

[Solution] Slice of Pi

Written by Ananya

Answer: 

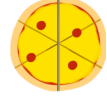
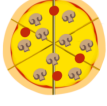
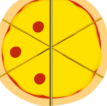
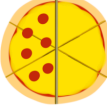
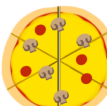
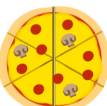
The first step is identifying the pizza encoding. Puzzlers are given some hints toward the method in the puzzle title and flavor text, which is to extract specific digits ("slices") from the numbers of pi.

Each pizza topping represents the number place value of the extraction. The pepperoni represents the ones; the mushroom represents the tens; and the broccoli represents the hundreds. The number of toppings on each pizza identifies the digit of that position. Whether the pizza has toppings on only the left side or both sides determines whether one or two digits are extracted from pi, respectively ("one or two slices").

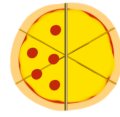
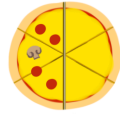
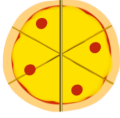
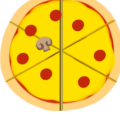
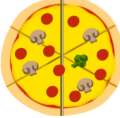
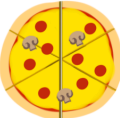
Some break-ins might involve recognizing the single pepperoni corresponds to '3', the first digit of pi and third letter of the alphabet. Identifying the next digits of pi, '14' and '15' for letters 'N' and 'O' can follow. Finally, understanding that this encoding fails to represent 10th+ letter may imply the need to take additional digits per slice.

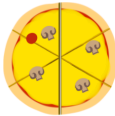
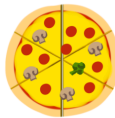
Once the digits of pi have been extracted, they can be converted via alphanumeric (A1Z26) cipher.

Here's the decoding of the provided example:

Image	Toppings			Extract From Pi			A1Z26
	Broccoli	Mushroom	Pepperoni	Extract Position	Number of Digits	Extracted Digits	
	0	0	1	1	1	3	C
	0	0	4	4	2	15	O
	0	9	4	94	2	21	U
	0	0	2	2	2	14	N
	0	5	4	54	2	20	T
	0	0	3	3	1	4	D
	0	0	6	6	9	1	I
	0	1	4	14	1	7	G
	0	0	6	6	9	1	I
	0	5	4	54	2	20	T
	0	3	8	38	2	19	S

Here's the decoding of the puzzle pizzas:

Image	Toppings			Extract From Pi			A1Z26
	Broccoli	Mushroom	Pepperoni	Extract Position	Number of Digits	Extracted Digits	
	1	3	6	136	2	22	V
	0	0	5	5	1	5	E
	0	1	4	14	1	7	G
	0	0	4	4	2	15	O
	0	0	8	8	1	6	F
	0	1	7	17	2	23	W
	0	0	2	2	1	1	A
	1	4	9	149	2	12	L
	0	0	5	5	1	5	E
	0	3	8	38	2	19	S

	0	4	1	41	2	16	P
	1	4	9	149	2	12	L

The extracted phrase is **VEG OF WALES (PL.)**.

This refers to Wales' national vegetable and national emblem. The (pl.) refers to the plural form, giving the answer **LEEKS**.