

Otters are planting their roots at CSUMB

Chris Hamilton

Staff Writer

In a small patch of open field, shovels break the soft soil, making holes that will welcome young Coast Live Oaks. With each new hole dug, a new tree is given a chance to grow.

On Thursday, Feb. 15, the Habitat Stewardship Project (HSP) held a tree planting event just past lot 59, at the edge of California State University, Monterey Bay's (CSUMB) campus.

HSP is an environmental restoration and education project partnering with CSUMB "to bring nature closer to people, and people closer to nature through hands-on experiences in community-based habitat restoration and environmental education," according to the university's website.

"We're the ones who get the trees. We bring them out here, and we plant them in spots around campus to restore the oak groves here," said Jeni Schmedding, CSUMB alumni and AmeriCorps VIP Fellow for HSP.

Though an individual new sapling may feel insignificant, for those working with HSP, every tree planted is a part of something bigger: an ambitious goal to plant 2,030 trees on campus by the year 2030. "If we get 200 plants a year, I think we're going to be on track to get to 2030 trees," said Laura Lee Lienk, director of HSP. "We are at over 600 now."

Despite efforts by both HSP and CSUMB, the tree-planting ambitions are not without obstacles. "We have to plant in areas that are not [the locations of] future buildings or where there are underground pipes," Lienk said.

"A big challenge with a lot of these lots is they still have the foundations of old military buildings, so you dig down a foot and it's just cement," said Cole Mefford, CSUMB alumni and restoration assistant for HSP.

"Another challenge is funding. We ran out of funding on campus," Lienk added, with the main expense of the project being purchasing the saplings. The funding for this year's planting events was provided by community member Janette Leonidou, who purchased 200 trees for HSP.

Above all, Lienk commented that one of the biggest challenges to HSP's tree-planting efforts is simply "getting the word out to students." Student volunteers fuel tree-planting events like the one on Thursday, and more help is always needed. Though planting is hard work, many participants commented on its rewarding nature.

"It feels good afterward because you feel like you got a workout and then you can see the tree grow," said Schmedding.

Mefford, reflecting on past plantings, commented, "It's really cool. [Tons of oaks are becoming] mature and you can see there's even a bird nest in one of them now."

"I think what you have to do is to make this a part of your life," said Lienk. She highlights the importance of believing that today's service and stewardship will one day make a difference. "The quote that I have on my desk is that 'ideas become real at the point of action."

For those interested in getting involved, the Habitat Stewardship Project holds planting and restoration events every Saturday.







oStem profile

Learn about a queerled STEM club on campus!



Teaching kitchen

Have you seen the cooking demonstrations during the farmers market?



Helene's vineyard

Check out Helene's latest wine review.

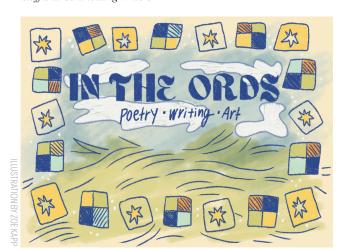


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In The Ords: a creative community outlet

Oscar Daniel Jimenez Iniguez and Helene Marie Kristensen Staff and Contributing Writers



Looking to highlight the creative work and energy of the California State University, Monterey Bay (CSUMB) campus, In The Ords literary arts journal is asking for student and staff submissions for its upcoming campus publication.

Since 2017, Otters at CSUMB have been collaborating with their peers and faculty to highlight community literary works for the journal.

"When I tell people about In The Ords, I usually highlight that it is by students, for students because we really are a student collective coming together hoping to curate and display student creativity," shared Jojo Cook, president of the club.

Cook, a fourth-year humanities and communication personally, spiritually, but also professionally," said Cook. major (HCOM), with a creative writing and social action concentration, couldn't be more passionate about In The Ords. She joined the club during her first semester at CSUMB, after having participated in a similar club at her former community college.

With club officers graduating, Cook gladly stepped up to take the role as president along with a new team of officers last semester. The transition didn't come without its setbacks, considering the club has been without a permanent faculty advisor since this past fall.

Club members rose to the challenge of redesigning In The Ords and getting back on track.

"We're all ready to snap back, even though the cards might not have been in our favor before but now we're counting the deck ... we're taking those strides," said Cook. "We have a lot of really cool stuff planned and the know-how and hopefully the connections to really get it done."

For Cook, one of the most important aspects In The Ords offers is the chance for students to share work with the CSUMB community, but also to have work in a published journal.

"Having the chance to say 'I am a published writer, a published poet, a published artist,' is such an ego boost in the best way. If you do submit and get accepted, you get to say you've been published and that's a really great achievement,

Frank Limon, a fourth-year HCOM major and vice president of In The Ords, knows all too well about the struggles creatives go through. From the start of an idea to its realization, hesitancy and self-doubt often come with the territory. However, Limon doesn't want Otters to feel their work isn't worthy.

"[Writers are] overly shy and they tend to think their work isn't good enough a lot of the time," said Limon. "In The Ords is special because it gives them an opportunity to show it off and show that they have what it takes. The idea of seeing your work in a physical book is a big deal for everyone."

With In The Ords now accepting new submissions by April 19 for the 2024 semester, with the central theme being "Ebb and Flow," they are hoping to continue their club's most important mission of giving students and faculty an established platform to show their literary works off.

"If you are reading this, submit, submit, submit. Please ... if you have anything you think might go forward, even if you think it might not go forward, because I know creative people are always the hardest on themselves," said Cook.

For more information about In The Ords, the club can be contacted through Instagram @intheords or by email intheords@csumb.edu. To submit for this year, you can check out their website with submission guidelines http:// intheords.weebly.com/submissions.html.

The Lutrinae is a weekly campus newspaper covering CSUMB and its neighboring areas. Here at The Lutrinae, our goal is not only to educate and inform the public, but to entertain, to spark creativity, to encourage diversity of opinion, and to build a sense of community on campus and with the neighboring cities.

Vol. 7, Issue 17

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The Lutrinae is a student-run publication produced for the students of CSUMB. Opinions expressed herein do not necessarily reflect the views of The Lutrinae, CSUMB administration, faculty, or staff.

The Lutrinae serves two purposes: It is a training ground for students who wish to develop journalism skills and build their resume, and it is a forum for free expression of campus issues and news. The Lutrinae Editorial team will determine what to print and reserves the right to edit for libel, space, or clarity.

Advertising revenue supports The Lutrinae publication and events. Letter to the Editors should include first and last name and should be submitted via email. The Lutrinae reserves the right to reject any Letter to the Editor for any reason, and anonymous letters will not be published.





I'm coming out! (in STEM)

Nicholas Zuniga Staff Writer

Monterey Bay (CSUMB).

Out in STEM, known as oSTEM, is a nonprofit global association with over 100 chapters around the world.

"We're the first chapter here at CSUMB," said Miles Shelter, the vice president of CSUMB's chapter. "We started last semester and [oSTEM is] basically about amplifying queer voices in STEM and professional development, personal development and community

"My favorite part [of working in oSTEM] is being able to see so many people that are passionate about being in this field that's not historically really welcoming of [queer people]; seeing them grow into a role that they feel confident in... and [seeing them] feel confident maintaining their identity as a queer person - that's a hard thing to do."

Beyond the range of oSTEM, there are also different resources available to LGBTQIA+-identifying students on campus.

The largest LGBTQIA+ science, technology, Shelter highlighted the Otter Cross Cultural Center engineering and mathematics (STEM) organization (OC3) as a safe space for the queer community. "OC3 has made its way to California State University, has always been a really really important resource for queer students on this campus. I think that we need more resources for the really large queer population that we have, especially in the sciences and other sectors of STEM on our campus."

> Beyond being a safe space for queer students with similar aspirations, oSTEM can be an enriching environment that advances students toward success. The chapter hosts personal statement workshops, study sessions and other informational meetings intended to help students throughout the semester.

> "You don't have to be out and proud right away... that's your story to tell and you should feel empowered to tell your story to who you want to, how you want to, when you want to. You should also know that there's power in being visible, as well as vulnerability," Shelter added.

> oSTEM meetings are held from 4-6 p.m. every other Friday in the Otter Student Union, either in room 311 or 210. Students can find the club on MyRaft or on Instagram (@ostematcsumb) to stay up-to-date with the chapter. The next meeting is scheduled for March 1.



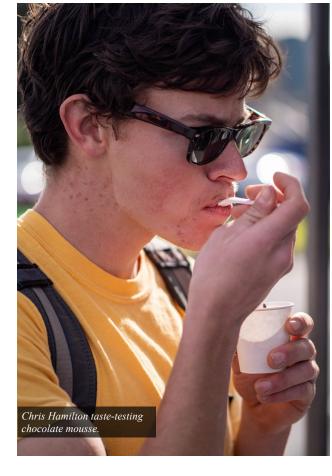
Campus

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Easy, sweet treats at the farmers market

Chris Hamilton

Staff Writer



As groups of students milled about, taking in the sight, smells and tastes of the different vendors at Thursday's Farmers Market at California State University, Monterey Bay (CSUMB), they were inevitably drawn to the tasty samples of chocolate pudding prepared by CSUMB's Executive Chef Julie Picco and Otter Kitchens resident district manager Monty Vicks.

A Teaching Kitchen was hosted by Picco and Vicks, demonstrating how to make this delicious treat.

"Today we're doing a tasting for the farmers market, just trying to let students try some ingredients and food options that maybe they haven't had a chance to, and it's free, so there's no commitment involved," said Picco.

Picco demonstrated a simple, easy recipe for Chia Chocolate Mousse. The recipe is vegan and involves using only a blender or food processor.

It seemed that the pudding was unanimously enjoyed by those who tasted it. "It was really good and I liked how it was non-dairy. It was sweet and the texture was like if it did have dairy," said fourth-year, Karen Maldonado. "It was yummy!" commented fourth-year, Lexi Yokomizo.

In the samples, one could taste the chefs' expertise and passion for cooking. According to Picco, the Teaching Kitchen hopes

to inspire students to branch out in the things that they try cooking at home.

'We try to pick recipes that are easy to execute at home. This one requires no cooking at all - all you need is a food processor to do it. So in theory, you can make this in a dorm room," Picco said.

Vicks commented on a shared mindset of creativity that he and Picco both express through cooking, leading them to experiment with different recipes like the one demonstrated on Thursday.

"What I enjoy about our partnership is that we think outside the box. Even though we're on campus, we use it as our canvas," said Vicks. Both Vicks and Picco commented on the high hopes that they have for the university's culinary future.

"We're going away from just getting by, to going above and beyond, like this could be a campus or this could be a hotel. It needs to be at that level, like a four or five-star hotel," said

To this, Vicks added, "We're changing. We're doing some cultural redevelopment for our [Otter Kitchens] team which means that we're shifting how people have seen food. We want to hear the heartbeat of the students and faculty, and we're building upon that."





Otters learn LinkedIn

Maxwelle Tartaglia

Staff Writer

California State University, Monterey Bay (CSUMB) students attended a LinkedIn Workshop seminar on Tuesday, Feb. 13 to learn about the employment-focused social media platform.

The seminar was hosted by CSUMB's Career Services and led by Career Advisor Thomas Rodgers.

The event was an opportunity to learn about the various ways students can utilize LinkedIn for professional networking, personal branding and career advancement.

"We use LinkedIn to promote our professional self," explained Rodgers. "[We can] connect with people that we are in common with in terms of the work we do or the programs we are a part of."

Rodgers kicked off the workshop with a short writing activity where he challenged attendees to write a short paragraph summarizing their educational experience, their key skills and areas of expertise and their personal objectives.

Attendees were then instructed to use that paragraph when creating their own LinkedIn profile as their "About Me" section.

The workshop then walked students through how to curate an effective LinkedIn profile for career advancement with tips like using a profile picture of a nice photo of yourself smiling, taken from the shoulders up.

More topics surrounding profile optimization, personal branding and LinkedIn's features and tools were discussed during the workshop.

The workshop hosted around 15 attendees, the majority of whom were a part of CSUMB's Educational Opportunity Program (EOP).

EOP aims to improve the access and retention of low-income and first-generation college students by helping them gain the skills and support networks necessary to ensure their success.

The LinkedIn workshop proved to be a kickstart for students diving into the world of professional networking on LinkedIn and gave them the tools to start their own accounts.

HERE'S YOUR PROFILE CHECKLIST

- Do you have the perfect **profile photo** (headshot, smiling, correct attire)?
- ☐ Does your **headline** match your desired job title?
- ☐ Does your **summary** include both keywords + accomplishments?
- Does your **work experience** include your resume bullets?
- Does your **education** include your accomplishments outside of class?
- Do your **skills** match the desired skills on your dream job description?

Columns

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Bob Marley: One Love's - A story of justice, freedom and unity

Nicholas Zuniga

Staff Writer

The biopic that many have been waiting for: "Bob Marley: One Love," has finally hit theaters. After looking to the internet for opinions on the film, the general consensus is not dazzling.

"One Love" recounts the life of famed reggae singer/ performer, and philosopher/humanitarian, Bob Marley (and his group The Wailers). It portrays Marley as he and his band bring their album "Exodus" into fruition, an album that would be proclaimed as "the best album of the 20th century," by Time Magazine in 1999. However, "One Love" was not all love and peace.

The film exemplifies relentless violence in Jamaica during the 1970s, violence that stemmed from political unrest and led to abundant gang involvement. After an attempted assasination of Marley as well as his band and family members, the unit left Jamaica and took Europe by storm with their musical talent.

Culminating with Marley's "One Love Peace Concert," where he brought together the two opposing political party leaders, audiences get a look at real clips of Marley performing and bringing peace to Jamaica through music. Marley passed away due to melanoma at the age of 36 in

I really liked this film for its story, but many took to Rotten Tomatoes and IMDB to say that this was another halfbaked biopic that only sheds light on the more marketable or iconic moments in Marley's life. I do agree the film could have used more attention to detail in portraying Marley's impact through his philosophy of love. I also think the film is a good introduction to Marley for younger audiences who may not be aware of the extent of his impact on the music industry.

My main point of contention with the film: I needed subtitles. I found it difficult to understand much of the dialogue through the characters' thick Jamaican accents. That being said, I was still able to understand the general story and context of things.

Starring Kingsley Ben-Adir as Bob Marley, and Lashana

Lynch as Marley's wife, Rita Marley, this power couple did a good job of showing the good, bad and and ugly of the Marleys' relationship. Ben-Adir had a supporting role as Ken in "Barbie," and Lynch can be seen in "The Woman King." After their performances in "One Love," I will certainly keep my eyes out for these two moving

The film was developed by Paramount Pictures and directed by Reinaldo Marcus Green. Several of Marley's family members were involved as producers including Ziggy and Cedella Marley, children of Bob and Rita Marley.

When the credits ended, I left the theater feeling uplifted and rather emotional. I didn't know much about Bob Marley prior to the screening, and I'm positive there's much more for me to learn about, but I felt inspired by his ability to cultivate peace with art. I would give "Bob Marley: One Love," four ganja leaves out of five.

"One love, one heart ... Let's get together and feel all right." - One Love, by Bob Marley and The Wailers.



IOTS PROVIDED BY NICHOLAS ZUNIGA

Black and white By Jose Guzman

Contributing Writer

Nothing is truly as it seems, Read between the lines, Finding the hidden truth, The 'quiet ones', The goofy ones, The whimsical ones, The kind ones. The innovative, The creative ones...

This black and white spectrum Unfit for many, like myself Likely unnoticed by you, Only the secondary characters In your world.

Slowly open your eyes, Surely, hopefully, You will realize We were always there Steadily, slowly appearing before you Like the invisible becoming visible. The moment for you to simply

See us truly...



Columns

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How the Apple Vision Prospells change for VR gaming

Samantha Hutz Staff Photographer

The current landscape of VR gaming has reached a point where consumers are presented with four main options: Meta's Quest line of headsets, Sony's Playstation VR, the Valve Index and the HTC Vive. Just this past month, the release of the Apple Vision Pro (AVP), while not a gaming headset, has established a new cutting edge in VR technology and the world of "spatial computing."

I visited an Apple store recently and got a hands-on demo of AVP. Speaking as a long time user of the Meta Quest 2 and general VR enthusiast, I can say it is truly groundbreaking. AVP hasn't reinvented the wheel with its basic functions, but the accuracy and ease of use is leagues ahead of what any other competitor in the VR space is putting out.

AVP is marketed not for entertainment, but rather for productivity. Vision OS 1.0 offers similar functionality to other Apple computers, but shifts from traditional Graphical User Interfaces (GUIs) into "Spatial Computing." This allows for an augmented reality concept which still makes use of GUIs, but is now presented in floating windows in your face.

Technically, considering the way AVP achieves this effect, augmented reality is a misnomer. Light from the surrounding environment does not land in the human retina, but rather in camera lenses, which then recreate a virtual reality representation, and present it on screens within the headset.

Additionally, AVP is unique in its lack of handheld controls. Instead, it utilizes highly advanced hand-tracking to register specific gestures. Meta's VR headsets have had such features in beta, but their accuracy is spotty at best. Users interact with Vision OS in three primary ways: eye-tracking, which measures a focal point based on the angle of your



pupils, physical buttons like the digital crown, borrowed heavily from the Apple Watch, and some of the highest fidelity hand-tracking on the market.

AVP is also far more comfortable than other VR headsets. The hand-tracking does not require wild arm movements, but rather tracks gestures, allowing the user to place their arms wherever is comfortable, so long as finger and hand mobility is preserved.

VR as an industry continues to struggle with mass adoption, still teetering between the early adoption phase and the transition into growth. While AVP is a technological

marvel, its use cases remain limited to a virtual display and computing device as an alternative to standard computing workspaces or other mobile devices. In order for it to take off as mainstream wearable tech like smartwatches, we'll need to see a radical reduction in form factor, likely by incorporating solid state batteries.

In the meantime, Apple's indirect competitors in the world of VR gaming will likely do everything in their power to emulate the leaps and bounds of AVP. Although unlikely, Apple is currently very well positioned to enter the VR gaming market and offer potentially the best performance headset yet to exist.

A good wine with a beautiful label

30 30

Helene's Vineyard

Helene Marie Kristensen

Contributing Writer

Disclaimer: Don't drink if you're under 21, don't buy alcohol for minors and always drink responsibly.

Whenever I choose a wine for the column, I try to find something locally produced ("locally" in this instance meaning within the state of California) but the last time I did a tasting at Total Wine & More, there was a focus on wines from Europe. One that caught my eye, not only because of the beautiful label, was this Cotes Du Rhone. Its full name is Halos De Jupiter Cotes Du Rhone.

Cotes Du Rhone is a red wine from France, specifically from the Rhone Valley. The valley is generally divided into two sub-regions that both have their distinct vinicultural traditions. These two subregions are the Northern Rhone and the Southern Rhone. Fun fact: vinicultural means the process or business of growing grapes and making wine.

The northern regions generally produce red wines from the syrah grape, which can sometimes be blended with up to 20% of white wine grapes, and other white wine grapes like marsanne, roussanne and viognier. In the southern regions, they produce a wide variety of wines including red, white and rosé, often utilizing a blend of several different grapes, without it becoming classified as a red blend.

A while back I mentioned Italian ratings such as DOC and DOCG. Of course, France and Cotes Du Rhone have their own rating. This is called AOC and stands for Appellation d'Origine Controlée. Receiving an AOC is somewhat similar to the one in Italy, and means that the wine was produced in a specific region, and has a certain level of both quality and style. Additionally, each appellation or city has its own unique outline in terms of grape variety, growth conditions and blend types permitted in order to receive their AOC status.

A Cotes Du Rhone wine is usually dominated by the grenache grape, and this week's wine consists of 75% grenache, 15% mourvedre and the rest syrah, which can also be known as shiraz, however they are not identical, and are described to have to slightly different styles.

The French climate in the northern Rhone results in flavors such as dark berries, pepper, herbs, salt licorice and flowers, and are usually high in acidity. The shiraz grape on the other hand thrives best in warmer climates, and as a result gives flavors that are reminiscent of chocolate, blackberries, sweet licorice and prunes, which, as a result appears less acidic and has a smoother feel in the mouth.

Both types of grapes result in a wine that has a full body, with an intense flavor profile.

Jupiter is based on syrah and definitely has an acidic aftertaste, however, I don't mind it at all. I don't find it overpowering, but I am also used to a more acidic and flavorful wine to drink and enjoy, that others would traditionally have to pair with food.

The aroma is easy to catch, with notes of pepper, spices and cherries. The flavor is dominated by spices, with a hint of herbs and cherries, but a hint of blackberries that give a slight sweetness.

If you know you don't mind a wine that has a more acidic taste, I think this is a great choice to enjoy both by itself and with food. Good food pairings would be rustic or traditional meat stews, or a flavorful venison, lamb or entrecote of beef. You could also pair it with sides that have some flavor to them. Semi-hard cheese like comet cheese or gruyere would also pair well with a syrah-based wine.

However, for those dabbling into the wine world, it might not be the best choice to go for a syrah-dominated wine. Instead, I would recommend looking for wine with the shiraz grape on the label or in the description. Shiraz can be found in wines from Australia, South Africa, California or other warm climate areas outside of Europe.

With this newfound knowledge, go out and explore French wine because it is truly excellent, and offers a wide variety of flavors that are great alone, but also beautiful with the right dish.

Cheers!



02.19.24 thelutrinae.com

What is your favorite rom-com?



Jose Guzman
Contributing Writer



Alexis Randall

Liberal Studies Fifth-year

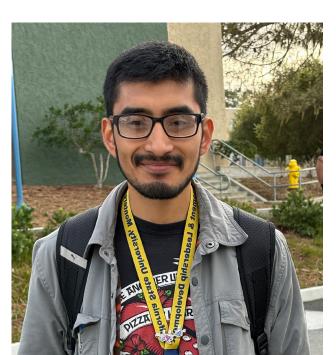
"I think my favorite rom-com is 'Monster in law.' I think it's a comforting movie."



Adriana Hay

Liberal Studies Fifth-year

"My favorite rom-com is 'How to lose a guy in ten days."



Victor Santiago-Corro

Master's in Education Fifth-year

"I think 'Pretty Woman' by Julia Roberts and Richard Gere, it's one of my favorite movies."

Upcoming Events

Tuesday, February 20

Are you interested in joining the College Corps? Join an informational session in building 12, room 10 from 12-1 p.m. to learn from current staff about career and collegiate advice.

Wednesday, February 21

Come out to El Centro (building 12, room 125) from 3-5 p.m. to get help with your 2024-25 FAFSA application! There will be financial aid counselors available to help students submit applications.

Thursday, February 22

Do you need some time to relax after classes? Join Second Year Experience for this week's De-Stress and Craft event! Come out to the Makerspace from 1-3 p.m. to create rock gardens and unwind.

Thursday, February 22

Career Services is hosting a career fair from 2-6 p.m.! There will be recruiters from various school districts looking to find students who are interested in becoming teachers or fulfilling other educational roles.

Registration on MyRaft required.

Thursday, February 22

Looking to join a book club? The Otter Cross Cultural Center (OC3) is hosting a Book Chats Series from 4-6 p.m. Come out and discuss various themes such as empathy and social justice with your peers! Register on MyRaft.

Friday, February 23

The OC3 is hosting a panel from 5:30-6:30 p.m. with Queer Ascents, an organization dedicated to uplifting the LGBTQIA+ and rock climbing communities. This will be the first event in the OC3's climbing series, followed by a BIPOC climbing event with the Recreation Department. There will be food provided as well as a raffle with prizes including a climbing harness and bag, as well as a portable speaker! Registration on MyRaft required.

Puzzles

SUDOKU

In order to complete this Sudoku puzzle, you must fill in the square so that each row and column contain the numbers 1 - 9, with no repetitions within the 9x9 grid and outlined 3x3 grid.

			4		9			
			8	7				
					5		2	
3						1		
	2				7	8		
			3		8			
	8	1	3 5			3	4	
		4					9	2
9			7	3		5	1	

WORD SCRAMBLE

Can you unscramble these rain-related words to uncover their true meaning?

allebrmu romts

owbanir dlfoo

dsucol iahl

eluddp nioattcipirpe

ANSWERS:

8	l	9	Þ	ε	7	2	9	6
7	6	L	L	8	9	Þ	3	9
9	Þ	3	7	6	9	L	8	7
6	9	7	8	G	ε	7	l	ħ
7	3	8	۷	l	6	G	7	9
9	Z	l	9	Þ	7	8	6	3
ε	7	7	G	9		6	Z	8
L	G	6	3	Z	8	9	Þ	7
7	8	9	6	7	Þ	3	9	L

Drizzle, thunder, umbrella, storm, rainbow, flood, clouds, hail, puddle, precipitation

