

## English 22

3.141592  
65358  
979323  
84626433  
832795  
02884197  
169399  
375105  
8209749  
44592  
307816  
40628620  
89986  
280348  
25342117  
06798  
2148086  
51328230  
66470  
93844  
60955  
05822  
31725359  
408128  
48111745  
028410270  
19385211  
055596  
44622948  
954930  
381964  
428810  
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5933446  
128475648  
233786  
7831652712  
01909  
145648  
5669234  
60348  
6104543

26648  
213393  
607260  
2491412  
737245  
87006  
6063155  
881748  
815209  
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540917  
15364  
36789  
25903  
6001133  
05305  
488204  
6652138  
414695  
1941511  
609433  
057270  
36575  
959195  
3092186  
11738193  
261179  
310511  
85480  
744623  
799627  
49567  
351885  
7527248  
912279  
381830  
1194912  
983367  
336244  
06566  
430860  
213949  
46395  
224737  
190702  
17986

09437  
02770  
53921717  
629317  
675238  
46748  
18467  
66940  
5132000  
568127  
145263  
56082  
77857  
71342  
75778  
960917  
3637178  
721468  
44090  
122495  
343014

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From: s6sj7gt@aol.com (S6sj7gt)  
Date: 21 Jan 1996 01:37:58 -0500  
Subject:alt.Poe.versifications.experimentalize!.AANVVVize!.do!  
Newsgroups:alt.adjective.noun.verb.verb.verb

alt.new.poster.greets.waves.hellos!

alt.some.background.relate.describe.tell  
alt.Christmas.holidays.came.were.refreshed  
alt.aanvvv.newsgroup.discovered.read.enjoyed  
alt.related.web-site.found.perused.liked  
alt.aanvvv-style.rewritings.saw.read.smiled

(alt.current.favorites.were.became.are  
alt.Rudolph's.song.rewritten.rephrased.glowed!  
alt.parrot.bit.aanvvv-ized.pythonified.sketched)

alt.different.topic.reset.push.parentheticize  
alt.pi.mnemonics.enjoy.appreciate.create  
alt.word.lengths.encode.represent.stand-for  
alt.successive.digits.number.relate.tell

alt.classic.example.present.show.relate:  
alt.elegant.

"How I need a drink, alcoholic in nature, after  
the heavy lectures involving quantum mechanics"

.see?.get?.understand?

alt.mnemonic.rule.repeat.repeat.repeat:  
alt.word.lengths.encode.represent.stand-for  
alt.successive.digits.number.relate.tell

alt.gory.explanation.is.comes.follows:

alt.first.word.is.is.is  
alt.three-letter."How".starts.starts.starts.  
alt.first.digit.is.is.is  
alt.pi-starting.3.see?.see?.see?

alt.next.word.is.is.is  
alt.one-letter."I".follows.follows.follows  
alt.next.digit.is.is.is  
alt.corresponding."1".observe.note.see

alt.next.word.is.is.is  
alt.four-letter."need".follows.follows.follows  
alt.this.digit.is.is.is  
alt.third-place..2667@4ompuse.watch.look.listen:

alt.initial."3.14".is.is.is  
alt.initial.phrase.corresponds.encodes.matches  
alt.leading."How I need".see?.get?.understand?  
alt.remaining.words.follow.match.denumerate  
alt.same.method.continues.repeats.goes-on  
alt.mnemonic.explanation.ends.finishes.pops-off-stack

alt.DOUBLE.challenge.evolved.arose.came-to-mind  
alt.famous.poem.take.select.find  
alt.aanvvv.rewrite.produce.create.craft  
alt.additional.constraint.impose.require.attach  
alt.pi.mnemonic.be.exist.amaze!

alt.Poe's."Raven".selected.chosen.used  
alt.self-imposed.challenge.done.completed.conquered!  
alt.bizarre.result.follows.is.displayed

(alt.additional.rules.needed.required.explain  
alt.10-letter.word.represents.stands-for.encodes  
alt.digit.zero.see?.understand?.get?  
alt.(N>10)-letter.word.represents.stands-for.encodes  
alt.two.digits.combine.pack.denote  
alt.an.example.is.is.is  
alt.title-word."versifications".count.observe.notice  
alt.14-letter.word.is.is.is  
alt.digit-pair."1,4".see?.grasp?.comprehend?  
alt.final-but-obvious.rule.is.is.is  
alt.initial."alt".ignore.skip.!use.)

alt.final.remark.observe.read.note:  
alt.difficult.job.was.is.always-will-be!  
alt.minor.flaws.exist.appear.crop-up  
alt.humble.writer.sits.pleads.begs  
alt.some.forgiveness.grant?.give?.allow?  
alt.offseting.fact.consider.ponder.notice:  
alt.672.pi-decimals.contained.encoded.aanvvvized!

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alt.Poe.versifications.experimentalize!.AANVVVize!.do!

alt.dreary.night.was.abode.remained  
alt.forgotten.volumes.discarded.put-by.sat  
alt.restless.naps.shaken-up.broken-thus.put-out  
alt.annoying."tap-ap".shocked.surprised.heard  
alt.disturbing-my-antedoor.traveler?.said.contradistinguished.queried  
alt.incontrovertible.emptiness.was.continued.persisted

alt.icy.tempest.raged.O-remembered!.cried  
alt.internal-to-fireplaces.phantasms.pranced.flew.bedeviled  
"alt.lost.soul.comes?.petitions?.is?  
alt.old.sweetheart.returns?.enlivens?.supernaturalizes?  
alt.near-impeccable.Lenore.is-striking?.knocks?.is-entreating?"  
alt.alarming.stillness.continued.remained.lurked

alt.my.curtains.fluctuated.did-wave.trembled  
alt.my.being.did-fear.so-capitulated.wavered  
alt.comforting.notion.arrived.refreshed.relieved  
"alt.so-unaccommodated.traveler.interferes.entreats.knocks  
alt.hoary.philosophizer.is-visiting.(is-all!).intercedes  
alt.simple.matter!".said.uttered.pronounced

alt.unsettled.ego.enlarged.grew.rose  
alt.silent.apparition.perplexed.tried.vexed.  
"alt.charitable.madam.inquires?.is?.is?  
alt.new.reinterpretations.be-right?.are-wrong?.misinform?  
alt.mute.apparition.announce!.characterize!.proclaim!"  
alt.airy.darkness.intensified.reinterpenetrated.drew-close

alt.surrounded-by-darkness-then.I.questioned-it.queried.petitioned  
alt.a.nightmare.did-encroach.shook-me.intimidated  
alt.unnameable.dread.waxed-great.increased.stayed  
"alt.most-pure.Lenore.is-at-threshold?".said.inquired  
alt.enigmatic.quiet.awed.terrified.did-disappoint  
"alt.her.presence.a-troubling?".spoken.said

alt.wary.id.faltered.dithered.a-frightened  
alt.continued.rapping.heard.heeded.marked  
alt.hasty.deduction."it's-she.taps.hits-window"  
"alt.discomfiting.quandary.will-explore.would-settle.will-decipher"  
alt.my.ear.did-examine.listened.paused  
alt.blowing.blizzard.was-a-raging.shook-my-windows.disappointed

alt.determined.I.uncovered.unfastened.unlatched  
alt.indecipherable.raven.landed.came.alighted  
alt.black.talons.rested.assembled-on.sat-down  
alt.damned.interloper.saw.eyed.observed  
alt.amused.I.maintained."will-pause"."will-sit"  
alt.my.caller.nested.held.remained

alt.my.mystification.was.continued.was  
alt.raven's.expression.bemused.un-chafed.confounded  
alt.my.wish.proceeded.particularized.interpolated:  
"alt.surname.tag.declare.do-tell.speak!"  
alt.haunting.visitor.maintained.vacationed.rested  
alt.dreary."nevermores".voiced.did-supernaturalize.spoke

alt.vexating.creature.intercommunicated.said.ne'ermor'd  
alt.troubled.I.stood-by.considered.marvelled  
alt.so-intriguing.blackbird.looked-on.remained-by.continued-on  
alt.front.door.disquieted.unsettled.a-twisted  
alt.a.raven.sat.looked.said  
alt.his.chorus.related.repeated.reuttered

alt.my.raven.reflected.recognized.saw  
alt.lonely."nevermores".reiterated.intensified.did-say  
alt.lugubrious.theme.was.discharged.spoke  
"alt.grim.creature.continue-on!.emancipate!.flee!"

alt.dismal.friend.float-on!.dematerialize!.withdraw!"  
alt.vain.intercommunion.spoken.expressed.heard

alt.a.sentiment.rose.interpenetrated.promulgated  
"alt.raven's.proprietor.struggled.bled.did-die?"  
alt.perceptive.raven.watched-it.noticed.empathized?  
alt.sad.fellow.weeps.grieves.wails  
alt.sorrowful.raven.remembers.a-struggles.longs!"  
alt.sad."nevermores".continued-on.constitutionalized.pained

alt.cheerlessly-visaged.one.ascended.uncompartmentalized.sat  
alt.an.answer supplicated.desired.entreated  
alt.how.I.speculated.gaped.conjectured  
alt.ungainly.raven.awed.troubled.interfered  
alt.ghastly.bird.laid.looked-on.sat  
alt.croaked."nevermore".mystified.stayed-on.puzzled

"alt.kind.inamorata.waned.lapsed.expired!"  
alt.yet-heavy.I.continue.languish.mourn  
alt.Lenore's.charm.is-missing.is-gone.agonizes  
alt.exceeding.hopelessness.is.remains.perplexes  
alt.oft-yearning.I.remember.cry.supplicate!"  
alt.impertinent."nevermore".said.resonated.soliloquized

alt."enigmatic.telepath!.(did-say.voiced.uttered)  
alt.shy.one.attend-me!.heed!.hark!"  
alt.satisfying.answer.grant.bestow.render  
alt.hop'd-for.liberation.conceive?.create?.experience?  
alt.my.misadventures.terminate?".said.expressed  
alt.void.answer.was.persisted.vexed

alt.my.id.rose.mounted.was-angered  
alt.a.challenge.originated.emerged.persevered-on  
"alt.a.respite.propagate!.bequeath!.confer!"  
alt.continuous.teardrops.wipe!.dry!.receive!  
alt.melancholy.me!.relieve!.relieve!.sympathize!"  
alt.bird's.cry.continued-on.overanaesthetized.overanathematized

alt.placid.it.inspected.sat.a-flitted  
alt.devil's.prophet.gazed-on.sat.tortured  
alt.much.sorrow.floated.came.remained  
alt.a.question.rose.ensued.emerged  
alt.lovely.Lenore.surprises?.sits?.resurrects?  
alt.being-a-cur.it.nevermored.nevermored.nevermored

alt."stark.wretch!".shrieked.remonstrated.shouted

"alt.indecipherable.raven.go!.begone!.fly!  
alt.pesky.wretch.dissociate!.withdraw!.go!  
alt.utterly.nothing.overlook.leave.neglect  
alt.soundly.I.say.tell:.go!"  
alt.hateful.raven.nevered.nevered.repeated

alt.immediate.plight.illustrate.explicate.a-specify  
alt.sly.wretch.did-persist.overemotionalizes.agonizes  
alt.sitting-by.I.pine.grieve.languish  
alt.imp's.eyes.infiltrate.penetrate.exasperate  
alt.contemptuous.it.sits.depresses.goads  
alt.sad.soul.die.dilapidate.redisintegrate

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alt.perhaps-redundant.illustration.present.give.show  
alt.pi.mnemonic.see.get.notice:

2            3.                    14                    15                    9

alt.Poe.versifications.experimentalize!.AANVVVize!.do!

6            5    3            5            8  
alt.dreary.night.was.abode.remained

9            7            9            3    2    3  
alt.forgotten.volumes.discarded.put-by.sat

8            4            6            2    6            4    3    3  
alt.restless.naps.shaken-up.broken-thus.put-out  
etc....

(pi = 3.1415926535897932384626433...)

alt.your.comments.solicited.welcomed.appreciated  
alt.named."Mike Keith".am.am.am  
alt.e-mail.address.show.list.tell  
alt.ascii."s6sj7gt@aol.com".is.is.is

### Comments

Pi + "The Raven" + AANVVV = ???

Constrained writing strikes again. In December 1995, I had already written Near A Raven , a revised version of Edgar Allen Poe's poem The Raven that, while attempting to remain as close as possible to the



story, meter, rhyme scheme, and tone of the original, also satisfies the rather onerous condition that the lengths of the successive words in the poem are precisely the first 740 decimals of the number pi.

Then, I discovered the newsgroup alt.adjective.noun.verb.verb.verb (AANVVV for short). This amazing newsgroup (inspired by the existence of newsgroup names of the form alt.adjective.noun.verb.verb.verb, such as alt.swedish.chef.bork.bork.bork and alt.barney.dinosaur.die.die.die, to name a few) is devoted entirely to a peculiar form of constrained writing, in which every "sentence" of every post to the newsgroup is required to be of the form alt.adjective.noun.verb.verb.verb (including, for completeness, the initial "alt" and the dots). One common type of post is to rewrite some well-known piece of literature (e.g., Hamlet's soliloquy, Lewis Carroll's Jabberwocky, even the Monty Python dead parrot sketch!) in this form.

So, it didn't take long for me to have the following scary thought. Would it be possible to do everything I had done in Near A Raven (i.e., rewrite "The Raven" and make it a pi mnemonic) and also obey the AANVVV constraint?!

Well, I've done it, and here is the result. Since it is basically impossible to worry about meter and rhyme scheme with a constraint so hard, this meant that two of the constraints in Near A Raven were removed, so even adding the difficult AANVVV constraint made this task only modestly harder (as opposed to much harder) than Near A Raven. The careful reader will notice that in Near A Raven I chose to drop the fifth line of each six-line stanza (for reasons explained on that page), whereas in this case I decided to keep it.

The rules for extracting pi from this poem are the same as in Near A Raven. A word of N letters represents the digit N if  $N < 9$ , the digit 0 if  $N = 10$ , and two adjacent digits of  $N > 10$  (e.g., a 12-letter words represents the digit '1' followed by '2'). The "alt" in each line is, of course, ignored. The title is included in the enumeration ("Poe" is the first 3 in pi, followed by "versifications" = 14, and so on).

[The mnemonic]

L'Envoi

A few closing comments. I'm particularly proud of the last line in stanzas 16 and 17 (the antepenultimate and penultimate stanzas in the poem). The "nevermored.nevermored.nevermored" in stanza 16 is dependent on engineering things so that I could use six particular

consecutive digits of pi: digits 601 to 606, which are 101010! Similarly, stanza 17 ends with a nice variation on "nevermore", based on the digits 7-7-8. Stanza 17 also has the distinction of being the only one containing no hyphens (that most useful symbol for helping to satisfy the AANVVV constraint).

Despite the extreme difficulty of the task, many of the stanzas remain quite close to the meaning of the original, sometimes even using some of the same words. The damn thing even starts off with "dreary night" instead of "midnight dreary"!

Unless I change my mind, this will be the hardest writing-with-constraints task I ever attempt! Still, if you have constraint ideas, the possibility that I could be tempted remains!...

Mike Keith

<http://users.aol.com/s6sj7gt/mikeaan.htm>