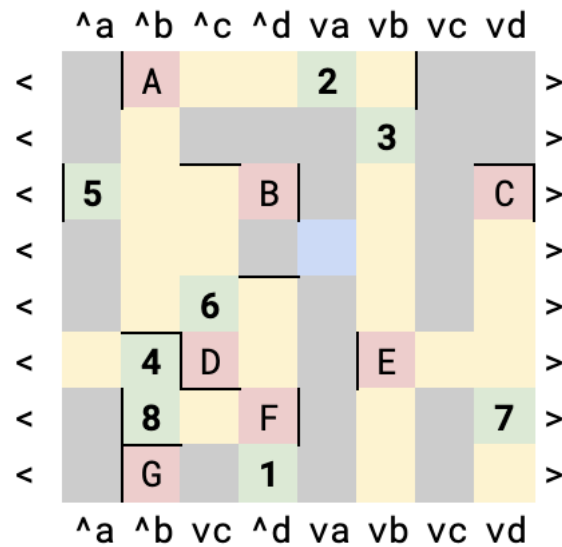


SARDAUKAR (SOLUTION)

by Sim Hong Jhun

By navigating around from the starting point, solvers should realize that they are not moving around a regular 2D rectangular grid. Firstly, west–east rows wrap around—the starting row has no rocky outcrop obstructions and exemplifies this well. Secondly, north–south columns wrap around but in a different way—moving north from the northernmost row brings you to the northernmost cell four columns away. The grid is actually a sphere (the planet Arrakis), and can be mapped out as such:



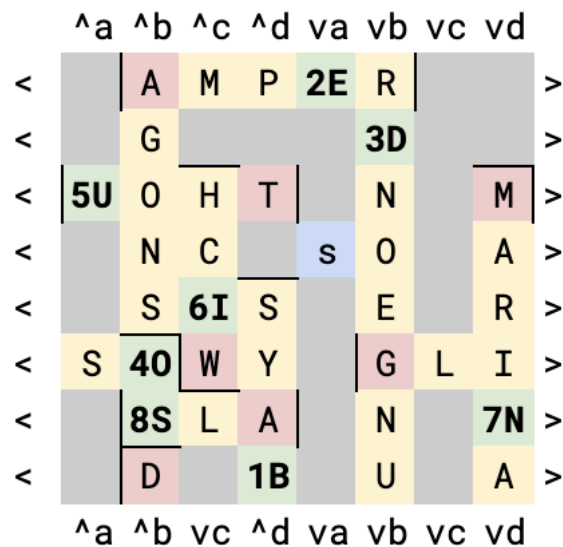
- drawing in the sand
- sword in the sand
- footprints
- nothing of interest
- starting point

As seen from the map, there are some grid cells with objects of interest: seven drawings in the sand (labelled A–G in this document) and eight swords in the sand numbered 1–8. Solvers should first try to identify the drawings in the sand from the in-game descriptions:

Sand drawing	Description	Depicted by drawing
A	"A weird '8' that isn't a closed loop is drawn into the ground. It starts and ends at its bottom right."	AMPERSAND
B	"You see the letter M drawn into the ground."	THOUSAND
C	"The drawing is of three vertical rectangles supporting a flattened boat-shaped object."	MARINA BAY SANDS
D	"Three right-angled triangles are stacked on top of each other on a plate. The top and bottom	SANDWICH

Sand drawing	Description	Depicted by drawing
	layers look similar to each other but different from the middle layer."	
E	"Five parallel horizontal lines are drawn into the ground. Between the bottom two lines there is an oval, with a vertical line extending upwards from the right of the oval to the topmost horizontal line. Towards the right, between the top two lines is another oval, with a vertical line extending downwards from the left of the oval to the bottommost horizontal line. Finally, a long wavy line is drawn diagonally between, but not touching, the two ovals."	GLISSANDO
F	"The drawing is of a pair of footwear that wouldn't fully cover your feet."	SANDALS
G	"A group of people are seated around a table; one of them is seated behind a folding screen. On the table are some small figures of people, as well as some small cubes and other platonic solids in various colors."	DUNGEONS AND DRAGONS

Additionally, each of the sand drawings is at the start of a set of footprints heading in one of the four cardinal directions. Counting the number of steps in each set of footprints, they are always four less than the length of the word or phrase depicted by the corresponding sand drawing. Another thing to notice is that each of the words or phrases contains the substring SAND. As such, the sand drawing words or phrases should be entered into the grid like in a crossword, removing the substring SAND before entering, to give this:



Finally, extracting the letters at the positions of the swords and arranging in the order of the numbers etched onto the swords gives the answer **BEDOUINS**.