

The Mausoleum of Halicarnassus

On each of the days Monday through Thursday, two digs are mentioned, with starting and ending times. Each dig corresponds to a straight line path in the grid, by using the hours and minutes of the times as grid coordinates. For instance, the morning dig on Monday started at 1:03, which corresponds to the point $(x,y) = (1,3)$, which is the first item on the third row from the bottom. It ended at 3:03, the point $(3,3)$. Drawing a line from $(1,3)$ to $(3,3)$ crosses through three items. On each day, there are two types of items: one which is round (0-shaped) and one which is narrow (1-shaped), and so each item can be viewed as a 0 or a 1. Thus this sequence of three items can be seen as a binary number (as clued by the archaeologist's name, B. I. Nary). In this case we have 100, which is the binary representation of 4. Each of the eight digs gives a number in this way, always reading in the direction from the "start" time to the "end" time (which also agrees with the orientation of the items). The numbers are:

Monday: 4, 8

Tuesday: 3, 10

Wednesday: 5, 5

Thursday: 12, 9

Friday's grid is different. In this case, the encoding is semaphore. This is clued by the word "signaling" and the images of ships and flags. Each ship in the grid is adjacent to exactly two flags (counting diagonals). The locations of these flags relative to the ship produce a letter in semaphore. These letters, reading left-to-right, top-to-bottom, spell USE FIRST FOUR AS COORDS. This is instructing solvers to use the pairs of numbers they got from the first four days' grids as coordinates in this grid: $(4,8)$, $(3,10)$, $(5,5)$, and $(12,9)$. Each of these corresponds to one of the ships in the grid. The semaphore letters from these ships spell F, I, S, T. FIST is the answer to the puzzle.