

Question 8 Elder Futhark Runes Solution

B1

| a | b | c | d | e | f | g | h | i |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|
| 1 | 8 | 4 | 7 | 6 | 9 | 3 | 5 | 11 |

B2. accept in either order

(a) ...**THOR**..... (b) ...**ODIN**.....

B3.

(a) Tyr **↑↗R** (b) Ran ... **Rf†** (c) Sif ... **ΣIP**

Explanation

Like any chaos-and-order problem, the key is to find a unique pair, or a repeated pattern. There are plenty of ways into this8 problem, but one is to notice that 6 and 9 are very similar, as are e and f, and assume they match. You may not know (yet) which is which, but this way you've got the symbols for F **ƿ**, R **R**, E **M**, Y **l** and perhaps A **f**. It's not obvious why one of them has an extra symbol, but perhaps it will emerge.

Just replacing those four symbols, we now have the following:

| | | | | | | | |
|---|-------|---|--------|---|---------|----|------|
| 1 | BaƿMr | 4 | MaXr | 7 | ↗Xrƀ | 10 | XMY† |
| 2 | ƀXr | 5 | †X↑↑ | 8 | MeƿY♦er | 11 | ΣX† |
| 3 | YƀN†† | 6 | frey↗a | 9 | freyr | | |

Two more obvious candidates stand out: 1=Baldur (a) and 8=Dallinger (b).

We have to tolerate some vowel changes. This gives us **B**B **l**L **M**D, and possibly **Y**I ♦ **NG**. We can now revise the table as follows:

| | | | | | | | |
|---|-------|---|--------|---|----------|----|------|
| 1 | baldr | 4 | daXr | 7 | ↗Xrƀ | 10 | Xdi† |
| 2 | ƀXr | 5 | †X↑↑ | 8 | delinger | 11 | ΣX† |
| 3 | iƀN†† | 6 | frey↗a | 9 | freyr | | |

And so on.

Average score: 53%