

Serendib- SOLUTION (RECONSTRUCT / EXPENSE)

The solution to the jigsaw sudoku is shown below. One approach to solving is to note that, discounting rotations, the S-piece with three 2's has only four possible placements. The L and "cross" pieces, all containing additional 2's, will only fit in one of these positions. The preplaced numbers resolve issues of rotation.

Nine squares remain uncovered when all of the tiles are placed. Were these to be filled with numbers, they'd be unique, 1-9. Reading the letters in these squares in that order gives the message SIXES ONES. Reading the letters in each row falling in the six position, then those falling in the one position, gives the string RECONSTRU/CT EXPENSE.

9	R ₆	C ₁	3	4	E ₈	2	5	7
5	X ₃	8	2	7	E ₆	9	T ₁	4
7	4	2	S ₅	9	E ₁	C ₆	8	3
O ₆	2	7	9	X ₁	4	8	3	5
8	9	4	N ₆	3	5	7	I ₂	P ₁
E ₁	5	3	N ₇	8	2	4	S ₆	9
3	7	T ₆	N ₁	2	9	5	E ₄	8
2	8	S ₉	4	5	3	S ₁	7	R ₆
4	E ₁	5	8	U ₆	7	3	9	2