## The Great Pyramid of Giza (Solution)

Each of the hex clues are numbered and solve to a six-letter answer. These answers can be placed in the pyramid starting at the appropriately numbered space and proceeding in the indicated direction around the hex. The tier clues are separated into six tiers with tier 1 corresponding to the top of the pyramid and tier 6 corresponding to the bottom of the pyramid. The answers for the tier clues vary in length and are placed in the pyramid starting at unmarked spots in each tier but always proceeding clockwise around the pyramid in order of the given clues for each tier. The answers to the clues are:

| Hexes |  |
| :--- | :---: |
| 1. Pleasure voyage | CRUISE |
| 2. Standards of perfection | IDEALS |
| Small, grotesque fantasy <br> 3. <br> Greature who may work at <br> Gringotts | GOBLIN |
| 4. Cubical toys for tots | BLOCKS |
| 5. Pickle condiment | RELISH |
| 6. Secondhand transaction | RESALE |
| 7. Pimiento holders | OLIVES |
| 8. Wood nymphs | DRYADS |
| 9. Some choir members | TENORS |
| 10. Heard, smelled or tasted | SENSED |
| 11. English tea treats | SCONES |
| 12. Blush with embarrassment | REDDEN |
| 13. Better half | SPOUSE |
| 14. Passenger railway company | AMTRAK |
| 15. Fitted together like Russian | NESTED |
| dolls | Chopped up, like breakfast |
| 16. | Hotatoes |


| $\underline{\text { Tier 1 }}$ (Tier 2 |  |
| :--- | :---: |
| Egyptian goddess of fertility | ISIS |
| $\underline{\underline{\text { Tier 3 }}}$ | ALIBI |
| Cover story given to police | SOURCE CODE |
| 2011 Gyllenhaal film |  |
|  | BANK HOLIDAY |
| Why you can't get money on Christmas <br> or Fourth of July | LINGER |
| Stick around | HELLO |
| Opposite of good-bye | TUSKS |
| Elephant's long teeth | TRESS |
|  | DEFEAT |
| Lock of hair | HERON |
| Overcome or vanquish | SEVERS |
| Long-legged wading bird of the family <br> Ardeidae | DROPS |
| Cuts off | MASCARA |
| Bits of rain | BLISS |
| Eye makeup |  |
| Utter joy | Tier 5 |

Each hex answer fits exactly in its hexagon but the tier answers do not always fit exactly．The key insight is that the letters forming the name of an Egyptian hieroglyph are replaced with the named glyph．This occurs nine times：

| Clue answer（s） | Hidden glyph | Glyph | Result in pyramid |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| ALIBI SOURCE CODE | IBIS | 3 | AL ${ }_{3}$ |
| BANK HOLIDAY | ANKH | f | BfoLIDAY |
| HELLO TUSKS | LOTUS | \％ | HEL KS |
| DEFEAT HERON | FEATHER | f | DE\｛ON |
| MASCARA BLISS | SCARAB | 感 | MA答LISS |
| ENDOW LENS | OWL | \＄ | END ENS |
| DENSER PENTHOUSE | SERPENT | Or | DENOrPENT |
| HATHOR SERENA | HORSE | 敝 | HAT第RENA |
| MASSACRES CENTER | CRESCENT | $\sim$ | MASSA $\frown \mathrm{ER}$ |

The resulting filled－in pyramid is as follows：


The spaces where the glyphs appear in the pyramid do not match the letters obtained from the corresponding hex clues. These letters are circled in red above and taken in either hex or row order, they spell BLACKEN US which is a hint for the final extraction. The only unused parts of the puzzle are the two columns of hieroglyphics on the clue page. Blackening in the glyphs in those columns that also appear in the pyramid results in:


And thus the final answer is MARKER.

