

Puzzle solutions

The location of the 2018 International Study Trip has been revealed using five puzzles, posted on the KOers Facebook page. In this document, the solutions of these puzzles are given.

The International Study Trip Committee 2018

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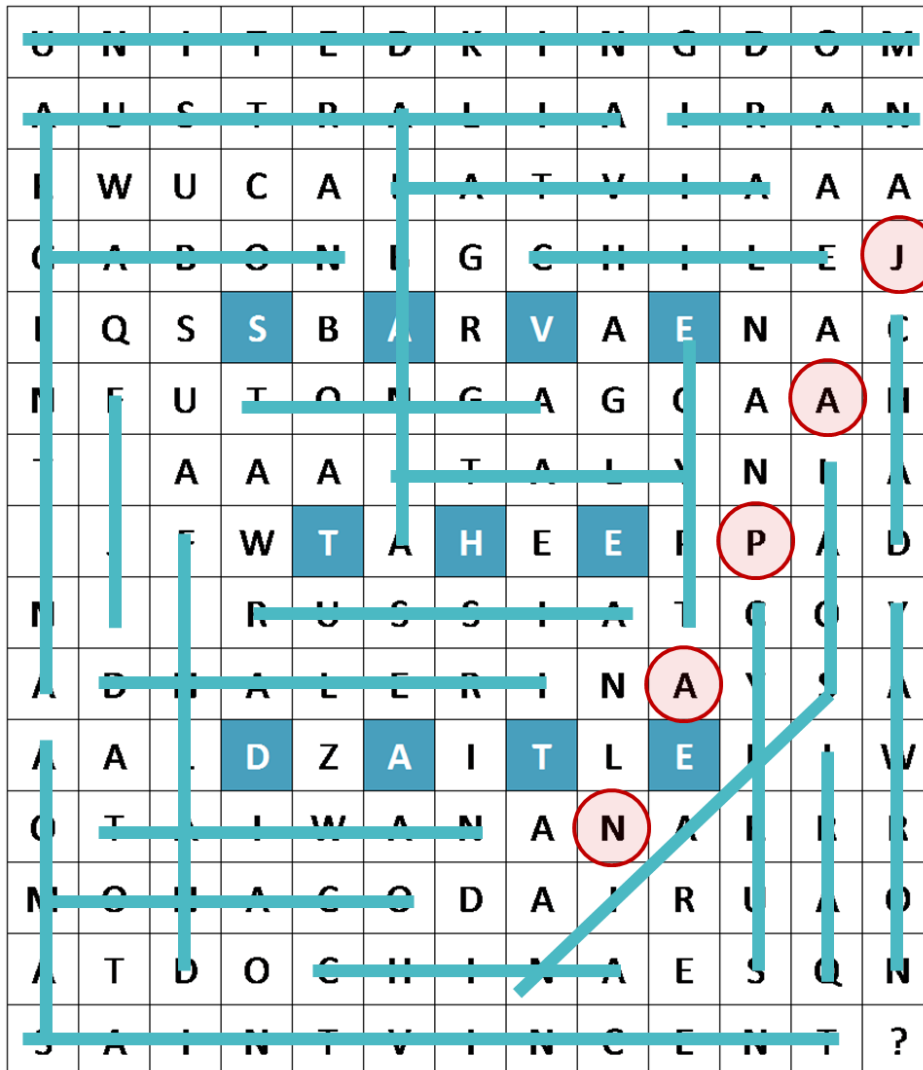


Puzzle 1 | Crossword

The first puzzle is a simple Crossword. The following countries can be "crossed off", and therefore will not be visited:

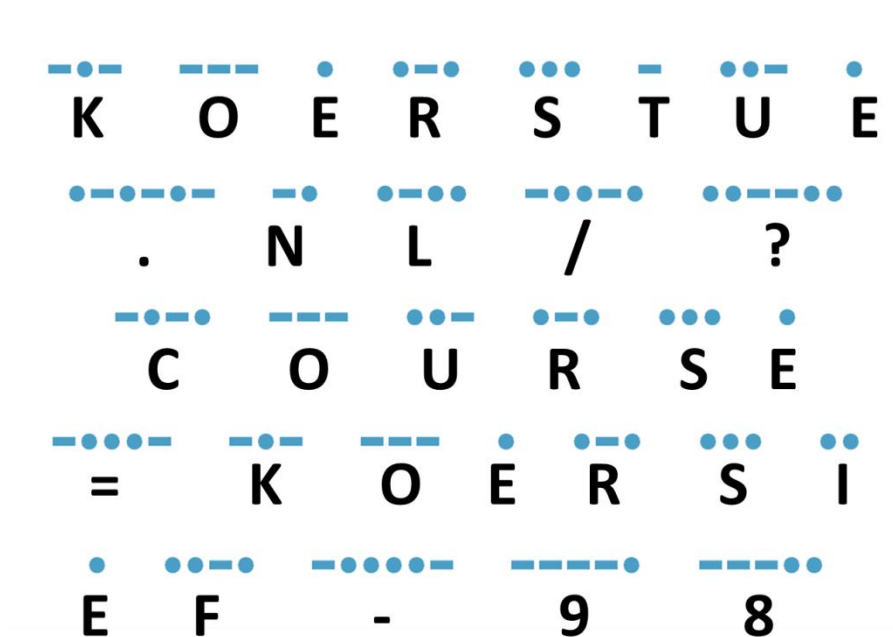
- Albania
- Argentina
- Australia
- Chad
- Chile
- China
- Cyprus
- Egypt
- Fiji
- Finland
- Gabon
- Iran
- Iraq
- Ireland
- Italy
- Laos
- Latvia
- Monaco
- Norway
- Russia
- Saint Vincent
- Samoa
- Spain
- Taiwan
- Tonga
- United Kingdom

In the puzzle the destination of the StudyTrip can also be found.



Puzzle 2 | Morse

The second clue is written in Morse code. Translating gives a link to KOersief 98, which is themed around World Expo's; held in Japan in 1970 and will be held again in 2025.

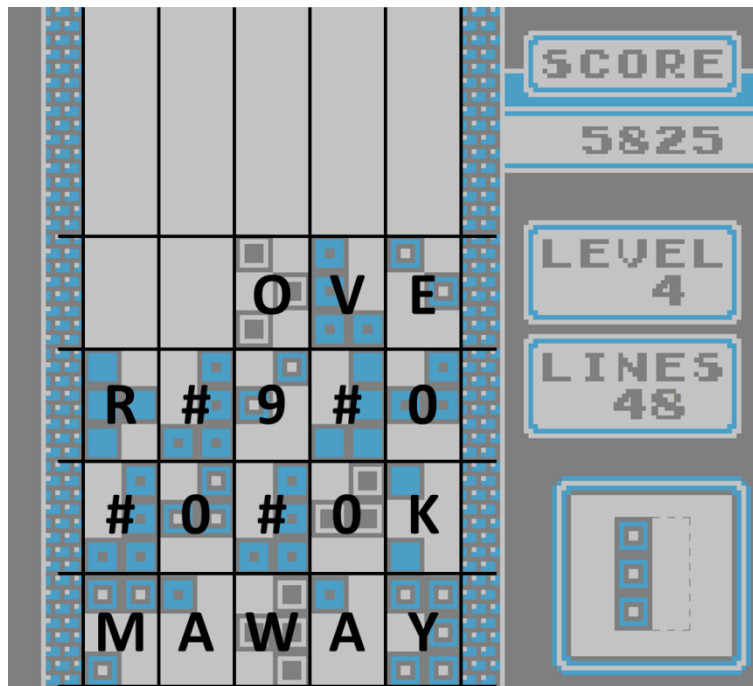


Puzzle 3 | Tetris

The third clue was given in the form of a game of Tetris. When the field is divided into sections of 2x3 the regions can be decoded using Braille, giving the solution "OVER 9000 KM AWAY".

Hints were given in the Facebook-post ("This clue can be difficult to see"), and in the image: the dotted line in the preview of the next block indicates the 2x3 regions and the fact that each 'letter' had a different block-style.

A hidden clue was given in the score of the game, 5825 miles converted to kilometers gives the distance between Eindhoven and Tokyo.



Puzzle 4 | 20 x 7

For the fourth puzzle 20 words had to be placed in five rings.

First, group up the words by using the first and last letters that occur just 2 times

TEAROOM	NOTHING	TSUNAMI	SKYLINE
MELTING	TYPHOON	SASHIMI	EXITING

We see that there are three words starting and ending with R's, they are also grouped together. One word starts and ends in and A and an F is necessary to complete this group: Formula.

Tsunami and Sashimi both end in an I. One word ending in a T and one ending in an S are needed to complete the groups, and both need to start with the same letter: Castles and Coconut fulfill these criteria. Using similar relations the groups can be completed:

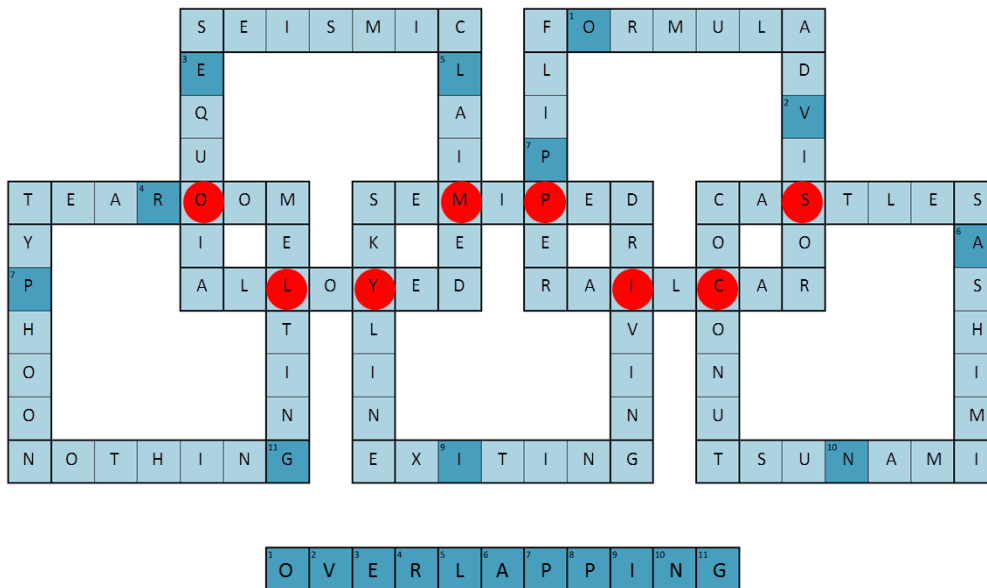
TEAROOM	SEQUOIA	TSUNAMI	SKYLINE	RAILCAR
MELTING	ALLOYED	SASHIMI	EXITING	FLIPPER
NOTHING	CLAIMED	CASTLES	DRIVING	ADVISOR
TYPHOON	SEISMIC	COCONUT	SEMIPEL	FORMULA

Then, write the words in a square and investigate the possible overlapping letters to see how the squares can be placed in the final puzzle.

Now, the requested letters can be found, giving the solution "OVERLAPPING". When looking at the overlapping letters from the square gives the final solution "OLYMPICS".

Solving this puzzle was not necessary to get to the right solution, as the puzzle itself forms the Olympic rings.

Japan has held the Olympic Games in 1964 and will be held in 2020.



Puzzle 5 | Jigsaw

The fifth and final puzzle was a Jigsaw puzzle with a little twist. The puzzle pieces had to be twisted in order to get the final piece. The first piece had to be turned 90° once, the second piece turned twice, the third piece three times etcetera.

When all the pieces are placed in the given grid, the final solution can be found: "THE LARGEST JAPANESE POPULATION LIVES IN THIS COUNTRY".

The largest Japanese community OUTSIDE Japan lives in Brazil, but the largest Japanese population lives, obviously, in Japan.

When you look at the colors you see that all colors occur nine times, except red and white. The colors are the same colors as occurring in a Rubics Cube. All positions of the blocks are possible in a Rubics Cube as well, adding the last side of the cube results in finding the Japanese flag.



Facebook

Besides the puzzles, we gave additional clues to our destination in the Facebook posts.

- The first letters of the Facebook posts relating the study trip formed the Dutch spelling of the capital of Japan "TOKIO".
- When looking at the times the puzzles were posted on Facebook; the minute-marks can be converted to text (using 01=A, 02=B etc.) forming the location "JAPAN".