

Summary. We give an elementary, nongroup theoretic proof that exactly half of the 15! arrangements of the fifteen puzzle can be restored to the natural order.

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1	A	2	D	3	O	4	S			5	S	6	N	7	A	8	P			9	S	10	P	11	I	12	N
13	W	I	S	P				14	B	O	O	B	O	O	15					16	I	O	T	A			
17	O	V	A	L				18	O	N	T	A	P	E					19	D	I	S	H				
20	L	O	G	I				21	S	T	I	C	C	U	R				22	V	E						
23	S	T	E	N	O			24	C	H	I	P						25	O	V	I	N	E				
				29	E	D		30	U						31	M	A	X	I	M	A	L					
33	P	34	T	35	A			36	O	N	E	O	V	E	R				40	E	M	I	L				
41	L	O	N	42	G	I	T	U	D	I	N	A	43	L	43	W	A	V	E								
44	O	L	G	A				45	I	C	E	C	U	B	E				46	D	E	N					
47	T	E	L	L	48	A	L	L							49	S	I	N									
51	S	T	E	I	N			52	I	D	E	M			56	C	O	S	57	E	58	E	59	C			
				60	L	O	G	D	E	R	I	V	A	T	I	V	E										
63	M	64	A	65	Z	E		66	N	E	B	U	L	A				67	N	E	E	D					
68	A	R	E	A				69	C	A	R	P	E	T				70	O	G	R	E					
71	V	E	N	N				72	N	A	T	S						73	W	E	T	S					

SOLUTION TO PINEMI PUZZLE

7		7	5		6		6		
		11				6		8	5
	10			11	7		6		
4	10			11			6	6	
	6		11						9
6		10		7	7		9		
			6		8	9		12	9
	9	6	5	8					
		5		9			12		
	5				7	8		6	