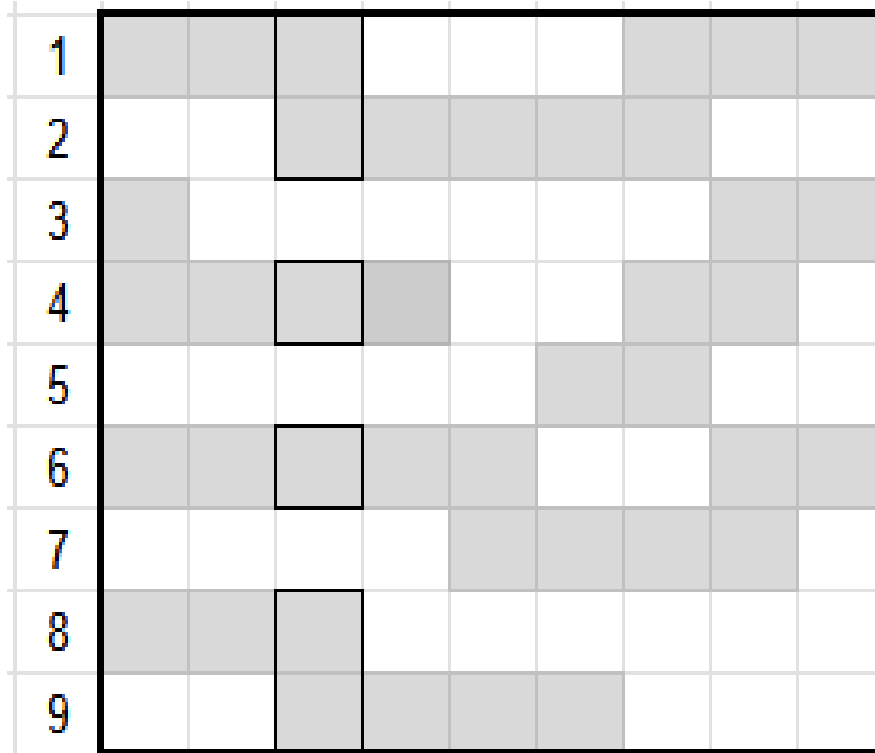


Cryptic Canyon

Your path leads along the bottom of a wide and dusty canyon. As you step over an old, broken pickaxe, you notice a section of the rock wall that is carved with a series of symbols. A tattered notebook lying on the ground indicates someone had begun to translate them. From these notes, you can see that each row contains two words, and these words overlap by one or more letters. Finally, each of the orthogonally connected shaded strata contains another word, reading from left to right, but the translator wasn't sure which word belonged in which strata. Using the clues below, can you uncover what is buried in the stone?



ROWS

1. Below prefix | Food allowance
2. One that gets walked all over? | Exact counterpart
3. Coded message | Official messenger
4. Relieved, as in pain | Whirlpools
5. Bass string instrument | Comfortable shoe
6. Old music genre | Getting by
7. Go faster than | Loosen
8. Tolerate | Subtract
9. Force apart | Used a keyboard

STRATA

- Off the right path
- Skill
- Stop
- Data
- Reducing in price