

## Mind Sprint

### Twisted Tournament

**Quick Set-Up:** Students will need a space to gather around their worksheets. Make sure to keep the Answer Key hidden during the challenge. Do not read any of the bracketed words [ ], which are for your information only. You're ready!

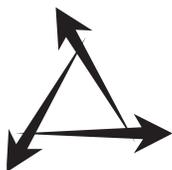
**Objective:** To challenge students' logical thinking skills and ability to follow clues.

**Conducting the Mind Sprint:** [Make sure the team entering the room is the scheduled team, then say:] In some ways, USAT is like a sport. However, we don't have complicated tournaments. In this Mind Sprint challenge, you will have to use your logical thinking skills and a set of clues to fill in a tournament bracket for a fictional group of 16 sports teams. There is an A side and a B side to the bracket, which means there are two distinct sets of eight teams that compete in order to get to the final two.

Within a side, each team is wearing a different color, and those colors are the same on each side. For example, there is one team on the A side wearing red, and one team on the B side wearing red. The two red teams will never play each other. The color of the team is related to their team name. So, if a team was called "The Blizzard," they are more than likely going to be white. Though none of the team colors are intentionally misleading, keep in mind that some things may have multiple options. An apple, for example, could be green, yellow, or red, so you may not be able to guess right away. You may use the dictionary from your Competition Kit to help you.

The brackets are set up like a single-elimination tournament, so only the winner moves on to the next round after each match. I will give you a sheet of clues to help you solve this puzzle. There may be times when you only know which two teams competed, but it isn't clear on the bracket which blank the team name belongs on. For example, you may know The Billy Goats and The Cows competed, and The Cows won, but not on which line to write their names. In those cases, the team that won the match should always be listed first/on top and the losing team is listed second/on the bottom of a bracket.

This puzzle took USAT staff and volunteers nearly 30 minutes to complete, so don't worry if it takes some time. Are there any questions? [Give them their blank bracket and answer their questions. When they are ready, give them the Clue Sheet.]



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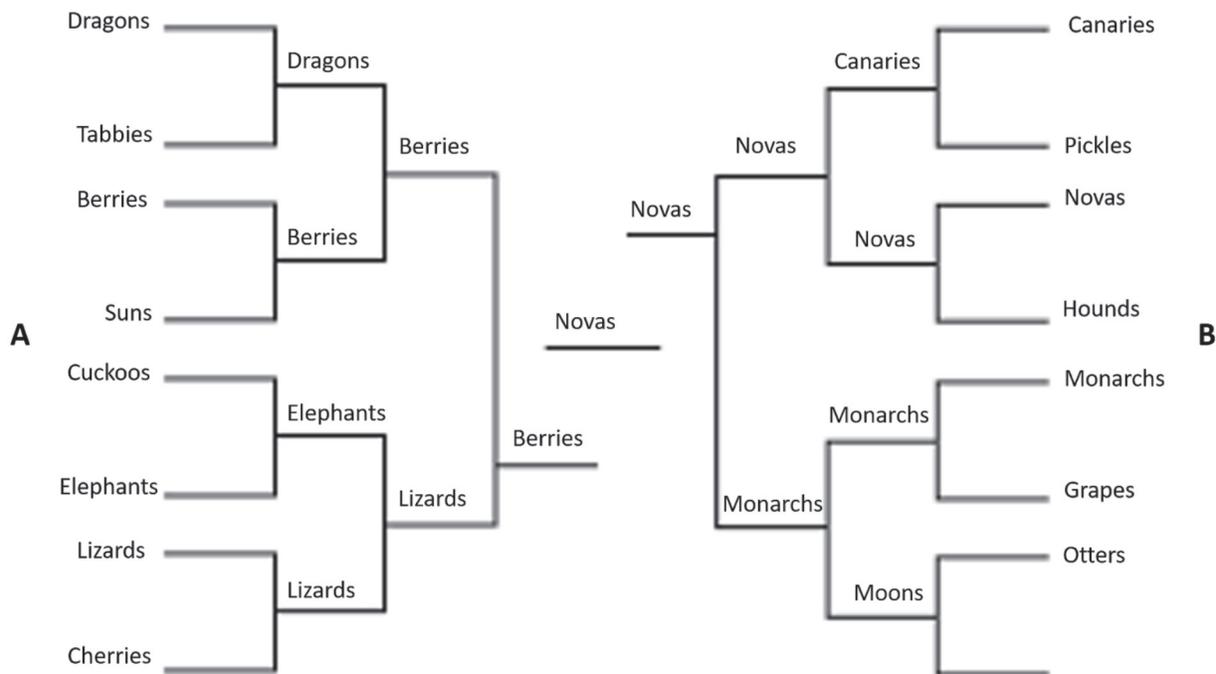
## Twisted Tournament

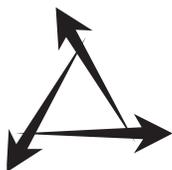
### ANSWER KEY

- I. Dragons
- II. Tabbies
- III. Berries
- IV. Elephants
- V. Lizards
- VI. Cherries
- VII. Berries

- VIII. Lizards
- IX. Berries
- X. Canaries
- XI. Novas
- XII. Hounds
- XIII. Monarchs
- XIV. Otters

- XV. Moons
- XVI. Novas
- XVII. Moons
- XVIII. Novas
- XIX. Monarchs
- XX. Novas





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### Twisted Tournament

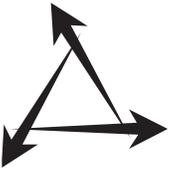
### Clue Sheet

Reminder: Only one team of each color is in each bracket. Some of the teams may have multiple options for color, but none of them are purposefully misleading.

Colors: Red, orange, yellow, green, blue, purple, gray, brown

Alphabetical list of teams: Berries, Canaries, Cherries, Cuckoos, Dragons, Elephants, Grapes, Hounds, Lizards, Monarchs, Moons, Novas, Otters, Pickles, Suns, Tabbies

1. The Monarchs lost to The Novas.
2. Only one of the red teams made it past the first round.
3. The two teams that start with M played each other.
4. In both brackets, the purple and the orange teams played each other in Round 1.
5. The Moons are not gray.
6. The Novas were in the B bracket.
7. The Grapes were the only fruit in their bracket.
8. The final match was between a blue team and a red team.
9. The two furry, four-legged friends you might find in a home were in different brackets.
10. The Dragons borrowed their team color from the dragon in Shrek.
11. Both blue teams made it to at least the second round.
12. Only one mammal got past the first round.
13. The Hounds didn't get a chance to howl at the Moons, but they did face off against something you'd find in outer space.
14. The Cuckoos wear brown, but The Hounds don't.
15. No brown team passed the first round.
16. To make sure no one mistakes them for The Cherries or The Grapes, The Berries do not wear the same color as either of them.
17. The Lizards played against a food in the first round.
18. There were no purple teams in Round 3.



# Mind Sprint

## Twisted Tournament - Team Worksheet

