



Pasadena Pursuit:

Build your own Pasadena

One fact at a time

Register

Login

Quit

Save

Sample Game

Build Something

Another ?





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Build your own Pasadena

One fact at a time

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Sample Game

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Another ?



How to play Pasadena Pursuit

Pasadena Pursuit is a game where you answer questions and get points. The harder the question, and the fewer amount of answers it takes you to answer the question, the more points you get. Every question has the answer you can find in the Pasadena News Index (PNI).

Searching the PNI is like being a detective. You have to filter out all the many "bad" facts that you don't want; while at the same time keeping in the few "good" facts that you do. You do this by being smart; thinking what are the common terms that describe what you want, and then what are the unique terms to pull out the answer.

There are no trick questions, and all answers are true insofar as the newspapers of Pasadena are concerned.

With the points, you then create your own version of Pasadena, which can resemble the real Pasadena as much or as little as you want, except this Pasadena has vampires (from Glendale), and zombies (from South Pasadena) and mummies (from Altadena).

Let's go through a few questions to give you some idea how it works.

First you select a category...

Quit

Save

Sample Game

Build Something

Another ?

Pick a Category

- | | | |
|---|-------------------------------|---------------|
| <i>Any</i> | <i>Any</i> | <i>Any</i> |
| <i>Animals</i> | <i>Hotels</i> | <i>1880's</i> |
| <i>Art & Entertainment</i> | <i>Interesting Pasadenans</i> | <i>1890's</i> |
| <i>Bridges</i> | <i>Media</i> | <i>1900's</i> |
| <i>Business & Economic Conditions</i> | <i>Parks</i> | <i>1910's</i> |
| <i>City of Pasadena</i> | <i>Rose Bowl</i> | <i>1920's</i> |
| <i>Clubs & Groups</i> | <i>Schools</i> | <i>1930's</i> |
| <i>Crime & Criminals</i> | <i>Sports</i> | <i>1940's</i> |
| <i>Death & Health</i> | <i>Technology</i> | <i>1950's</i> |
| <i>Disasters & Accidents</i> | <i>Thou Shall Not</i> | <i>1960's</i> |
| <i>Elections</i> | <i>Tournament of Roses</i> | <i>1970's</i> |
| <i>Geography</i> | <i>Visitors</i> | <i>1980's</i> |
| <i>Ethnic Communities</i> | <i>War</i> | <i>1990's</i> |
| <i>Holidays</i> | <i>Women</i> | <i>2000's</i> |
| | | <i>2010's</i> |

Quit

Save

Sample Game

Build Something

Another ?

You have 0 points. You need 15 points to build something. This question is medium. Answer it correctly now for 10 points.

9. In 1934, after being denied a pension by the City of Pasadena, Ida May Talbot, widow of city fireman Edgar Reece Talbot, requested his:

- a. Badge.
- b. Heart.
- c. Horse.
- d. Uniform.

answer:

Help: at <http://ww2.cityofpasadena.net/library/PNI/subject.asp> and enter 'Talbot, Ida May' in the Subject: box.

The hint is the important part. You get no penalites if you use any outside help. (In fact, we prefer that you do). When you click on this link you will leave the game and go the Pasadena News Index:

PNI SUBJECT SEARCH

Subject:

Find text entered within words (i.e. subject 'cat' would return matches like 'category' or 'cats' as well as 'cat'). Selecting this improves search time.

Limit The Current Search (Optional):

by Date: / / to / /

by Article Type:

by Publication:

must include illustrations

[Get Help](#)

Quit

Save

Sample Game

Build Something

Another ?

You have 0 points. You need 15 points to build something. This question is medium. Answer it correctly now for 10 points.

9. In 1934, after being denied a pension by the City of Pasadena, Ida May Talbot, widow of city fireman Edgar Reece Talbot, requested his:

- a. Badge.
- b. Heart.
- c. Horse.
- d. Uniform.

answer:

Help: at <http://ww2.cityofpasadena.net/library/PNI/subject.asp> set the date to 1934 and enter 'Talbot, Ida May' in the Subject: box.

Since the question says it happened in 1934 set the by Date: to 01 / 01 / 1934 to 12 /31/1934 and since Ida May Talbot is the subject type in Talbot, Ida in the Subject: box.

PNI SUBJECT SEARCH

Subject:

Find text entered within words (i.e. subject 'cat' would return matches like 'category' or 'cats' as well as 'cat'). Selecting this improves search time.

Limit The Current Search (Optional):

by Date: / / to / /

by Article Type:

by Publication:

must include illustrations

[Get Help](#)

Quit

Save

Sample Game

Build Something

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- a. Badge.
- b. Heart.
- c. Horse.
- d. Uniform.

answer:

Help: at <http://ww2.cityofpasadena.net/library/PNI/subject.asp> set the date to 1934 and enter 'Talbot, Ida May' in the Subject: box.

This is what your search can look like. Because the PNI automatically truncates, or looks for letters before or after anything you type, you don't have to type in the full name. Also, it doesn't care about capitalization, so upper or lower case doesn't matter. On the other hand, it counts a space as a character, so you do have to be careful about making sure the spacing is correct

PNI SUBJECT SEARCH

Subject:

Find text entered within words (i.e. subject 'cat' would return matches like 'category' or 'cats' as well as 'cat'). Selecting this improves search time.

Limit The Current Search (Optional):

by Date: / / to / /

by Article Type:

by Publication:

must include illustrations

[Get Help](#)

Quit

Save

Sample Game

Build Something

Another ?

You have 0 points. You need 15 points to build something. This question is medium. Answer it correctly now for 10 points.

9. In 1934, after being denied a pension by the City of Pasadena, Ida May Talbot, widow of city fireman Edgar Reece Talbot, requested his:
- a. Badge.
 - b. Heart.
 - c. Horse.
 - d. Uniform.

answer: b

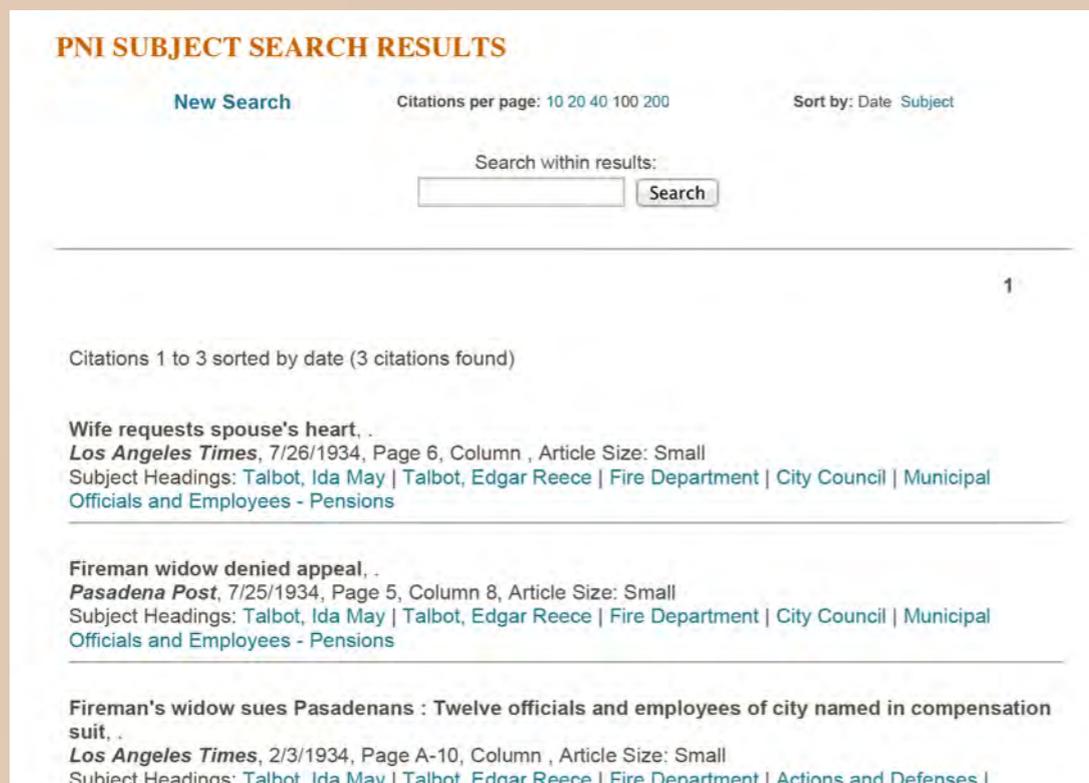
Help: at <http://ww2.cityofpasadena.net/library/PNI/subject.asp> set the date to 1934 and enter 'Talbot, Ida May' in the Subject: box.

Looking at this list the answer is clear from the first citation on the list "Wife requests spouse's heart".

The answer is b.

Please note that the terms under the subject heading are "live" meaning that if you want to find other articles about Edgar or the Fire Department or Actions and Defences (the subject heading we use when someone is suing someone else) you are just a click away.

What happens if you want to know more about Ida and her desire for her dead husband's heart?



PNI SUBJECT SEARCH RESULTS

[New Search](#) Citations per page: 10 20 40 100 200 Sort by: Date Subject

Search within results:

1

Citations 1 to 3 sorted by date (3 citations found)

Wife requests spouse's heart. .
Los Angeles Times, 7/26/1934, Page 6, Column , Article Size: Small
Subject Headings: Talbot, Ida May | Talbot, Edgar Reece | Fire Department | City Council | Municipal Officials and Employees - Pensions

Fireman widow denied appeal. .
Pasadena Post, 7/25/1934, Page 5, Column 8, Article Size: Small
Subject Headings: Talbot, Ida May | Talbot, Edgar Reece | Fire Department | City Council | Municipal Officials and Employees - Pensions

Fireman's widow sues Pasadenans : Twelve officials and employees of city named in compensation suit. .
Los Angeles Times, 2/3/1934, Page A-10, Column , Article Size: Small
Subject Headings: Talbot, Ida May | Talbot, Edgar Reece | Fire Department | Actions and Defenses |

[Quit](#)

[Save](#)

[Sample Game](#)

[Build Something](#)

[Another ?](#)

You have 0 points. You need 15 points to build something. This question is medium. Answer it correctly now for 10 points.

Well, most of the citations in the PNI exist on microfilm at the Central Library. You can come and view the articles anytime the library is open.

Some of the more recent articles from the Pasadena Weekly have a direct link to the article itself. If there is a link through the title, you can go directly there.

Articles from the Los Angeles Times are accessible through the library's web page <http://cityofpasadena.libguides.com/Databases> (you will need a library card.)

For a lot more tips on Pasadena research and resources, I highly recommend the endlessly fascinating and completely engaging subject guide to Pasadena history http://cityofpasadena.libguides.com/pasadena_history

And finally, Google sometimes can be very helpful, especially in regards to finding things about people.

Please use these questions to spark your interest. Not everything is in the PNI. Coverage of local news before 1996 is not complete. Especially in the past, newspapers would cover every day of a trial or some breaking story from beginning to end; there were 2 or 3 different newspapers reporting the news; not all the relevant articles to a story are in the database.

Every question in this game has a story behind it that you can discover.

Now let's do a few more questions. These are a bit harder.

1

Citations 1 to 3 sorted by date (3 citations found)

Wife requests spouse's heart, .
Los Angeles Times, 7/26/1934, Page 6, Column , Article Size: Small
Subject Headings: Talbot, Ida May | Talbot, Edgar Reece | Fire Department | City Council | Municipal Officials and Employees - Pensions

Fireman widow denied appeal. .
Pasadena Post, 7/25/1934, Page 5, Column 8, Article Size: Small
Subject Headings: Talbot, Ida May | Talbot, Edgar Reece | Fire Department | City Council | Municipal Officials and Employees - Pensions

Fireman's widow sues Pasadenans : Twelve officials and employees of city named in compensation suit, .
Los Angeles Times, 2/3/1934, Page A-10, Column , Article Size: Small
Subject Headings: Talbot, Ida May | Talbot, Edgar Reece | Fire Department | Actions and Defenses |

Quit

Save

Sample Game

Build Something

Another ?

You have 0 points. You need 15 points to build something. This question is medium. Answer it correctly now for 10 points.

10. *California Institute of Technology, along with MIT, sponsored a “smogless” auto race (featuring electric automobiles) in:*

- a. 1950.
- b. 1970.
- c. 1990.
- d. 2010

answer:

Help: at <http://ww2.cityofpasadena.net/library/PNI/subject.asp> and enter ‘of Technology’ in the Subject: box.

The phrase we use to describe all the articles about Cal Tech is California Insitute of Technology. By using the same words to describe all the time to describe same thing, we can get all times that thing is mentioned. Becuase of truncation we don't have to spell it all out. Since the question gives us a range of dates we can incorporate those into the query as well.

PNI SUBJECT SEARCH

Subject:

Find text entered within words (i.e. subject 'cat' would return matches like 'category' or 'cats' as well as 'cat'). Selecting this improves search time.

Limit The Current Search (Optional):

by Date: / / to / /

by Article Type:

by Publication:

must include illustrations

[Get Help](#)

Quit

Save

Sample Game

Build Something

Another ?

You have 0 points. You need 15 points to build something. This question is medium. Answer it correctly now for 10 points.

10. *California Institute of Technology, along with MIT, sponsored a "smogless" auto race (featuring electric automobiles) in:*
- a. 1950.
 - b. 1970.
 - c. 1990.
 - d. 2010

answer:

Help: at <http://ww2.cityofpasadena.net/library/PNI/subject.asp> and enter 'of Technology' in the Subject: box; then 'smogless'

Here are the results.

Notice the number of citations found by this search, 3,832. To narrow this number down more, you use the Search within results: box. Whatever you type in this box will look for that word or phrase only within the 3,832 records you have already selected. In general, select the most unusual word to get the fewest number of records to look through.

In this case, select "smogless" although MIT would also be a viable choice.

For the purposes of the game, the questions are constructed with words actually used in the headline or in the subject headings

PNI SUBJECT SEARCH RESULTS

[New Search](#) Citations per page: 10 20 40 100 200 Sort by: Date Subject

Search within results:

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Next >>

Citations 1 to 100 sorted by date (3832 citations found)

Focus on digital opportunities. .
Pasadena Star News, 12/31/2010, Page A-23, Column 1, Article Size: Small
Subject Headings: [California Institute of Technology](#)

, (obituary) .
Pasadena Star News, 12/12/2010, Page A-5, Column 3, Article Size: Medium
Subject Headings: [Roe, Richard Paul "Dick"](#) | [World War, 1939-1945](#) | [Pacific Asia Museum](#) | [Pasadena Symphony Orchestra](#) | [Huntington Memorial Hospital](#) | [California Institute of Technology](#) | [Foothill Vocational Opportunities](#)

[Quit](#)

[Save](#)

[Sample Game](#)

[Build Something](#)

[Another ?](#)

Pick a Category

- | | | |
|---|-------------------------------|---------------|
| <i>Any</i> | <i>Any</i> | <i>Any</i> |
| <i>Animals</i> | <i>Hotels</i> | <i>1880's</i> |
| <i>Art & Entertainment</i> | <i>Interesting Pasadenans</i> | <i>1890's</i> |
| <i>Bridges</i> | <i>Media</i> | <i>1900's</i> |
| <i>Business & Economic Conditions</i> | <i>Parks</i> | <i>1910's</i> |
| <i>City of Pasadena</i> | <i>Rose Bowl</i> | <i>1920's</i> |
| <i>Clubs & Groups</i> | <i>Schools</i> | <i>1930's</i> |
| <i>Crime & Criminals</i> | <i>Sports</i> | <i>1940's</i> |
| <i>Death & Health</i> | <i>Technology</i> | <i>1950's</i> |
| <i>Disasters & Accidents</i> | <i>Thou Shall Not</i> | <i>1960's</i> |
| <i>Elections</i> | <i>Tournament of Roses</i> | <i>1970's</i> |
| <i>Geography</i> | <i>Visitors</i> | <i>1980's</i> |
| <i>Ethnic Communities</i> | <i>War</i> | <i>1990's</i> |
| <i>Holidays</i> | <i>Women</i> | <i>2000's</i> |
| | | <i>2010's</i> |

Quit

Save

Sample Game

Build Something

Another ?



Editors note: the core of the game consists of several hundred questions.

- Each questions can be in multiple categories.
 - A question is pulled randomly from the category it is in.
 - When a question is pulled from one category, it is pulled from all categories it is in.
 - When all questions from a category are pulled, the category is greyed out.
 - All questions are in the “any” category.
- 

You have 0 points. You need at least 15 points to build something. This question is hard. Answer it correctly now and get 15 points.

25. People associated with Caltech have died in accidents everywhere EXCEPT:

- a. An astronomy lab*
- b. A football field*
- c. A radiation lab*
- d. A swimming pool*

answer:

Help: at <http://ww2.cityofpasadena.net/library/PNI/subject.asp> set article type to obituary, then enter 'of technology' in the Subject: box. When you get the results list, type 'accidents.' in the Search within results: box

Quit

Save

Sample Game

Build Something

Another ?

Editors note: This question was randomly drawn from the following category: Death & Health. It was also in the categories Disasters and Accidents; Schools; All. It can no longer be pulled by this user in any of these categories.

The philosophy behind the point scheme is the quicker you answer the question (in terms of number of attempts) the more points you get. Also more difficult questions garner more points. Easy questions can be answered with one search term in the PNI. Medium questions involve two search terms and some sort of Boolean logic. Hard questions involve two search terms plus some independent reasoning.

The goal is to provide an incentive for the user to use the PNI to get the correct answer.

	4 initial choices	2 initial choices	5 initial choices
hard questions			
correct 1st time	15	15	15
correct 2nd time	10	7	11
correct 3rd time	5	0	7
correct 4th time	3	0	5
correct 5th time	0	0	3
medium questions			
correct 1st time	10	10	10
correct 2nd time	7	5	8
correct 3rd time	5	0	6
correct 4th time	2	0	4
correct 5th time	0	0	2
easy questions			
correct 1st time	5	5	5
correct 2nd time	4	2	4
correct 3rd time	2	0	3
correct 4th time	1	0	2
correct 5th time	0	0	1

WRONG! You have 0 points. You need at least 15 points to build something. This question is hard. Answer it correctly now and get 10 points.

25. People associated with Caltech have died in accidents everywhere EXCEPT:

- a. An astronomy lab*
- b. A football field*
- c. A radiation lab*
- d. A swimming pool*

answer: b

Help: at <http://ww2.cityofpasadena.net/library/PNI/subject.asp> set article type to obituary, then enter 'of technology' in the Subject: box. When you get the results list, type 'accidents.' in the Search within results: box

Quit

Save

Sample Game

Build Something

Another ?

WRONG! You have 0 points. You need at least 15 points to build something. This question is hard. Answer it correctly now and get 10 points.

25. People associated with Caltech have died in accidents everywhere EXCEPT:

- a. An astronomy lab*
- b. A football field*
- c. A radiation lab*
- d. A swimming pool*

*answer: **d***

Help: at <http://ww2.cityofpasadena.net/library/PNI/subject.asp> set article type to obituary, then enter 'of technology' in the Subject: box. When you get the results list, type 'accidents.' in the Search within results: box

Quit

Save

Sample Game

Build Something

Another ?

CORRECT! You have 10 points. You need at least 15 points to build something.

25. People associated with Caltech have died in accidents everywhere EXCEPT:

- a. An astronomy lab*
- b. A football field*
- c. A radiation lab*
- d. A swimming pool*

answer: d

Help: at <http://ww2.cityofpasadena.net/library/PNI/subject.asp> set article type to obituary, then enter 'of technology' in the Subject: box. When you get the results list, type 'accidents.' in the Search within results: box

Quit

Save

Sample Game

Build Something

Another ?

Pick a Category

<i>Any</i>	<i>Any</i>	<i>Any</i>
<i>Animals</i>	<i>Hotels</i>	<i>1880's</i>
<i>Art & Entertainment</i>	<i>Interesting Pasadenans</i>	<i>1890's</i>
<i>Bridges</i>	<i>Media</i>	<i>1900's</i>
<i>Business & Economic Conditions</i>	<i>Parks</i>	<i>1910's</i>
<i>City of Pasadena</i>	<i>Rose Bowl</i>	<i>1920's</i>
<i>Clubs & Groups</i>	<i>Schools</i>	<i>1930's</i>
<i>Crime & Criminals</i>	<i>Sports</i>	<i>1940's</i>
<i>Death & Health</i>	<i>Technology</i>	<i>1950's</i>
<i>Disasters & Accidents</i>	<i>Thou Shall Not</i>	<i>1960's</i>
<i>Elections</i>	<i>Tournament of Roses</i>	<i>1970's</i>
<i>Geography</i>	<i>Visitors</i>	<i>1980's</i>
<i>Ethnic Communities</i>	<i>War</i>	<i>1990's</i>
<i>Holidays</i>	<i>Women</i>	<i>2000's</i>
		<i>2010's</i>

Quit

Save

Sample Game

Build Something

Another ?

You have 10 points. You need at least 15 points to build something. This question is medium. Answer it correctly now for 10 points.

*258. I taught art at Pasadena Poly High School
I served in the Military in the Second World War
My first name was Milford
What is my last name?*

*answer: **Schaefer** (5 guesses)*

*Help: at <http://ww2.cityofpasadena.net/library/PNI/subject.asp> enter 'Pasadena Poly High' in the Subject: box.
When you get the results list, type 'Milford' in the Search within results: box*

Editors note: this question was also under the categories of schools; interesting Pasadenans; war; art & entertainment.
Questions are not placed in a category that would give away the answer.

Quit

Save

Sample Game

Build Something

Another ?

Wrong! You have 10 points. You need at least 15 points to build something. This question is medium. Answer it correctly now for 8 points.

*258. I taught art at Pasadena Poly High School
I served in the Military in the Second World War
My first name was Milford
What is my last name?*

*answer: **Zornes** (4 guesses left)*

*Help: at <http://ww2.cityofpasadena.net/library/PNI/subject.asp> enter 'Pasadena Poly High' in the Subject: box.
When you get the results list, type 'Milford' in the Search within results: box*

Quit

Save

Sample Game

Build Something

Another ?

Correct! You have 18 points. You need at least 15 points to build something.

*258. I taught art at Pasadena Poly High School
I served in the Military in the Second World War
My first name was Milford
What is my last name?*

*answer: **Zornes***

*Help: at <http://ww2.cityofpasadena.net/library/PNI/subject.asp> enter 'Pasadena Poly High' in the Subject: box.
When you get the results list, type 'Milford' in the Search within results: box*

Quit

Save

Sample Game

Build Something

Another ?

Build Something

Bridge 30 points

Business 15 points

Church 15 points

Dam 60 points

Hotel 20 points

House 10 points

Library 15 points

Museum 30 points

Nightclub 20 points

Park 20 points

Restaurant 25 points

School 15 points

Stadium 40 points

Streets 10 points

Extras

*Butterfly net (large)
15 points*

*Moat (water included)
30 points*

*Wall of Fire
40 points*

[Quit](#)

[Save](#)

[Sample Game](#)

[Build Something](#)

[Another ?](#)

Build a Street (10 Points)

Here is an example of a Pasadena Street, Raymond Avenue:

Courtesy Pasadena Public Library through Pasadena Digital History Collaboration, Pasadena, California. image ppl_3366



You have 8 points left.

For more photos of Raymond Avenue at the Pasadena Digital History Collaboration:
<http://preview.tinyurl.com/pdhc-raymondAve>

For newspaper articles about Raymond Avenue at the Pasadena News Index:
<http://preview.tinyurl.com/pni-raymondAve>

What do you want to name your street? **Danarado Boulevard**

Place

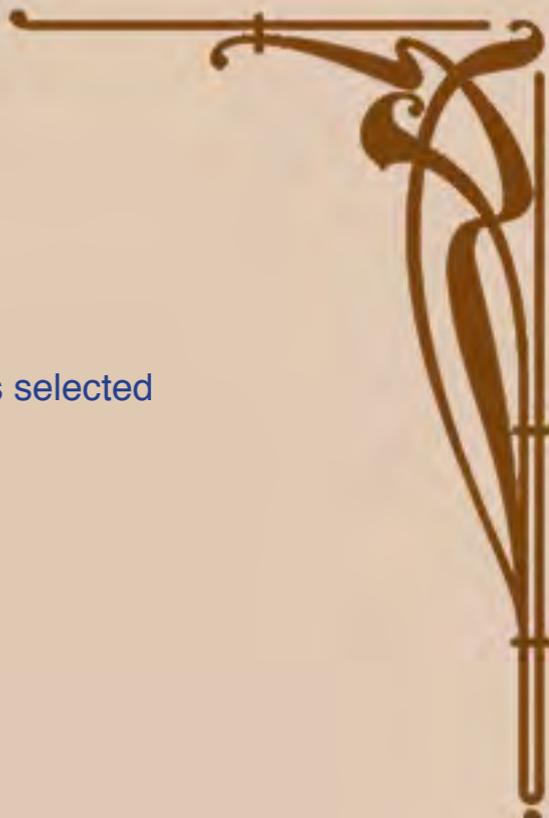
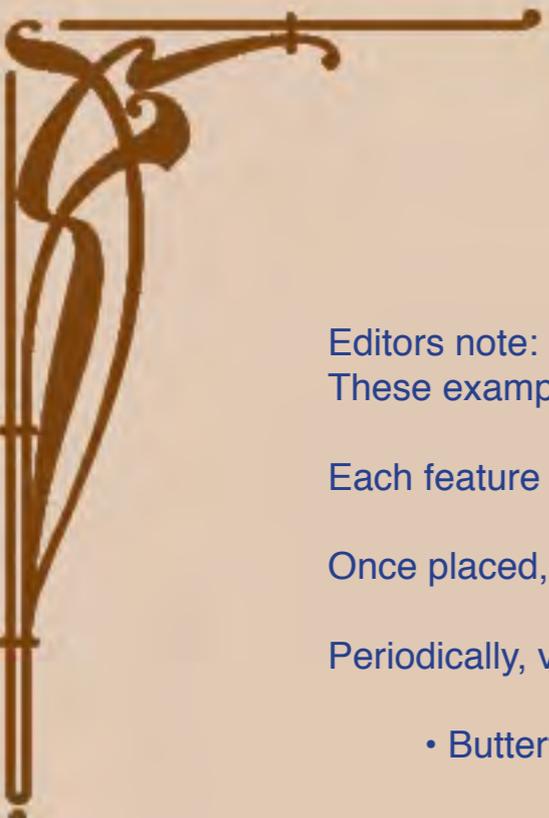
Quit

Save

Sample Game

Build Something

Another ?



Editors note: Each building category will have 4-5 examples with canned searches for articles and photos. These examples will be selected randomly from each array, but will be available for use each time the array is selected

Each feature will be named by the user.

Once placed, the feature can not be moved/renamed.

Periodically, vampires, zombies and mummies will wander through and destroy buildings.

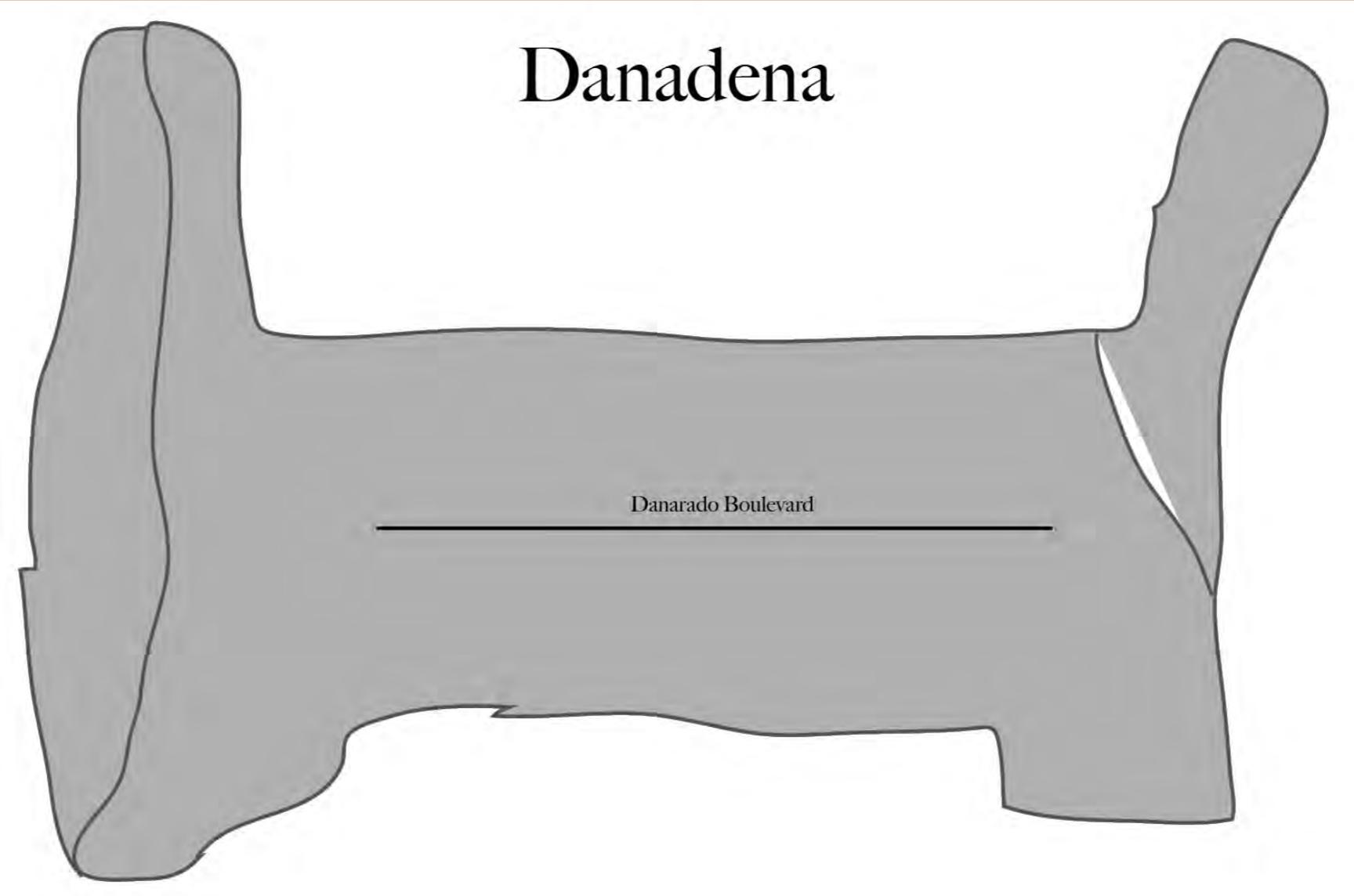
- Butterfly nets thwart vampires.
- Wall of Fire thwart zombies.
- Moats thwart mummies.

Unprotected buildings will be eaten.



Danadena

Danarado Boulevard



Quit

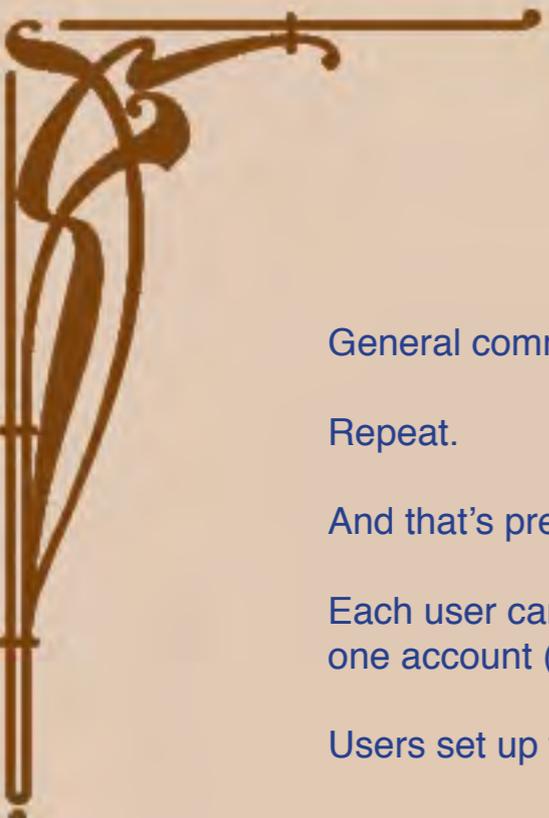
Save

Sample Game

Build Something

Another ?

Print



General comments:

Repeat.

And that's pretty much it at this point.

Each user can set up an account with a user name and password. Users will be able to establish multiple users/games under one account (i.e. a teachers' or parents' card).

Users set up the name of their town on registration.

Users who chose not to set up an account can play as a guest, but will not be able to name their town (they get stuck with Pasadena).

Users will be asked for, but not required to provide age/grade level data.

Success rate data per question and frequency of which category queried information will be maintained.

There will be a general feedback form.

As far as is practical, there will be no fee to the user.

Thank you for looking at this idea.

For further information/suggestions/ideas/strategies to make this happen, please feel free to contact me.

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