of them tells a raunchy joke:

"What did the domino say to the butterfly? 'Hey, baby, wanna topple together and create some chaotic patterns?'"

After a few rounds and increasingly suggestive jokes, their tongues are loosened and their thoughts turn to the subject of chaos versus determinism. The bartender overhears the conversation and chimes in.

Bartender: "Toys and bugs are just two more useless things in an indifferent and meaningless universe."

Alice: "Ah, the riveting contrast of dominoes and butterflies! Marvel at the glorious agency of human beings as they deftly maneuver between the oh-so-ordered dominoes and the wildly capricious butterflies. It's a balancing act for the ages!"

Bob: "Choose your meaning in a world of determinism and chaos."

Charles: "Find pleasure in embracing the design of dominoes and the beauty of butterflies."

Damon: "This conversation exposes the inherent contradiction and folly of seeking meaning and order in a world governed by both determinism and chaos."

Ethel: "Let's prioritize the practicality and usefulness of grasping the deterministic nature of dominoes and the unpredictable essence of butterflies for our daily lives."

Faith: "Embrace the ordered dominoes and chaotic butterflies to find tranquility in existence."

Gunther: "We should strive for a balance between maximizing the overall happiness of ordered sequence and appreciation of spontaneity."

Absurdist, Epicurean, Existentialist, Humanist, Nihilist, Pragmatist, Stoic, Utilitarian

Alice	
Bob	
Charles	
Damon	
Ethel	
Faith	
Gunther	
Bar-tender	



Schools of Thought

Can you find all of these philosophical terms? Answers are on the last page.



Absurdist	Hedonism	Nihilist	Relativism
Determinism	Humanist	Objectivism	Skepticism
Dualism	Idealism	Panpsychism	Stoic
Empiricism	Intuitionism	Phenomenology	Structuralism
Epicurean	Libertarianism	Pragmatist	Transcendentalism
Essentialism	Materialism	Quietism	Utilitarian
Existentialist	Monism	Rationalism	Voluntarism
Fideism	Naturalism	Realism	



Bound to be Chaotic!

1	2	3	4	5	6	7		8	9	10	11	12
13								14				
15								16				
17						18		19			20	
21			22	23						24		
			25				26		27			
28	29	30						31				
32					33		34					
35				36		37				38	39	40
41				42						43		
44			45				46		47	48		
49							50					
51							52					

Across

1. Chain of Fools?
8. Make an offer
13. Happening before birth
14. Waste matter
15. Prissy, with 8-down
16. Crow's home?
17. Where Switz. is
18. Ensemble
20. Kind of trip
21. Celastrus
24. Reveal, poetically
25. ___ gratia artis
26. Vibration
28. Social construct
31. Apartment dwellings
32. Start of something
34. Baseball injury rosters
35. Cape Town location
36. Reindeer herders
41. British news organization
42. Conveyance
43. Communicate w/ hands
44. Donkey
46. Varied or different
49. Courtroom event
50. Licorice-flavored
51. For this reason
52. Opposite of ancients

Down

1. Daniel Jones?
2. Pure dope
3. Islamic sect
4. Mesopotamian sun deity
5. "Didn't I tell you?"
6. Builds or constructs
7. Sub finder
8. Prissy, with 15-across
9. Dudgeon
10. Sheepskin
11. Buck
12. Those requiring something
19. Hardened
22. Blueberry Hill, with 34-down
23. Stroke
27. Otherwise
28. Ancient Greek city
29. Strict in manner
30. Substitute for member of 18-across
33. Black sticky substance
34. Blueberry Hill, with 22-down
37. Brothel resident
38. Person who challenges others
39. German industrial city
40. Flexible Flyers
45. Electronic translator
47. Kid-___ (children's shows)
48. Language suffix



Mairzy Doats

Can you decipher these awful puns? The hints are in no particular order. Answers are on the last page.

A.



Decelerating Wildebeests

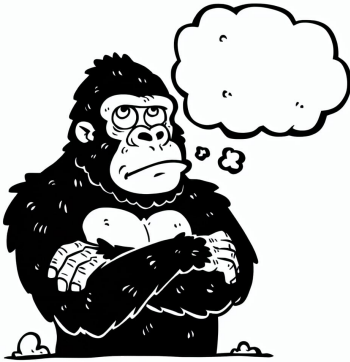
Hints

You make me sick!

Foreigner (1981)

Chyron

B.



Silverback Desires One

C.



+



Unchained Melody

A Tisket A Tasket

Cook plus Fitzgerald



Make Arrangements

Find three anagrams for each of the words listed below. Answers are on the last page.

TRAYS

MENTAL

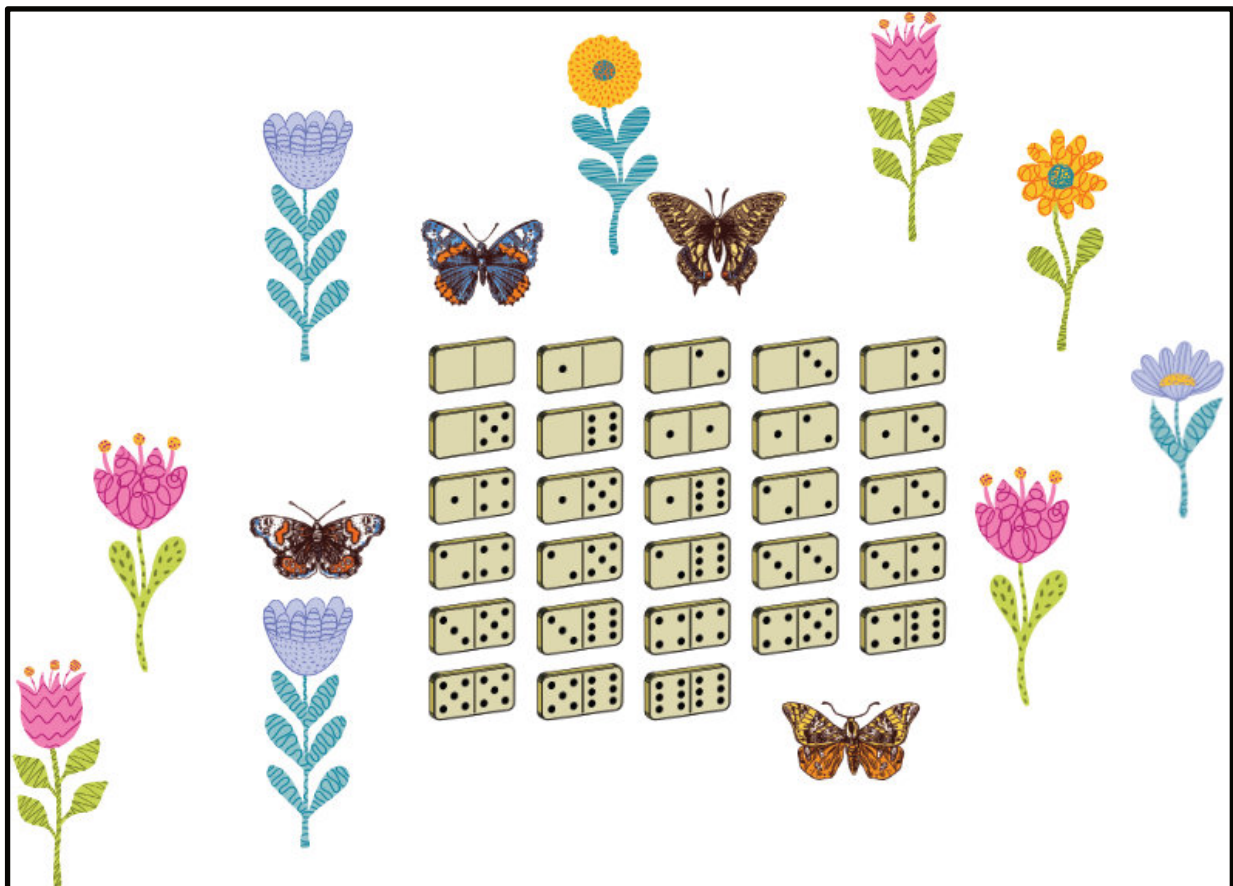
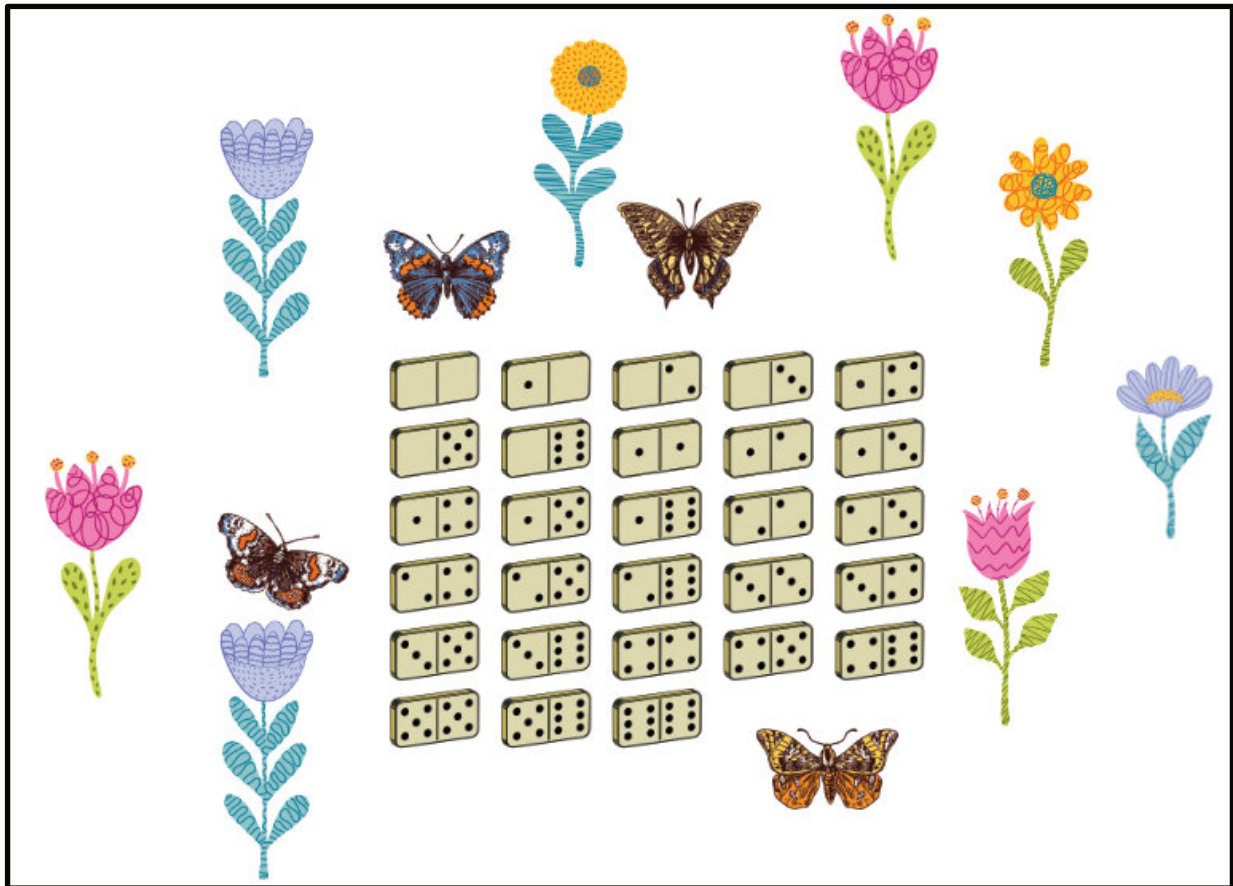
OPTICAL

SIRVENTE



Spot the Difference

Spot 6 differences. Answers are on the last page.



What's Wrong Here?

Look carefully at everything! Answer is on the last page.



Answers

Dominoes and Butterflies

Alice	Humanist
Bob	Existentialist
Charles	Epicurean
Damon	Absurdist
Ethel	Pragmatist
Faith	Stoic
Gunther	Utilitarian
Bar-tender	Nihilist

Definitions

Absurdism: The philosophy that highlights the inherent conflict between the human tendency to seek meaning and the universe's lack of inherent meaning.

Epicureanism: The philosophy of seeking pleasure and avoiding pain through the pursuit of simple pleasures, tranquility, and the absence of fear.

Existentialism: The belief that individuals create their own meaning in life through free will, choice, and personal responsibility.

Humanism: A philosophy that emphasizes the value and agency of human beings, focusing on reason, ethics, and the potential for human progress.

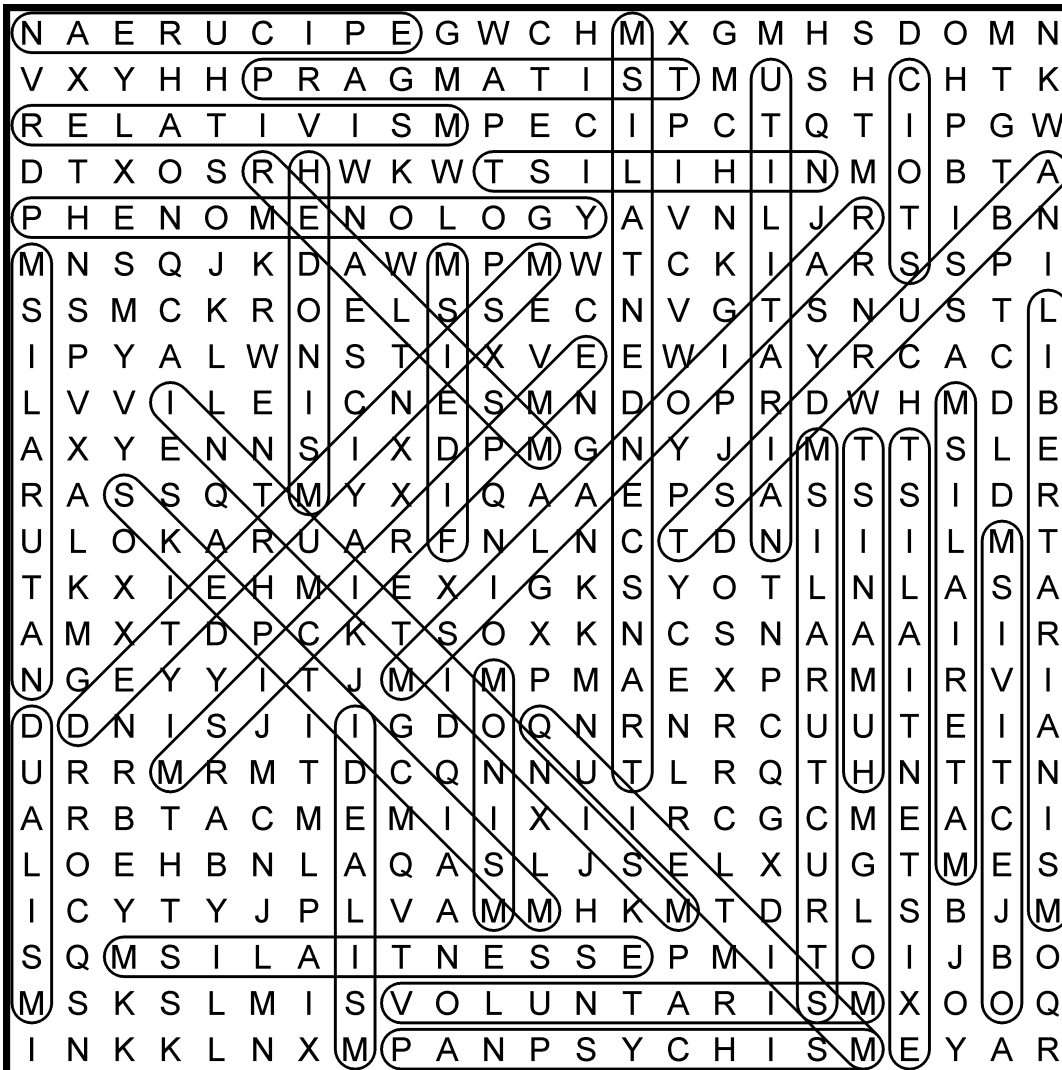
Nihilism: The rejection of all religious and moral principles, in the belief that life is meaningless.

Pragmatism: The belief that the truth and value of ideas are determined by their practical consequences and usefulness in real-life situations.

Stoicism: A philosophy that advocates the pursuit of virtue, inner peace, and living in accordance with nature.

Utilitarianism: A philosophy that promotes maximizing overall happiness and well-being for the greatest number of people.

Schools of Thought



Answers

Bound to be Chaotic!

1	D	2	U	3	F	4	U	5	S	6	E	7	S		8	B	9	I	10	D	11	O	12	N
13	I	N	U	T	E	R	O								14	U	R	I	N	E				
15	M	C	Q	U	E	E	N								16	T	E	P	E	E				
17	E	U	R					18	C	A	19	S	T					20	L	S	D			
21	S	T	A	22	F	23	F	T	R	E	E							24	O	P	E			
				25	A	R	S				26	T	R	27	E	M	O	R						
28	C	29	A	30	S	T	E							31	F	L	A	T	S					
32	O	U	T	S	E	33	T				34	D	L	S										
35	R	S	A			36	S	A	37	M	O	Y	E	38	D	39	E	40	S					
41	I	T	N			42	T	R	A	M						43	A	S	L					
44	N	E	D	45	D	Y					46	D	I	47	V	48	E	R	S	E				
49	T	R	I	A	L						50	A	N	I	S	E	E	D						
51	H	E	N	C	E						52	M	O	D	E	R	N	S						

Mairzy Doats

- A. Braking Gnus (Chyron = Breaking News)
- B. Gorilla My Dreams (Foreigner = "Waiting for a Girl Like You")
- C. Sam and Ella (You make me sick! = Salmonella)



Make Arrangements

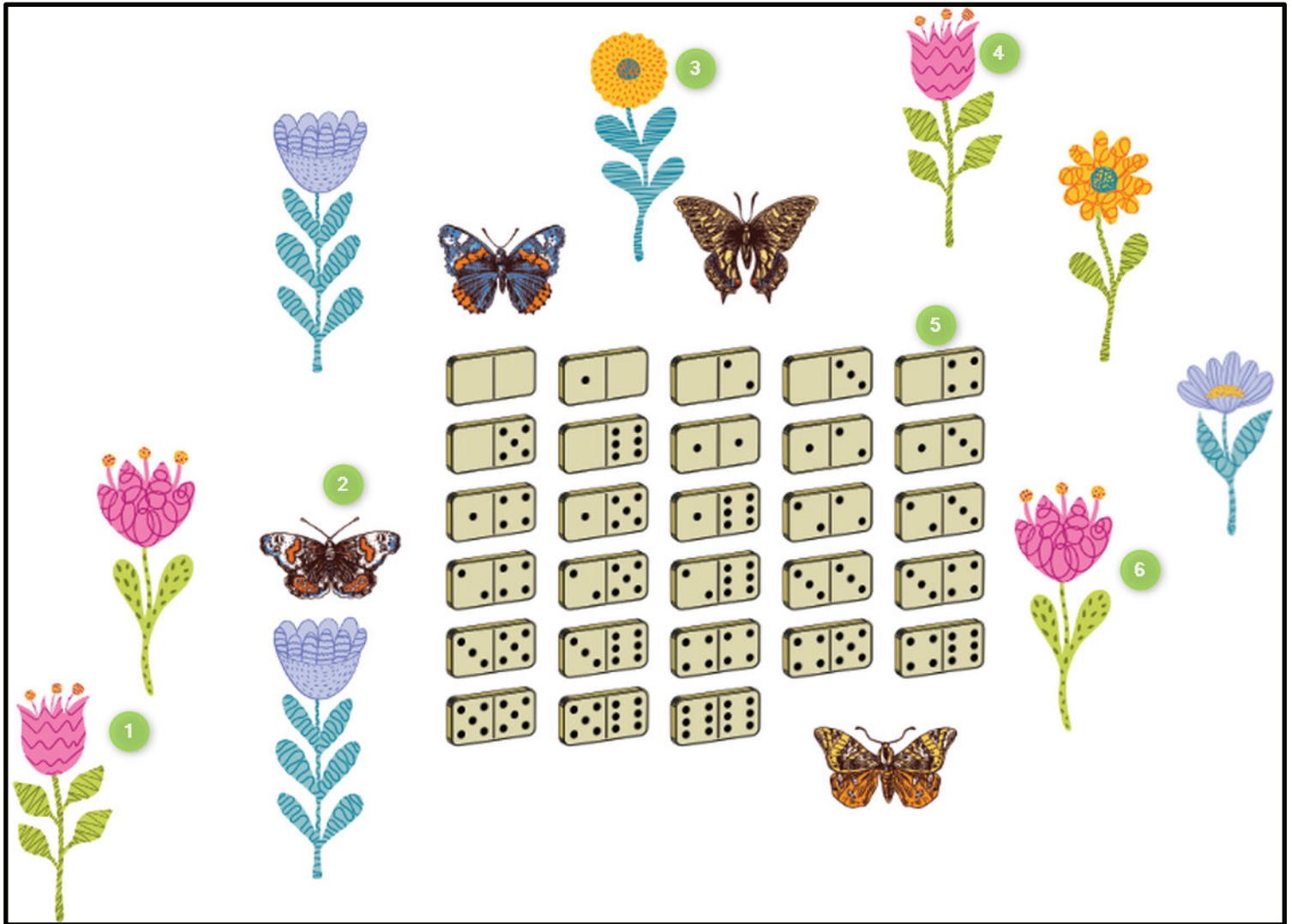
TRAYS: ARTSY, SATYR, STRAY

MENTAL: LAMENT, MANTEL, MANTLE

OPTICAL: CAPITOL, COALPIT, TOPICAL

SIRVENTE: NERVIEST, REINVEST, SERVIENT

Spot the Difference



What's **Wrong** Here?

This was a trick question! Look at the title of the puzzle. 😄

If anything, the apple has a bite in it. That's just wrong to put it back with the other fruit!



Mitchell Allen is a life-long puzzle enthusiast, story-teller and programmer. One day, he decided that it would be cool to mash all three hobbies into one mad creation. You are holding it. If you, too, appreciate cleverly crafted puzzles mixed in with your classic wordplay staples, you'll love the kinds of puzzles and activities Mitchell has planned.

To keep in touch with the world of Mind-bending Variety puzzles, subscribe to the newsletter by scanning the QR code below or entering <https://pencilpaperparacosm.com> into your browser.

