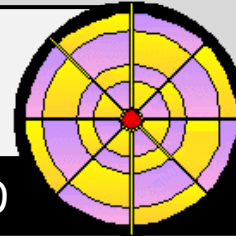


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Covid-19 variants to be given Greek alphabet names

Coronavirus variants are to be named after letters of the Greek alphabet instead of their place of first discovery, the World Health Organization has announced, in a move to avoid stigma.

The WHO has named four variants of concern which are known to the public. The first to be discovered was the UK/Kent (B.1.1.7) variant followed by the South Africa (B.1.351), Brazil (P.1) and India (B.1.617.2) variants. The UK/Kent variant will now be given the letter Alpha as it was the first to be discovered. The remaining variants, and any new ones to be discovered, will follow the pattern down the Greek alphabet.

- What letter will the India variant now be known as?
- What letter will the 10th variant to be discovered be assigned?

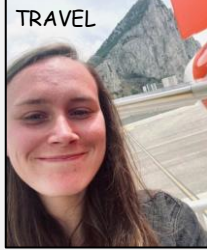
THE GREEK ALPHABET Ελληνικό αλφάβητο

The Greek alphabet has been used to write the Greek language since the 8th century BC. It was derived from the earlier Phoenician alphabet, and was the first alphabet to have distinct letters for vowels as well as consonants. It is the ancestor of the Latin and Cyrillic scripts. Apart from its use in writing the Greek language, in which the letters have been adapted to serve as symbols for technical purposes and labels for mathematical objects and other fields.

Α α	Β β	Γ γ	Δ δ	Ε ε
Alpha al-fah	Beta bay-tah	Gamma gam-mah	Delta del-tah	Epsilon ep-si-lon
Ζ ζ	Η η	Θ θ	Ι ι	Κ κ
Zeta zey-tah	Eta ay-tah	Theta thoy-tah	Iota eye-o-tah	Kappa cap-ah
Λ λ	Μ μ	Ν ν	Ξ ξ	Ο ο
Lambda lamb-dah	Mu mew	Nu new	Xi z-eye	Omicron om-e-cron
Π π	Ρ ρ	Σ σ	Τ τ	Υ υ
Pi pie	Rho roe	Sigma sig-mah	Tau taw	Upsilon oop-si-lon
Φ φ	Χ χ	Ψ ψ	Ω ω	
Phi fie	Chi k-eye	Psi sigh	Omega o-may-gah	

Teacher flies to Gibraltar instead of Belfast 'by mistake'

EasyJet is investigating after a teacher, who thought she was travelling to Belfast, ended up in Gibraltar after boarding the wrong flight.



After arriving in Gibraltar, she flew straight back to Manchester where, after a 4 hour delay, she then travelled the 168 miles from Manchester to Belfast.

Altogether she travelled 2564 miles. How far is it from Manchester to Gibraltar?

Mo Farah's Olympic hopes in balance as he misses Tokyo 2020 10 000 metre qualification

Two-time defending champion Mo Farah's hopes of representing Great Britain in the Olympic 10 000m seem to be over after he fell short of the qualifying mark in the European 10 000m Cup.



The 38 year old was eighth, behind fellow Briton Marc Scott, in a race that doubled as the Olympic trial.

Farah's time was 27 mins 51 secs and he has until the 27th of June to reach the 27 mins 28 secs standard required for Tokyo.

- By how many seconds does he need to improve his time?
- To achieve the standard required for Tokyo, what average speed must a race be ran? Give your answer in metres per second.

UK's new £250 million privately-run prison has no bars on the windows and river views

The UK's first privately run mega-prison is close to completion. HMP Five Wells is intended to modernise the traditional prison image, with no bars on the windows and shorter corridors, and having more of a focus on rehabilitation for it's 1680 inmates.

The jail designers have ditched the usual K-shaped formation of prison housing blocks and instead used seven staggered X-shaped buildings.

But did you know that 'X' is the most commonly used variable in Maths problems???

Can you find the value of 'X' in each of these questions below?

- A square has an area of 36 mm² and a perimeter of x mm.
- Solve the equation below for x.
- Find x in this triangle.

What is the value of x?

$$8x - 5 = 19$$

