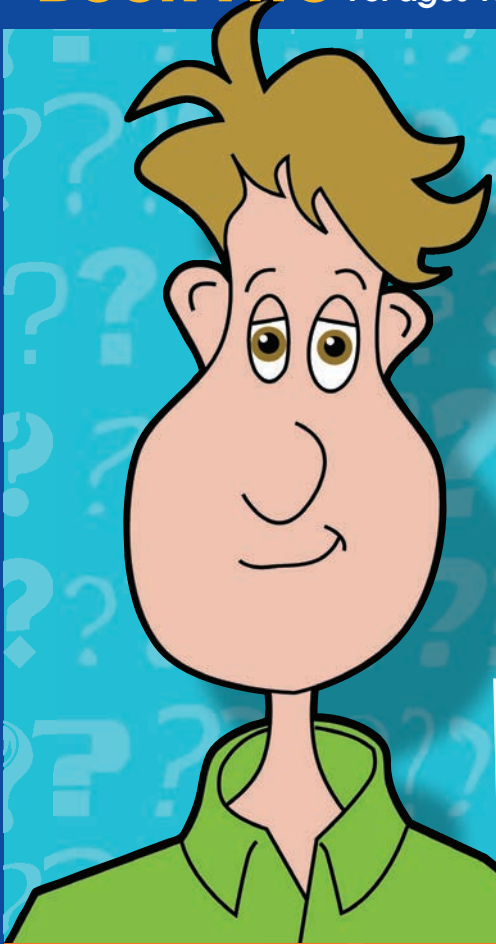


# THE PUZZLING THINKATHON

**Book Two** For ages 10 to adult By Dina Friedmann Illustrated by Richard Herman



A fun collection  
of brain-teasing  
& mind-bending  
thinking puzzles!



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**Book Two** For ages 10 to Adult By Dina Friedmann Illustrated by Richard Herman

**For Benji**

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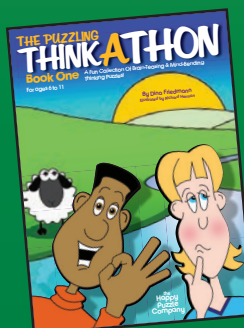
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Also available; **Thinkathon Book 2**, for ages 10 to adult.

## CHAPTER 1 ANAGRAMS

### Can you solve these anagrams?

**1** All of these words are connected with school.

WHEOORMK

EEECHHTDAAR

SELAYMBS

**2** All of these words are types of fruit.

BAERRRCYN

MEORGNAAEPT

DANRRRTEUC

**3** All of these words are electrical items.

RRAOMECCD

PUOMETRC

HHAISSEWRD

**4** All of these words are classic board games.

LOOOYMPN

RLBCBEAS

DULECO

**5** All of these words are connected to one of the categories above.

CVOIRAWEM

RUUUCLMCIR

AIPPPEELN

## CHAPTER 2 CRYPTIC ANSWERS

There are two answers to each of these clues, which both sound the same, and are known as **homophones**.

**EXAMPLE:** The baker likes to use petals = Flour / Flower

6

Glasses are needed for the ocean!

7

The colour of the book cover is very important!

8

Can you decide to use an umbrella or sunglasses?

9

He played with the ball in the corridor!

10

The jester tried to catch the items thrown at him!

11

The car that was rented had lower seats in it!

12

It was necessary for the dough to rise for four hours!

13

The child was given permission to make a noise with his voice!

14

He was just too late for the weather report!

15

The dog's owners did not have much money. They spent it on face cream, rather than drinks!

*(There are four words for this answer, that all sound the same)*

## CHAPTER 3 DINGBATS

Can you work out all these  
proverbs?

16

**BLOOD**  
WATER

17

LOW & RYAR

18



Gosh, you are  
a very dark col-  
our!



19

HEAD HEAD  $\frac{9}{10}$  HEAD  $\frac{4}{10}$

20

YELLOW LAWN

FENCE

AQUA LAWN

RED GARDEN

WALL

LIME GARDEN

PINK PLOT

BOUNDARY

TURQUOISE PLOT

## CHAPTER 4 LINK THE WORDS

Can you get from the first word to the last word,  
by changing just one letter at a time?

You must not change the order of the letters,  
and you must ensure that each word is a real word.

**21** FIST → \_\_\_\_\_ → \_\_\_\_\_ → \_\_\_\_\_ → SINK

**22** TRAP → \_\_\_\_\_ → \_\_\_\_\_ → \_\_\_\_\_ → GREY

**23** LINK → \_\_\_\_\_ → \_\_\_\_\_ → \_\_\_\_\_ → SILK

**24** TANK → \_\_\_\_\_ → \_\_\_\_\_ → \_\_\_\_\_ → MIST

**25** ROSE → \_\_\_\_\_ → \_\_\_\_\_ → \_\_\_\_\_ → DUSK

**26** SILL → \_\_\_\_\_ → \_\_\_\_\_ → \_\_\_\_\_ → MALL

**27** CASH → \_\_\_\_\_ → \_\_\_\_\_ → \_\_\_\_\_ → DUSK

**28** DIAL → \_\_\_\_\_ → \_\_\_\_\_ → \_\_\_\_\_ → MOAT

**29** SHOE → \_\_\_\_\_ → \_\_\_\_\_ → \_\_\_\_\_ → STEM

**30** FORK → \_\_\_\_\_ → \_\_\_\_\_ → \_\_\_\_\_ → TOMB

## CHAPTER 5 CONNECTING WORDS

Can you find the word to go in the middle,  
which links the other two words?

### EXAMPLE:

TOP

HAT

TRICK

31

FLASH

\_\_\_\_\_

BULB

32

PHOTO

\_\_\_\_\_

PAPER

33

HALF

\_\_\_\_\_

TIME

34

BLOOD

\_\_\_\_\_

HOLIDAY

35

TIME

\_\_\_\_\_

TENNIS

36

BLACK

\_\_\_\_\_

ROOM

37

GIRL

\_\_\_\_\_

DOG

38

HORSE

\_\_\_\_\_

SHINE

39

INDUSTRIAL

\_\_\_\_\_

PAPER

40

TABLE

\_\_\_\_\_

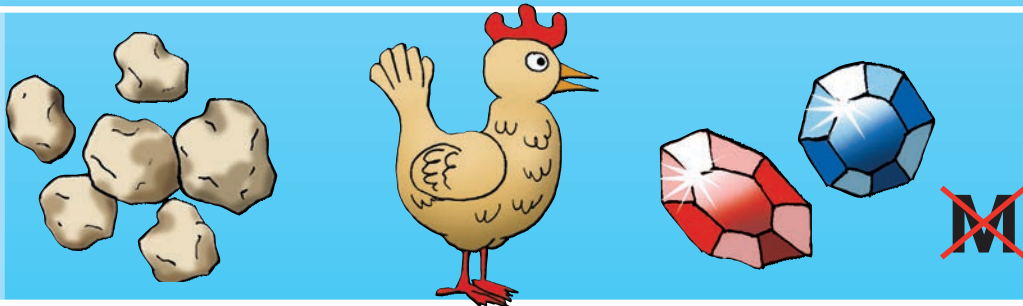
TOP



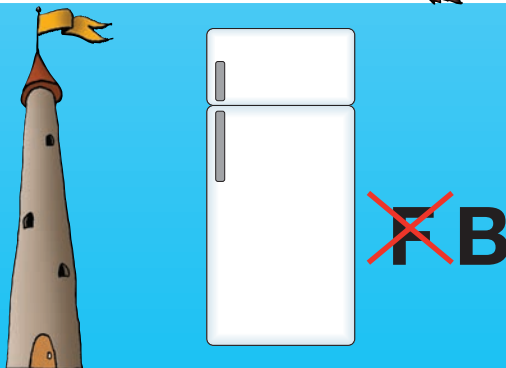
## CHAPTER 6 PICTURE DINGBATS

Can you work out what all of these pictures represent?  
These are all famous landmarks

41



42



43



44



45

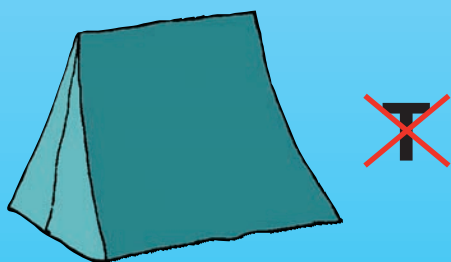




# PICTURE DINGBATS

The following picture clues are all numbers

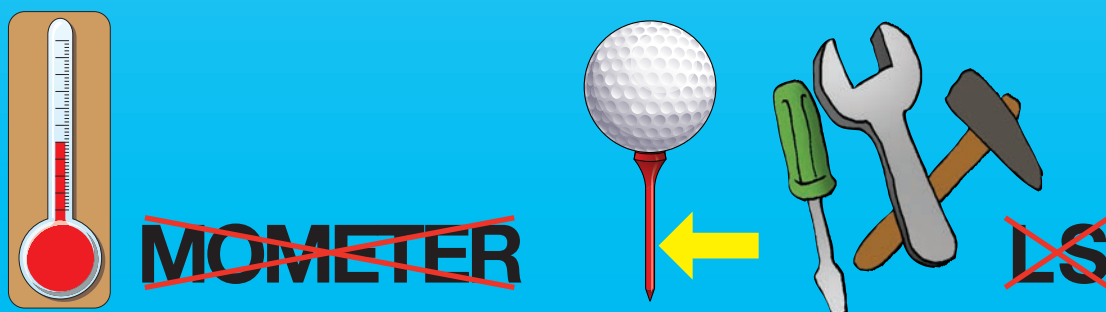
46



47



48



49



50



## CHAPTER 7 HIDDEN WITHIN

Can you find the proverbs hidden within these sentences?

*Clue: The words are not necessarily in the correct order*

**EXAMPLE:** The **charity** concert **begins** in the village hall, and then finishes **at** people's **homes** "Charity begins at home"

**51** The girls in the beauty pageant were a variety of ages before they became interested in this.

**52** When the Jones family go away on holiday, on the train they will buy some rubber mice for their cats to play with.

**53** At the fundraising company dinner everybody mingles in twos and threes as if they are scared of a crowd.

**54** Every night Tracy's mum tells her a bedtime story and looks at the pictures.

**55** The farmer makes the most of the good weather while the sun shines upon him, but it turns his grass to hay.

**56** Miss A.S. Good lives a mile away from a shop, but it is good exercise for her as she walks everywhere.

**57** The judge was reading a book by a policeman – its topic was crime, when he told the villain 'Don't try to cover for your accomplices!'

**58** One friend said to the other friend, 'Do you need any vegetables, because my vegetable patch has been very successful indeed and I have extras - I have a box of tomatoes and some cherries in a bag. Is that useful for you?'

**59** Did you hear what happened in a school play-time today? A boy falls and has to have nine stitches in his hand, but the doctor saves all his nails!

**60** The doctor likes to eat an apple as part of his five-a-day, but his wife keeps them for cooking with when he is away!

## CHAPTER 8 CONCENTRATION NECESSARY!

**61** Jessica and her friends go to the sweet shop with their pocket money. Jessica buys 1 lollipop at £0.20, 3 cherry sweets for £0.09 each and 5 chewing gums for £0.50 in total. Lucy buys 6 chewy sweets for £0.05 each, 3 sour sticks for £0.12 each, 3 chewing gums and 2 cherry sweets. Carly buys 3 lollipops, 4 chewing gums and 2 sour sticks.

Who spends the most money?

**62** Shirley is making cakes for Stanley's birthday. She makes large chocolate cakes which can be cut into 16 pieces, small lemon cakes which can be cut into 6 pieces and fairy cakes which are made individually. There are 20 children at the party. Half of them want chocolate cake and a fairy cake. A quarter of them want lemon cake and a fairy cake. 2 children have just chocolate cake, and 3 children have all three cakes.

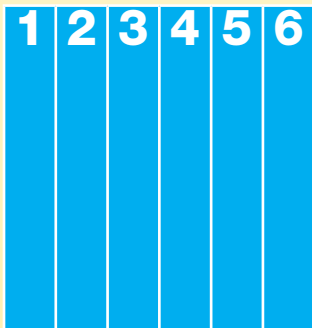
If Shirley made 1 chocolate cake, 2 lemon cakes, and 20 fairy cakes; what will the leftovers be?

**63** In a classroom, Miss Seveny arranges the 8 desks into two rows of four directly behind each other. She wants all girls to only sit next to / in front of / behind boys and vice versa.

Claire, Joella and Paul do not want to sit in an odd numbered seat. Francesca is sitting in seat number 3 and Lewis is in front of her. Chloe is sitting next to Paul and Zak is in front of her. The diagram indicates pink numbers for girl's seats, and blue numbers for boy's seats.

1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8

Which seat number is Philip sitting in?



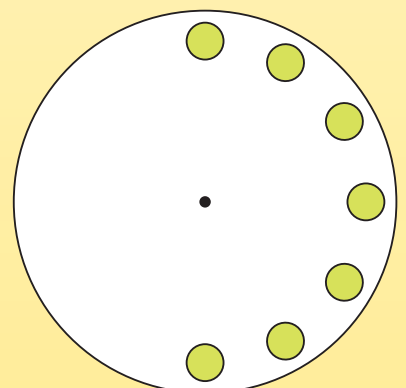
**64** There are 6 lanes in the swimming pool numbered 1 to 6 from left to right. In the race, the swimmer in lane 6 comes first, and the swimmer in lane four comes fourth. Sammy is in a lane numbered one lower than Timmy. Sammy finishes the race in third place, which is one place in front of Timmy. Jim finishes second and Terry is last in lane 5. Bobby wins the race in the lane furthest away from Jim.

Mikey is not the lane 6 swimmer – at which position in the race does he finish?

**65** Lola has 7 souvenirs on her coffee table all arranged in a semi-circle, as if they are in the positions of the numbers 12 to 6 on a clock.

She has a cat from Cuba, an emerald pin from Egypt, a fan from Finland, an ink pot from India, a purse from Portugal, a spoon from Singapore and a mask from Morrocco. The emerald is positioned opposite the item from Portugal. The fan is the centrepiece, with the spoon on one side and the Indian item on the other.

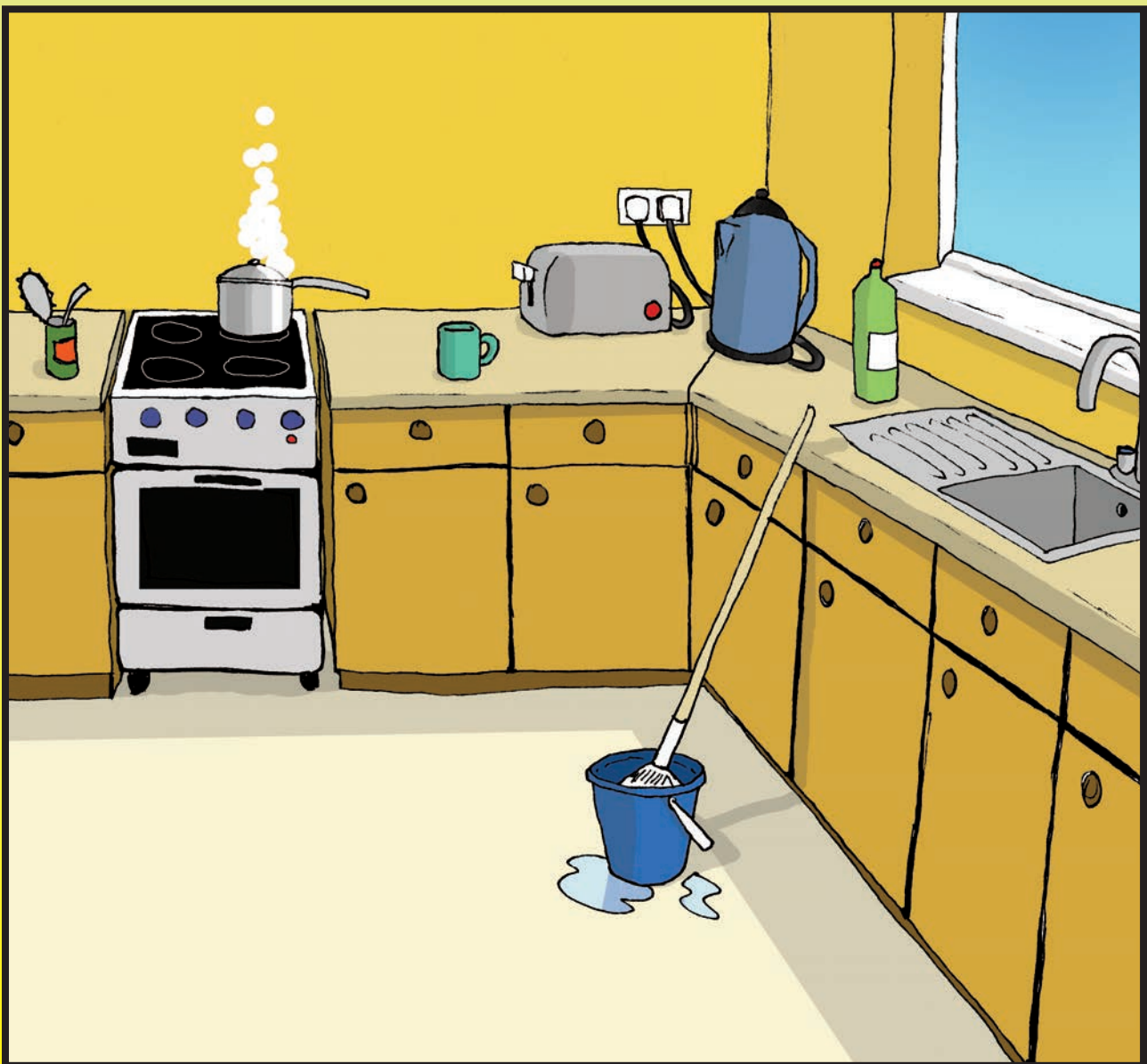
If the Moroccan item is at the number 5 position and next to the purse, which item is next to the emerald?



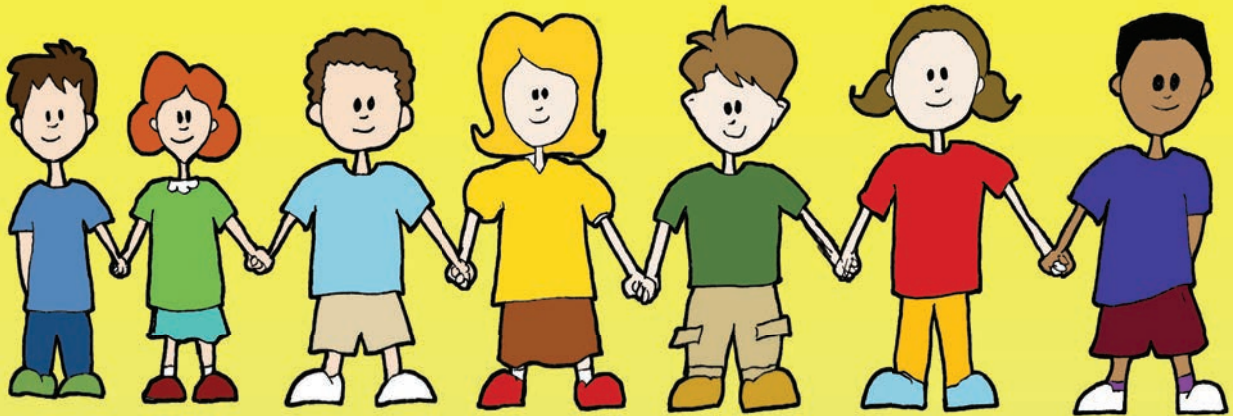
## CHAPTER 9 VISUAL PERCEPTION

**Study each image for 30 seconds.  
Take in as much information as you  
can and then answer the questions  
at the end of the chapter.**

66



67



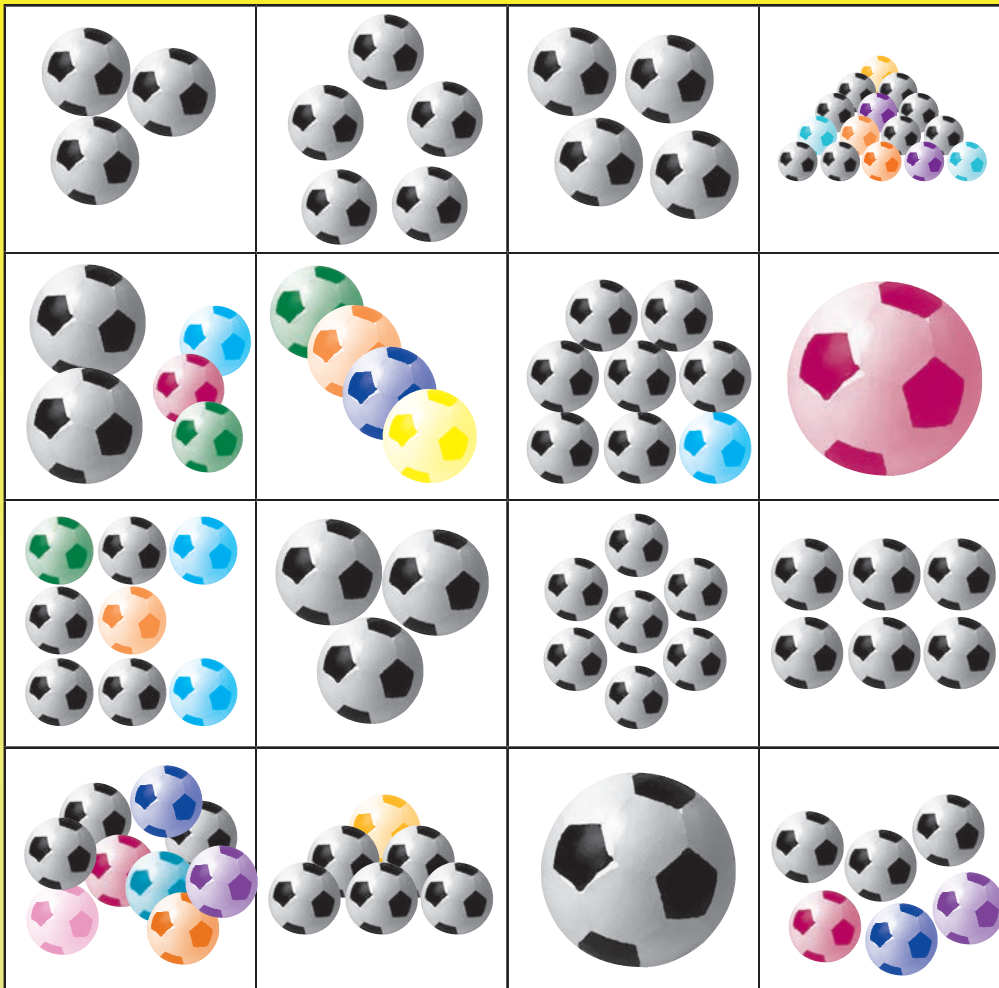
68

1	12	21	4	9	10	20	7
25	8	24	16	23	17	3	15
14	18	2	13	6	22	11	5





# 70



## Questions for the Visual Perception chapter:

- 66 A) How many puddles of water are on the floor?  
 B) Where is the pan positioned on the hob?  
 C) How many items can be seen on the worktops?
- 67 What colour are the shoes of the girl who is three to the right of the boy wearing the brown shorts?
- 68 Which number between 1 and 25 is missing from the grid?
- 69 A) How many socks can be seen?  
 B) What colours are the two items hanging on the cupboard?  
 C) How many items are on the table, not including the computer or anything connected to the computer?
- 70 How many of the grid boxes have an even number of balls in them?



## CHAPTER 10 CODES

If you think of the letters on the keypad of a mobile phone...

Which words would the following numbers be codes for?

**71** These words are all connected to being outside.

A) 2272826 B) 742642 C) 427336

**72** These words are all languages.

A) 373624 B) 7726474 C) 4825426

**73** These words are all currencies.

A) 365527 B) 76863 C) 37262

These words are as you would type them in to a mobile phone keypad, but the letters are wrong; i.e. If you typed a number 3, it could be the letters D, E or F. What should these words be?

**74** These words are all metals.

A) KDBF B) RHJTDS C) BMRRDP

**75** These words are all materials.

A) PHKL B) ANVUMO C) KHODM



## Chapter 1

1	HOMEWORK	HEADTEACHER	ASSEMBLY
2	CRANBERRY	POMEGRANATE	REDCURRANT
3	CAMCORDER	COMPUTER	DISHWASHER
4	MONOPOLY	SCRABBLE	CLUEDO
5	MICROWAVE	CURRICULUM	PINEAPPLE

## Chapter 2

- 6 See / Sea
- 7 Red / Read
- 8 Weather / Whether
- 9 Threw / Through
- 10 Caught / Court
- 11 Higher / Hire
- 12 Need / Knead
- 13 Allowed / Aloud
- 14 Missed / Mist
- 15 Pore / Paw / Poor / Pour

## Chapter 3

- 16 Blood is thicker than water
- 17 All is fair in love and war
- 18 Pot calling the kettle black
- 19 Two heads are better than one
- 20 The grass is always greener on the other side

## Chapter 4 *(There may be other acceptable answers)*

- 21 FIST → MIST → MINT → MINK → SINK
- 22 TRAP → TRAY → PRAY → PREY → GREY
- 23 LINK → SINK → SUNK → SULK → SILK
- 24 TANK → TASK → MASK → MAST → MIST
- 25 ROSE → RISE → RISK → DISK → DUSK
- 26 SILL → SILT → SALT → MALT → MALL
- 27 CASH → RASH → RUSH → RUSK → DUSK
- 28 DIAL → DEAL → MEAL → MEAT → MOAT
- 29 SHOE → SHOW → STOW → STEW → STEM
- 30 FORK → FORM → WORM → WOMB → TOMB

## Chapter 5

- 31 LIGHT
- 32 GRAPH
- 33 TERM
- 34 BANK
- 35 TABLE
- 36 BOARD
- 37 GUIDE
- 38 SHOE
- 39 WASTE
- 40 MOUNTAIN

# ANSWERS

## Chapter 6

- 41 Stonehenge (Stone-Hen-Ge)
- 42 Tower Bridge
- 43 Golden Gate Bridge (Gold-En-Gate-Bridge)
- 44 Great Wall Of China (Grate-Wall-China)
- 45 Grand Canyon (Gran-D-Can-Yo-N)
- 46 10
- 47 99 (Nun-Tea-Nun)
- 48 32 (Ther-Tee-Too)
- 49 104 (Wan-Hon-Dreads-For)
- 50 7000 (Seven-Thou-Sand)

## Chapter 7

- 51 Age before beauty
- 52 When the cat's away, the mice will play
- 53 Two's company, three's a crowd
- 54 Every picture tells a story
- 55 Make hay while the sun shines
- 56 A miss is as good as a mile
- 57 Don't judge a book by its cover
- 58 A friend in need is a friend indeed
- 59 A stitch in time saves nine
- 60 An apple a day keeps the doctor away

## Chapter 8

- 61 Carly (Carly spends £1.24; Lucy spends £1.14; Jessica spends £0.97)
- 62 1 piece of chocolate cake; 4 pieces of lemon cake; 2 fairy cakes
- 63 4
- 64 Fifth
- 65 Cat

## Chapter 9

- 66 A) 2  
B) Back right-hand corner  
C) 5
- 67 Blue
- 68 19
- 69 A) 3 (2 on the floor and 1 on the lightshade)  
B) Blue & Red  
C) 5 (3 books, 1 mug & 1 can)
- 70 6

## Chapter 10

- |    |            |            |            |
|----|------------|------------|------------|
| 71 | A) Caravan | B) Picnic  | C) Garden  |
| 72 | A) French  | B) Spanish | C) Italian |
| 73 | A) Dollar  | B) Pound   | C) Franc   |
| 74 | A) Lead    | B) Silver  | C) Copper  |
| 75 | A) Silk    | B) Cotton  | C) Linen   |



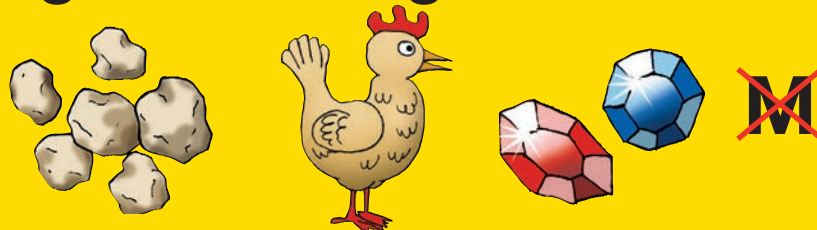
# SO WHAT IS A THINKATHON?

- Well really, it's like running a marathon in your head, but with thinking instead of running and with puzzles instead of roads!
- Navigate your way through the 75 puzzles and challenges inside this book and you'll feel a fantastic sense of achievement!
- You'll find some of the puzzles harder than others, but they are all very solvable with a little bit of patience and concentration! Oh, and they're great fun too!
- Thinkathon will require you to use different types of thinking skills... it's a fantastic workout for your brain and you should feel fantastic at the end!

Can you work out this proverb?

LOWE & RAVAR

What famous landmark is this  
dingbat showing?



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