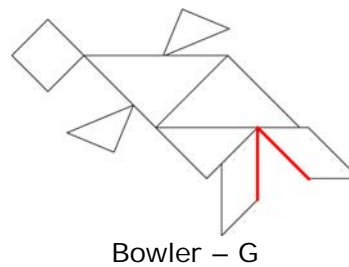
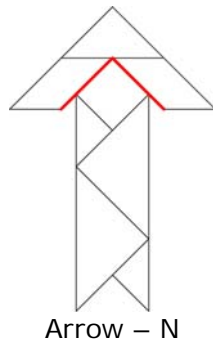
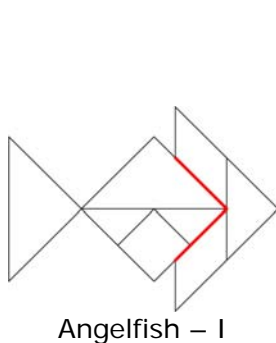
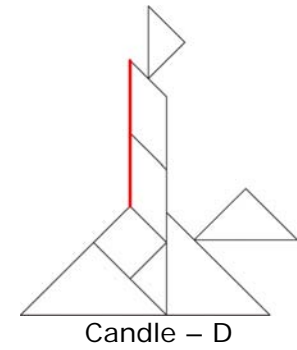
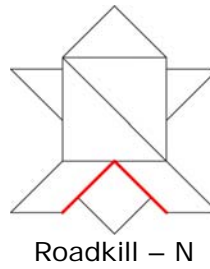
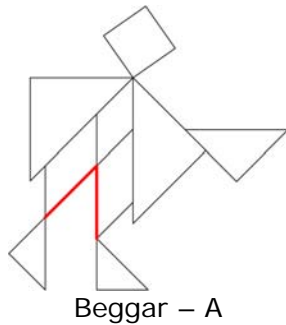
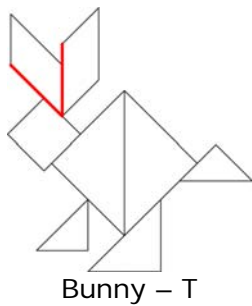
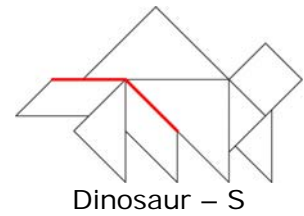
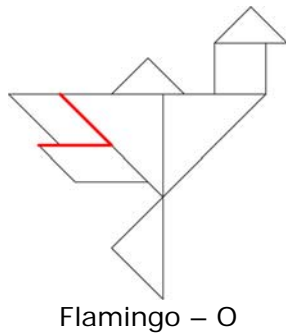
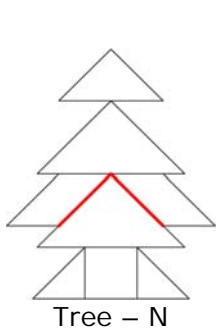


Eight Easy Pieces

By Nick Baxter

The clue envelope contained a cover page with a list of the 11 words that could have been picked for the prerequisite challenge, along with 11 sample outlines. Teams had to discover that their standard 7-piece tangram set could not be arranged to make any of these figures, and that Mr. Evil had removed one piece—a second parallelogram—from a non-standard 8-piece set.

With the addition of the missing piece, each figure could then be constructed. The solutions were not always unique, but the positions of the two parallelograms were.



Teams then observed that the two parallelograms always touched, and that a long edge from each of the two parallelograms always met at a point. Using these two line segments, teams observed the familiar semaphore coding for letters. Arranging the figures in the order given on the cover page gave the message: NOT STANDING. This clued the desired 7-letter answer: SITTING.