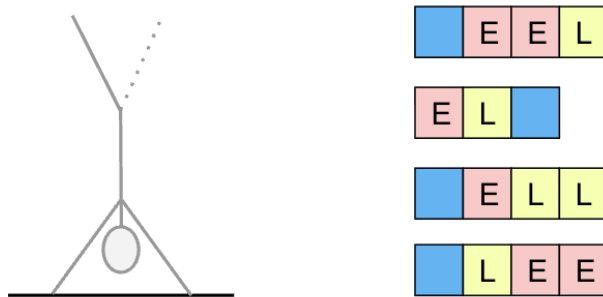


HANDSTANDS

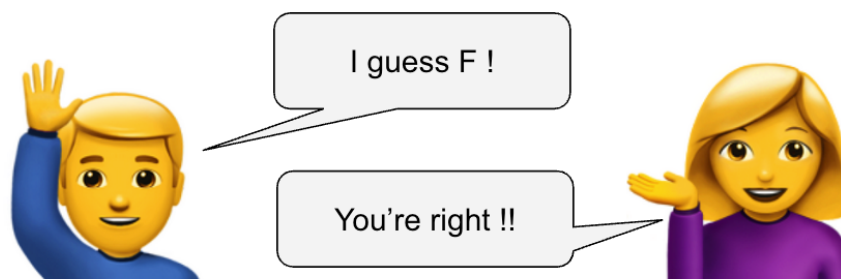
Matthew Abate
mabate13@gmail.com

Introduction:

This article presents a word game called *Handstands*.



Failed Attempts: A, G, V, T, N



The gameplay is very similar to *Hangman*. There are two players. One selects a set of words in advance and draws blanks for their letters, marking the locations of repeated letters. A second player will guess one letter at a time, until either all words are completed, or they reach 6 failed guesses, at which point a person performing a handstand is drawn to signify the failure.

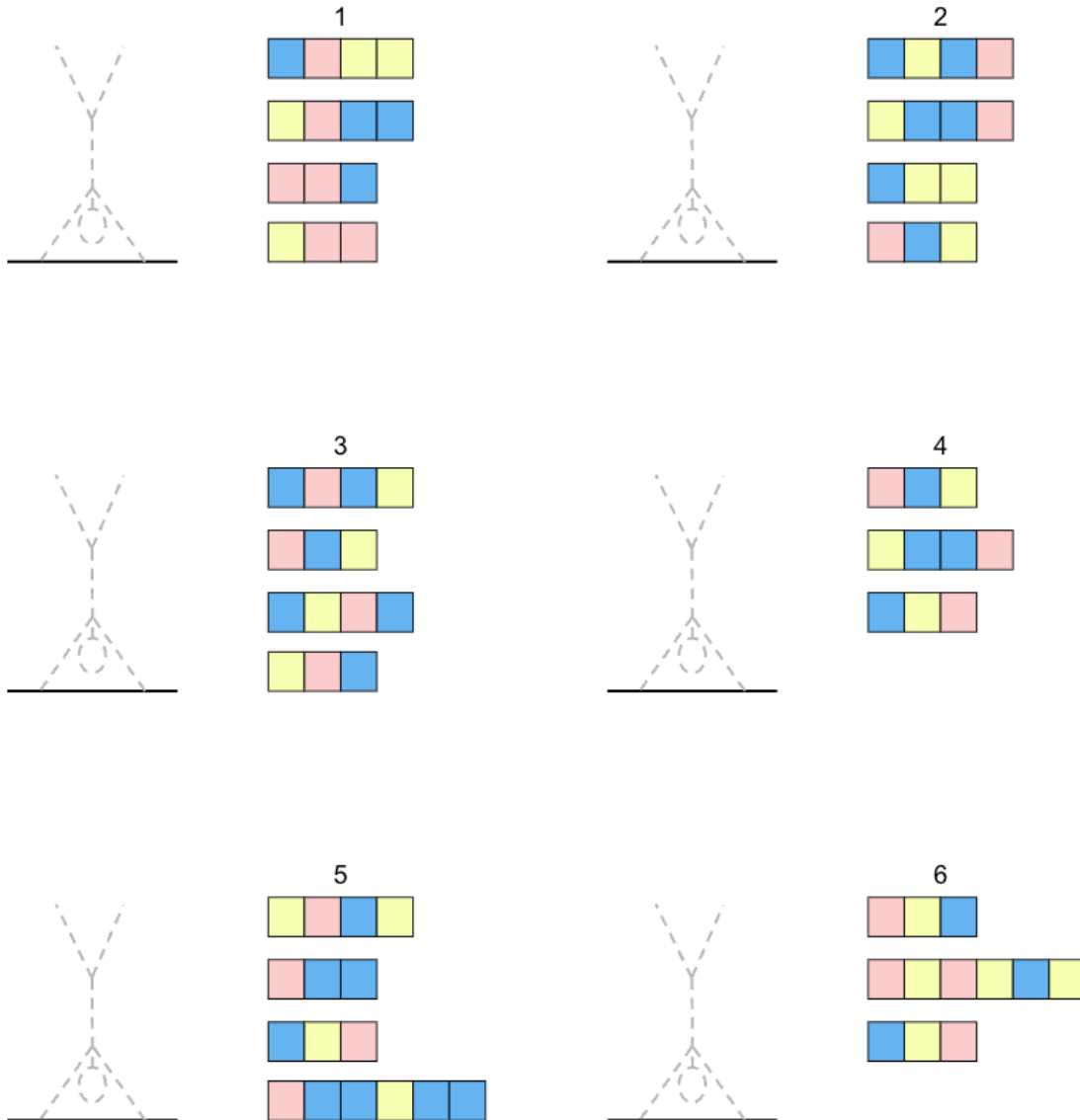
Unlike hangman, which prioritizes short phrases or longer words containing many distinct letters, handstands prioritize choosing many semantically unrelated words that together use as few letters as possible.

The remainder of this article is game set, and I've provided the solutions in such a way that you can play by yourself or with a partner.

Enjoy the Handstands! – Matt

Games:

The written out solutions are provided on page **XX**. To play with one player, refer to the solution checker below.



Solution Checker	B	Z	A	M	D	X	U	O	K	S	I	T	P	F	E	V	Q	N	C	H	R	G	L	J	Y	W
Puzzle #3								Pink							Yellow			Blue								
Puzzle #6			Yellow										Pink											Blue		
Puzzle #2					Yellow			Blue													Pink					
Puzzle #5			Pink							Blue					Yellow											
Puzzle #4								Blue															Pink			Yellow
Puzzle #1										Yellow					Pink								Blue			

Solutions:

Puzzle 1:	E L S	less, sell, eel, see
Puzzle 2:	D O R	odor, door, odd, rod
Puzzle 3:	E O N	none, one, neon, eon
Puzzle 4:	L O W	low, wool, owl
Puzzle 5:	A E S	ease, ass, sea, assess
Puzzle 6:	A P Y	pay, papaya, yap

Bio:

Matthew Abate, Ph.D., is an Applied Mathematician from Jersey City, NJ. He enjoys creating self-referential art, puzzles, and wordplay. Matt is the author of "Autograms" (Issue #4 of TJoW), "Puzzle Poetry" (Issue #5), "Goof-Offs" (Issue #7), and "Headbutts" (Issue #8), as well as "Handstands" which appears in this issue. For updates and new puzzles check out his personal site: <https://mattabate.com/>.