

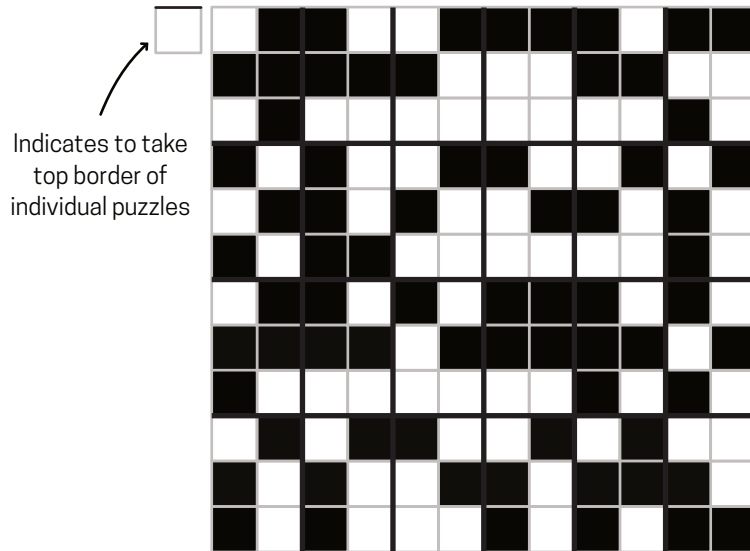


# GROSS - PAGE 1



This second part of the Meta uses the outside borders of the 12 daily puzzles in conjunction with the answers generated by those puzzles.

The first grid can be constructed by taking the top borders of the daily puzzles in an order hinted at by 'H' and 'Mg'. These stand for hydrogen and magnesium, the first and twelfth elements in the periodic table. One of each of the twelve elements can be found in the words in the scrolls in each day's puzzle. Hydrogen appears in the scroll for Day 5's puzzle, Chocolattice, so it is Day 5's top border that goes in the top row. The second row of this grid is the top border of the day containing helium (Day 12), and so on through to magnesium, the twelfth element in the periodic table.



- (H) - Hydrogen - Day 5
- Helium - Day 12
- Lithium - Day 8
- Beryllium - Day 11
- Boron - Day 4
- Carbon - Day 9
- Nitrogen - Day 7
- Oxygen - Day 1
- Fluorine - Day 10
- Neon - Day 2
- Sodium - Day 6
- (Mg) - Magnesium - Day 3

This grid can then be interpreted as braille, as hinted at by being blocked off into 2x3 rectangles.

This converts to: WHICH MOVIE IS THE GROSSEST?

The answer to this question is provided by the remaining grids...

This puzzle is part of **The 12 Days of Puzzlemas 2019**. Find all the puzzles at [tinyurl.com/puzzlemas](http://tinyurl.com/puzzlemas)  
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# GROSS - PAGE 2



The second 'grid' can be constructed by looking at the left borders and comparing them to the twelve wordfills done throughout the puzzle hunt - as hinted at by the faint wordfills behind the grid.

The theme of this grid is host cities of summer Olympic Games, starting from 1976 (Montreal, Day 9) to 2020 (Tokyo, Day 2), and these can be used to find the order of the puzzles.

Indicates to look at the left border of individual puzzles 

For the first column, Montreal, compare the pattern of black and white squares to columns on Day 1's columns to find a match, and then read down to find a word created by the splats. Each word is 'dirty' in some way.

It is actually the first column of Day 1's wordfill that matches with the Day 9's border, the second column of Day 2's wordfill that matches with Day 7's border, and so on.

The words, reading down each column, are:  
 MUDDY, UNHYGENIC, GREASY, GRUBBY, POLLUTED,  
 SOILED, UNCLEAN, STAINED, OILY, FILTHY, MUCKY,  
 GRIMY.



DAY 9 - MONTREAL (1976)

DAY 7 - MOSCOW

DAY 11 - LOS ANGELES

DAY 6 - SEOUL

DAY 1 - BARCELONA

DAY 5 - ATLANTA

DAY 8 - SYDNEY

DAY 4 - ATHENS

DAY 3 - BEIJING

DAY 12 - LONDON

DAY 10 - RIO DE JANEIRO

DAY 2 - TOKYO (2020)

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# GROSS - PAGE 3



To construct the third grid, take the right hand borders from puzzles in order from Aries to Pisces. However, these words do not appear on any scrolls, but words like 'Ram', 'Fish', 'Twins' and 'Water Bearer' do, and these represent signs of the zodiac, so puzzles can be put in order of representations of star signs throughout the year.

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



Indicates to take the right border of individual puzzles

The right borders, in order, produce one further wordfill for you to fill in, but what words should you use? This is a metapuzzle, and it just so happens that the answers to the twelve puzzles fit! The grid can be filled as shown on the left.

But what to do with this grid?

DAY 11 - RAM - (ARIES)  
 DAY 4 - BULL  
 DAY 9 - TWINS  
 DAY 5 - CRAB  
 DAY 3 - LION  
 DAY 1 - MAIDEN  
 DAY 8 - SCALES  
 DAY 7 - SCORPION  
 DAY 6 - ARCHER  
 DAY 2 - GOAT  
 DAY 12 - WATER BEARER  
 DAY 10 - FISHES (PISCES)

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# GROSS - PAGE 4



How does this all come together? It's time for the mysterious looking equation:

$$\square + O \rightarrow Z + \text{★} = ?$$

It's time to take the bottom rows of the borders of puzzles in NATO phonetic alphabet order, from OSCAR to ZULU.

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

As the equation is next to the grid created using the right-hand side borders, this equation should be considered alongside this grid (presented here to the left)

Starting with OSCAR, on Day 1, the pattern of black and white squares on the **bottom** border of Day 1's puzzle is the same as that of Row 10 in this grid (the row with PATH and PERU). The yellow stars in the third and fourth squares that border thus represent TH (the third and fourth letters of that row). For NOVEMBER, Day 2, Row 4 becomes the relevant row and the yellow star represents E.

Thus the following message is decoded:

**THE DIRTY DOZEN DOZEN**

which is the final answer to Puzzlemas 2019!

A gross (144) is a dozen times a dozen (12x12), so the grossest movie would be The Dirty Dozen Dozen! Additionally, we have made a dozen 'dirty' words from each puzzle from a grid containing twelve words, which a dirty dozen dozen in a different sense.

And that's the final solution to Puzzlemas 2019! I really hope you've enjoyed solving all the puzzles. If you have enjoyed it, please consider paying some money at

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as a token of your appreciation if you can afford to do so. Thank you very very much!

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