

# 1

## Fairy lights chaos

Rejoice, rejoice, we have reason:  
It's the coming Christmas season!

The tree being decorated  
Jaine's mother quite elated  
and says: "Good work, my daughter Jaine,  
but lights – it's dark – we need a chain!"

A dream, oh a wondrous dream,  
a christmas tree in shiny gleam!

Our little Jaine finds a dusty crate,  
behind a board and not too late.  
The guest room 'twas, where it'd been  
'till found by Jaine, she took it in.

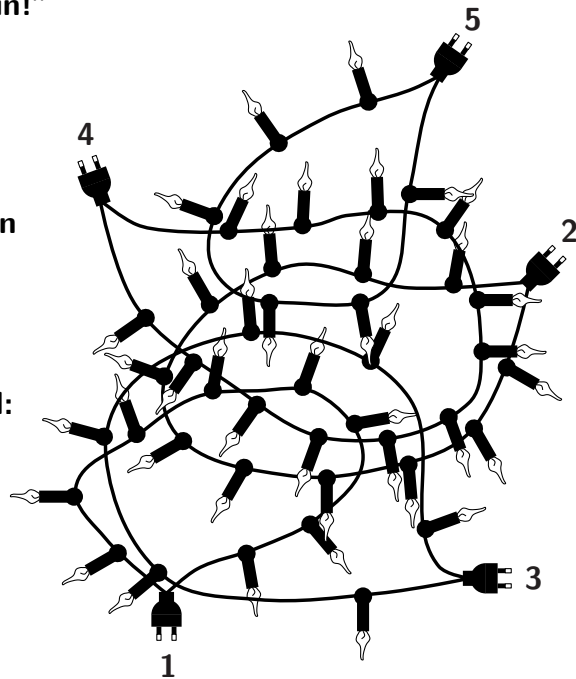
The crate, the crate, open it!  
Let's see, what hides this dusty bit.

The treasure, poured onto the ground:  
Five fairy lights she gladly found  
yet wildly mixed by a hoarder.  
We need to sort it into order.

The longer, the longest we yearn  
and shorter and shortest, we spurn!

It only took just merely seconds  
untill Jaine now quite rightly reckons:  
The shining chain with most of lights  
will be the brightest through the nights!

Now, can you help our little Jaine  
and find quickly the brightest chain?



- (E) number 1
- (Q) number 2
- (Ä) number 3
- (K) number 4
- (S) number 5

# 2

## Time for trains

On Wednesday we're finally going to the train exhibition. Till had arranged this with his cousin. On the way home after school, he checks the opening hours again to make sure. There's a big sign on the door:



“Great! Then we can go to the exhibition straight after school on Wednesday,” says Till happily.

The train exhibition is only closed one day of the week.

Which one?

- (I) on Friday
- (A) on Saturday
- (O) on Sunday
- (M) on Monday
- (S) on Tuesday

# 3

## Lots going on in the birdhouse

Holger's grandfather has put up a birdhouse in the garden in the morning. "That's really exciting," says Holger, who has had to stay at home for the third day with a sore throat. In the afternoon, he sits down at the window and looks at the birdhouse.

As soon as he sits down, four titmice and just as many greenfinches are fighting over the fattest seeds. Shortly after the titmice and two of the greenfinches have flown away, a curious chaffinch settles down in the birdhouse. A little later, a cheeky pair of sparrows joins them. Holger is delighted that he can observe so many different birds in the birdhouse. But when a woodpecker suddenly flies in, all the other birds fly away.

How many birds flew away in fright?

- (P) 4
- (C) 5
- (E) 6
- (H) 7
- (O) 8

# 4

## Searched, found!

Clara has been working on a puzzle for her brother Theo for a long time. Now it's finished.

Clara has hidden 20 Christmas words in her puzzle: horizontally, vertically or diagonally, forwards or backwards. Many letters even appear in several words.

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

STERN	DUFT	SCHLITTEN	SACK
BAUM	SCHNEIEN	LIED	STIEFEL
SKISCHUH	KERZE	LICHT	HERZ
TANNE	NIKOLAUS	ANIS	KEKS
GANS	ZIMT	LAMETTA	PISTE

Theo looks for the words. When he has found a word, he colours in the corresponding boxes.

When he has finished, only one box has not been coloured in.

Which letter is in this box?

- (S) S
- (C) C
- (H) H
- (A) A
- (L) L

# 5

## Order for St Nicholas

Nicholas will come tomorrow.  
No time we have to borrow:  
Clean your shoes and make them shine  
or you won't get sweets in time!

Hearing this, the kids assemble:  
Vince and Emble, Bruce and Kemble  
Senta too, let's not forget,  
shining up their shoes with sweat.

Quickly all their shoes were brushed  
and they put them, all quite rushed,  
soon in order, putting all  
left to right, from big to small.

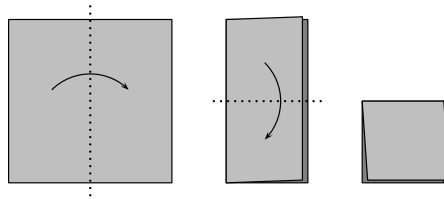
Senta's stand right next to Emble's,  
Bruce's exactly left of Kemble's.  
Between the shoes of Vince and Bruce  
are found two other pairs of shoes.

Nicholas may come and have a look,  
since the shoes are cleanly shook.  
May sleep the five and wait their dues,  
but which one owns the smallest shoes?

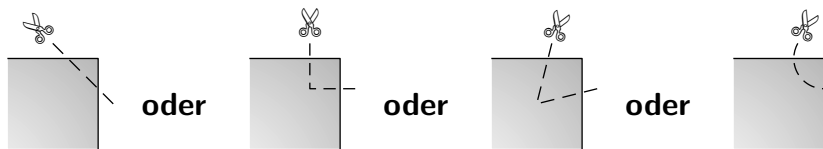
- (V) Bruce
- (R) Vince
- (U) Emble
- (T) Kemble
- (E) Senta

# 6 Paper stars

Tatjana wants to make paper stars for the Christmas tree. To see what happens when folding and cutting, she starts with very simple stars. She takes a square piece of paper and folds it in half twice so that she has a square again.



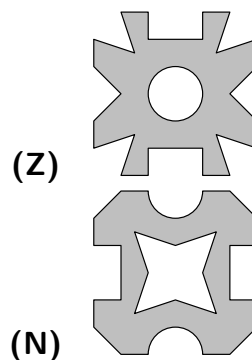
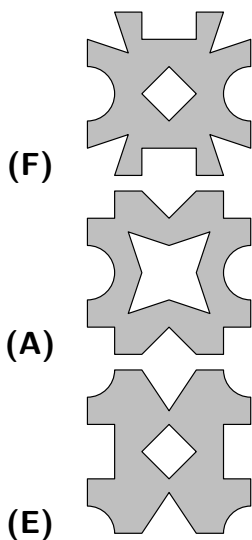
Tatjana cuts the four corners of the square in one of the following four ways – each one different:



When Tatjana unfolds the square again, she gets different stars – depending on which corner she cuts off in which way.

But one of the following stars is not possible.

Which one?



# 7 In the countryside

Nine ducks of which a man was fond,  
once took a bath in a little pond.  
But one of them went ashore,  
because for it the food was more.  
Three dipped their heads in water cold  
— as swimmers they were pretty bold —  
and to the sky their legs now mound  
to signal: “Yet we have not drowned.”

He saw this scene to his delight:  
The man grins, his grin was bright,  
went home and promptly told his wife  
of ducklings and of other life.  
“Hold on!” the wife interrupting him,  
“You talk of dips that duck and swim?  
Or swims that dip and duck at once?  
Oh! Your tale is full of puns!  
How many, they are ducks to me,  
above the water did you see?  
You were too quick and they were quack  
please count the feet and heads aback.”

To count the feet and heads of those  
he act’ally saw, he slightly froze.  
“But I don’t have to count again  
to tell the feet and heads are

- (X) eight.”
- (G) nine.”
- (O) ten.”
- (C) eleven.”
- (B) twelve.”