



BEFORE AND AFTER



B A T H T U **B**
 B H A I S
 O I L D U
 U G V A A
O T H E L L **O**
O R A T O R I **O**
 A L U R U O
 D P L C M N
 O H I A B I
K N A P S A C **K**
E L A B O R A T **E**
 I F Y V U I E
 M T L I I O S
 B E A N N L L
N O R W E G I A **N**
D E S T R E S S E **D**
 Q A U E T N U X
 U U N U H A S A
 I N I S O F H C
S P A C E S U I T **S**

In this puzzle, grids of non-sensical looking letters were given. The idea is to read down each column (rather than across the rows) and put letters before and after each column to form a five-letter word.

For example, in the first column of the top grid, BOU can be surrounded by A and T to make ABOUT.

This process can be repeated with the rows of letters just made at the top and bottom of each grid - and this time the same letter can go both before and after the letters. The letter B can go before and after ATHTU to make BATHTUB, for instance.

The eight letters that replace the question marks spell out BOOKENDS, the answer to this puzzle.

NOTE: There is sometimes more than one possibility that can form five-letter words, so some trial and error is needed in combination with working out the longer words reading across.

This puzzle is part of **The 12 Days of Puzzlemas 2019**. Find all the puzzles at tinyurl.com/puzzlemas
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