



# July 2021: Poirot Answer Sheet

## Welcome to Puzzled Pint!

### Tonight

- We're here to help! This is not a competitive event. Ask the Game Control volunteers (GC) for hints as often as you'd like. The goal is to have fun, not to be frustrated!
- You can find complete information about this puzzle set online at: <http://puzzledpint.com/july-2021>
  - Go to the location page there to find out if your location is running virtually and how to contact your local GC.
  - Look there for online remote solving tools for remote teams, like google-sheets and answer checkers.

### The Puzzles

- Each puzzle's solution will be a short word or phrase. How do you find it? That's for you to discover!
- Need a code sheet or solving resources? Check out the Resources page on Puzzled Pint's webpage: <http://www.puzzledpint.com/resources/>
- You can use anything to help solve: Use your phone; the internet is fair game! Think your brother might have an insight? Give him a call!
- While each month has a theme, you need no special knowledge of the theme to solve.

### About Puzzled Pint

- We're an all-volunteer organization.
- Help us run locally: Talk with Game Control about how you can volunteer.
- Help us run globally: <https://www.patreon.com/PuzzledPint>.
- How did tonight go? Email us at [Feedback@puzzledpint.com](mailto:Feedback@puzzledpint.com) or take a brief survey using this QR code:



**Team Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Start Time:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Team Size:** \_\_\_\_\_

**End Time:** \_\_\_\_\_

Puzzle Answers	
1. The Mysterious Affair at Styles	
2. The A.B.C. Murders	
3. Five Little Plgs	
4. Murder on the Orient Express	
5. Meta: The Big Four	
6. Optional Bonus: Cards on the Table	

# 1. The Mysterious Affair at Styles

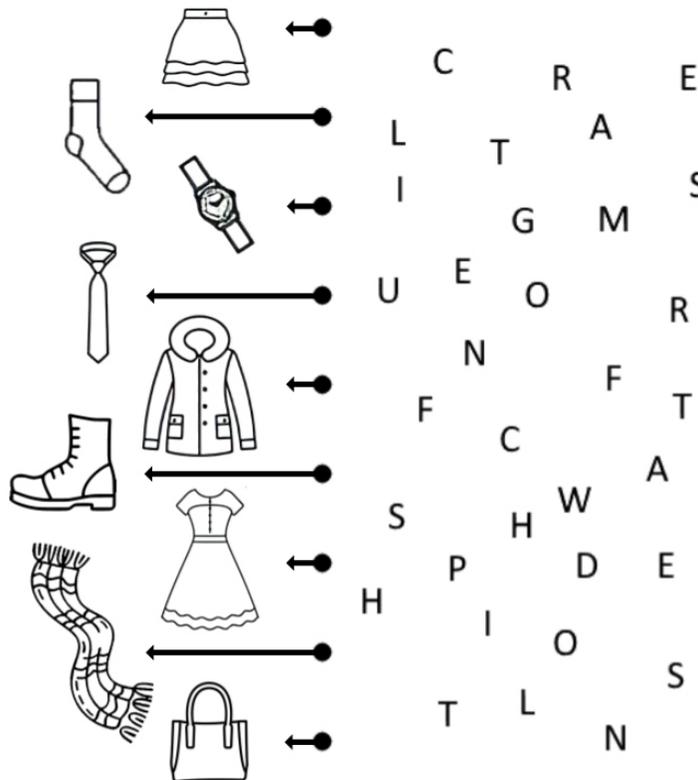


“M. Hercule Poirot and Captain Arthur Hastings,” the butler announced as the two men walked into the library.

“M. Poirot! How did you know to come? You're just the man I need,” exclaimed a dazed Mr. Taylor. He made a vague gesture towards the fireplace. “You must be here about Mother. The butler found her like this a few minutes ago. The police have not yet arrived.”

Mrs. Taylor's body lay on the hearthrug, surrounded by a curious assortment of clothing and accessories. Poirot bent to examine each item. When he arose, his eyes gleamed with excitement. “I have solved the case,” he declared. “We must interview all the members of the household to hear their alibis, but it is only to **eliminate** other possibilities. I know what has occurred here: it was a

\_\_\_\_\_.”



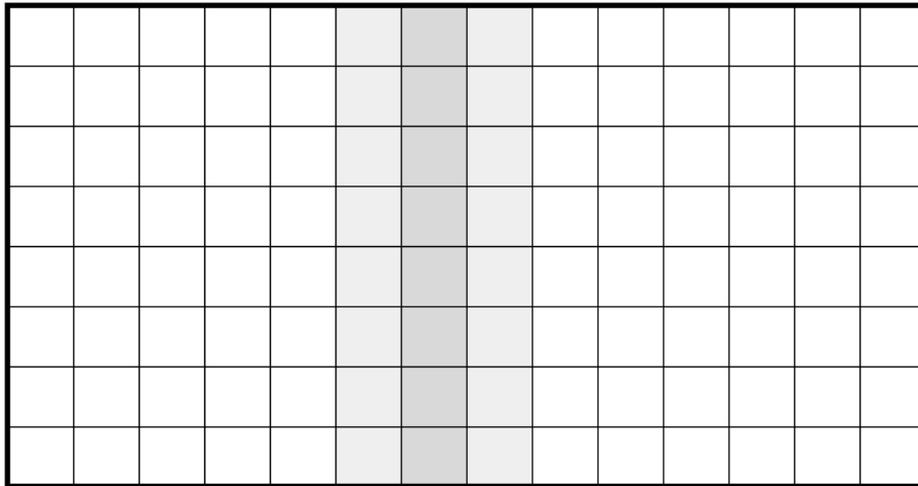
- I was **tethering** my boat at the lake.
- I was **gobbling** some bread in the dining room.
- I was **smacking** a punching bag in the gym.
- I was **glazing** a cake with icing in the kitchen.
- I was **evicting** a trespasser from the grounds.
- I was **avoiding** the family in my study.
- I was **bandaging** a cut on my finger in my bedroom.
- I was **puckering** my lips in disapproval in my sitting room.
- I was **observing** the scenery in the garden.

# 2. The A.B.C. Murders



“Now that we know what happened, the case should be plain as ABC,” Captain Hastings mused, peering at the victim. “But what a strange wound that is! What kind of weapon could the killer have used?”

“A strange wound indeed, mon ami,” Poirot said gravely. “I believe she was stabbed three times in succession with a most improbable object. Why, the murder weapon was a \_\_\_\_!”



Literary technique used in verse (e.g., alliteration) (6 6)

Brief summary (8)

Real estate board game (8)

2D barcode reader (2 7)

Approve automatically, as a matter of routine (6 5)

What to wear on Halloween (7)

Fear of strangers (10)

Classroom surprises (3 7)

P	O	B	B	E	?	?	?	A	A	B	E	A	R
R	U	E	C	E				C	E	C	I	E	S
			M	I				H	I	N	N	E	
			S	O				M	I	P	Z		
			T	O				O	I	S			
			X	P				S	L	Y			
				Y				U	M	Z			
								V	O				

# 3. Five Little Pigs



Having found the murder weapon hiding in plain sight, a distinctive mud smear led Poirot and Hastings to a farm outside the city, where a livestock competition was in full swing. They found the owner, Mr. Hamm, pacing angrily near the pigsty.

“What’s that? Yes, a man did come through here just now. He was in quite a hurry - he trampled through the sty and let out all the swine, and now they are everywhere! The judging starts in a few minutes. Oh, what will I do?” Mr. Hamm cried.

“Perhaps we can help you to find them,” Poirot suggested reluctantly, his handkerchief over his nose, inspecting his patent leather shoes for traces of mud.

“Awful good of you,” said Mr. Hamm gratefully. “There are **three different categories** of swine, you know, and there are **five competing in each category**. Here are their descriptions.”

With some effort, they located all the animals. “Our search was not in vain,” Poirot declared.

“We can now see where the killer was going. Monsieur, what is that building in the distance?”

“That’s the train station,” Mr. Hamm replied. “The name of the station is \_\_\_\_\_.”

*(Watch out for spelling!)*

(see next page)

# 3. Five Little Pigs

(page 2)

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

#1  = ____	#2  = ____	#3  = ____
This little  prevents food from entering the windpipe.	This little  is actually a small spiny mammal.	This little  is alongside a beach.
This little  will sort things into restrictive categories.	This little  is nonsense!	This little  can be corrugated.
This little  is colouring.	This little  is reddish-brown and makes furniture.	This little  is behind the bed.
This little  uses a cipher.	This little  causes disease.	This little  has regularly spaced holes.
This little  is stuck in a cask.	This little  was a Japanese military ruler.	This little  is right on a boat.

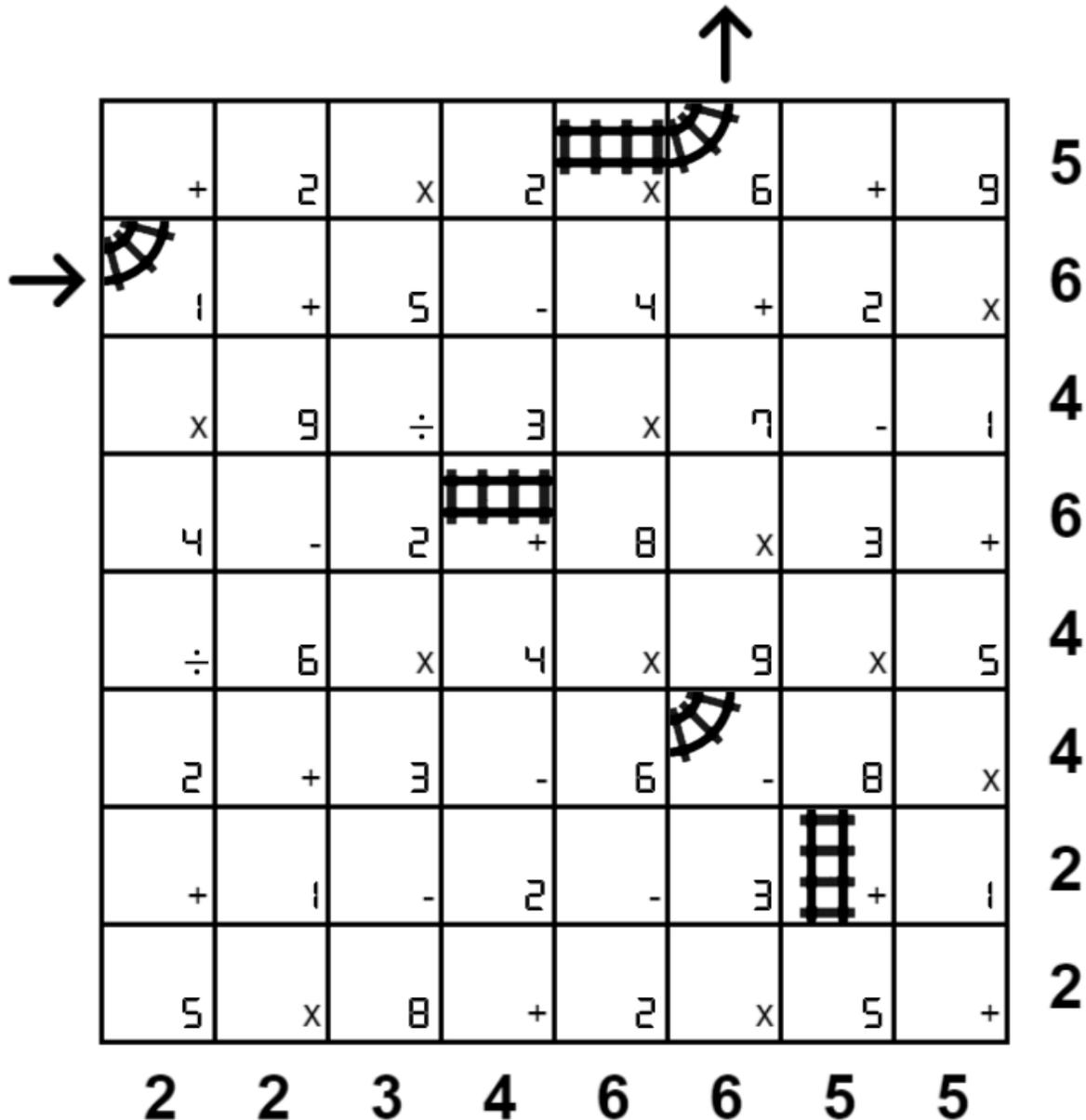
# 4. Murder on the Orient Express

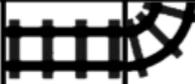


Hastings sighed. "I'm afraid he's gone, Poirot. The train left the station a few minutes ago."

"All is not lost, Hastings," Poirot replied. "Let us **calculate** the train's path, **one piece at a time**. Then, if we **look over** everything from **the correct perspective**, we will see where the murderer is going. We will apprehend him before he attempts to flee to \_\_\_\_\_."

*Draw a single continuous train track from beginning to end. Numbers along the side indicate how many squares in the corresponding row or column are occupied by train tracks. The tracks do not cross and only one piece of track can be in each grid square.*



									5
	+	2	x	2	x	6	+	9	6
		1	+	5	-	4	+	2	x
	x	9	÷	3	x	7	-	1	4
	4	-	2		+	8	x	3	+
	÷	6	x	4	x	9	x	5	4
	2	+	3	-	6		-	8	x
	+	1	-	2	-	3		+	1
	5	x	8	+	2	x	5	+	2
	2	2	3	4	6	6	5	5	



# 5. The Big Four



“Hastings, I have reached the troubling conclusion that today’s events were orchestrated by a criminal mastermind known only as the Destroyer,” Poirot said, agitated. “What is more, the man’s voice that I heard from the window - why, it was the Destroyer himself! But he would never be so careless as to plot a murder with the window open.”

“For a master criminal, that is rather careless,” Hastings agreed, “and poor timing too! It’s not every day you have the world’s most famous detective vacationing within earshot, eh, Poirot?” laughed Hastings.

“No, mon ami, you are right - it cannot be a coincidence. He saw that I am here, and he staged the conversation to ensure that I, the great Hercule Poirot, am out of his way - chasing the wild goose, as you would say, Hastings,” Poirot mused. “Meanwhile, the Destroyer is free to carry out his heinous deeds unobstructed at a different location.”

“But surely that means he is not on that train!” cried Hastings. “He must still be in the city. Is there a connection that will shed some light on his true location?”

A curious gleam came into Poirot’s eyes. “That is a good idea, mon ami. I wonder - yes, the four events we have been **mixed up** in - **with a little direction**, they could point us to the Destroyer’s true location, and to his identity. Please hand me the map again, Hastings..”

- #1: \_\_\_\_\_ + \_\_\_\_\_ → \_\_\_\_\_
- #2: \_\_\_\_\_ + \_\_\_\_\_ → \_\_\_\_\_
- #3: \_\_\_\_\_ + \_\_\_\_\_ → \_\_\_\_\_
- #4: \_\_\_\_\_ + \_\_\_\_\_ → \_\_\_\_\_

Beret Craze	Sir Steak	Forecast Center	The Flounder Society	Powder Ham 4 U
Gabe's Cab	A Cat Herd Ringer	A&J Scallop	Grapple Jigs R Us	Eco Bike Hollow
Deficit of Plums	Lee's Biz	Downtown Square	Lichen's Grotto	Tim's Place o' Tuna
Rodeo Post	Thirld Butte Deli	Wama Pub	Top Mint Chemist	Ion Loader
The Scotch Port	Finnish Cafe Room	Bobby's Fishbowl	Wuli Bar	Beige Sill

"Look here!" He pointed to the map: \_\_\_\_\_  
 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14

Hastings gasped. "The truth was in front of us all along!"  
 \_\_\_\_\_!" ←  
 8 2 12 6 7 1 13 10 4 11 3 5 14 9

Got feedback?

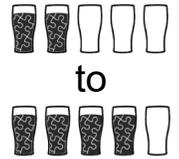
Use this QR code and complete a brief survey!



# 6. Cards on the Table

Spoiler Alert!

Don't do this puzzle before you've finished the Metal!

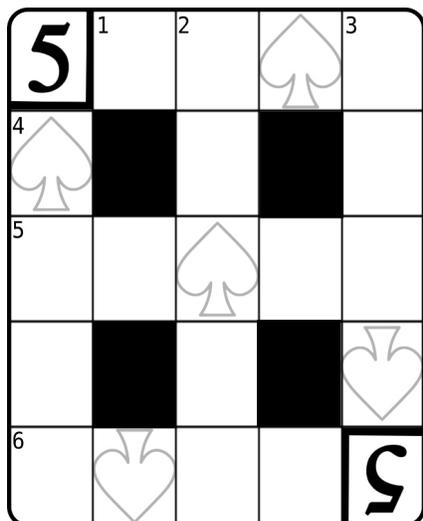


Poirot and Hastings arrive at the Destroyer's location, just in time to see a discreetly dressed man leap into a waiting cab and race down the deserted street. "He got away!" cried Hastings.

"Yes, my dear Hastings," Poirot replied, out of breath, "but it is no matter. I saw his face - he is definitely the butler we met earlier today."

"It's all rather unbelievable," Hastings mused, "to think that that butler was the Destroyer himself. He seemed so respectable. Now, if only I could remember his name... but I must admit I did not pay the least attention to him," he said ruefully.

The two returned to the scene and found it in complete disarray. "He may be gone, but I believe we succeeded in interrupting his plans," Poirot said, examining the room. He bent down and picked up a playing card, the five of spades. "In fact, he left in such a hurry that he inadvertently dropped a clue to his real identity. It's **written across this card**. His name is \_\_\_\_\_."



Across

- 1. Robot has concealed one and the other
- 5. Possibly near a stadium
- 6. Some of his hamsters are fake

Down

- 2. The last letter in some games
- 3. Warm up for the race
- 4. Hits sharply with rasp by mistake

This puzzle is a mini-cryptic-crossword puzzle. Each clue has two parts: a definition part like a normal crossword puzzle clue, and a cryptic wordplay part. Discovering which part of each clue is the definition and which part is the cryptic wordplay is part of the challenge. Because this is a beginner-friendly puzzle, only three types of cryptic wordplay are used: **Anagram, Double Definition, and Hidden Word.**

In an **Anagram** clue, the cryptic hint is composed of a word or words that are an anagram of the answer, along with an anagram indicator. The indicator is a word or phrase that indicates that anagramming is required; some examples are "mixed up", "confused", "incorrectly", or "maybe".

An Anagram clue for "DATES" might be "Ed sat, ruined fruit". "Fruit" is the definition part, "ruined" is the anagram indicator, and "Ed sat" is an anagram of "dates".

In a **Hidden Word** clue, the answer is hidden in the clue itself. The clue also contains a hidden word indicator; some examples are "within", "partly", "hidden", or "from".

A Hidden Word clue for "DATES" might be "Fruit extract in soda tests". "Fruit" is the definition, "extract" is the hidden word indicator, and the word "dates" is hidden in "soda tests".

In a **Double Definition** clue, the cryptic hint is simply a second alternative definition of the answer.

A Double Definition clue for "DATES" might be "Fruit lovers". "Fruit" refers to one meaning of the word, while "lovers" refers to another.