

The Californians — Solution

Step 1: For each leg of the road trip, figure out what TV show it's cluing with one phoneme changed. See the next page for the answers.

For instance, the first one is THE ANDY GRIFFIN SHOW, which is the real TV show "The Andy Griffith Show" with the phoneme /th/ changed to the phoneme /n/.

To aid solving, the clues are in alphabetical order by real TV show title, ignoring leading articles. Also, the replaced phonemes (e.g., /th/ above) are the 19 phonemes in the six words at the bottom of the second page of the puzzle.

Step 2: Identify the states depicted in the pictures. Each real TV show used in Step 1 takes place in a different one of those states, except for one that takes place in California. That show's leg is, unsurprisingly, where The Californians' road trip starts.

Step 3: Rearrange the legs of the road trip so that the TV show taking place in a state follows the leg that ends with going to that state. Then, read the new phonemes in that order. This gives the final clue:

BEACH ITEM OR MODEM BRAND

Solve that final clue to get the answer, **SURFBOARD**.

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Trip order	Real TV show	Answer	Show's state	Next state	Replaced phoneme	New phoneme
18	Andy Griffith Show, The	Andy Griffin Show, The	NC	FL	/th/ as th in death	/n/ as n in own
12	Breaking Bad	Braiding Bad	NM	IN	/k/ as c in cone	/d/ as /d/ in did
19	Burn Notice	Bird Notice	FL	(none)	/n/ as n in cone	/d/ as /d/ in did
8	Cheers	Chores	MA	NJ	/ē/ as ea in cheap	/ò/ as aw in law
15	Deadliest Catch, The	Deadliest Cab, The	AK	TN	/ch/ as ch in cheap	/b/ as b in baby
14	Friday Night Lights	Friday Night Limes	TX	AK	/t/ as t in tooth	/m/ as /m/ in murmur
7	Happy Days	Happy Maize	WI	MA	/d/ as d in dawn	/m/ as /m/ in murmur
6	Home Improvement	Hem Improvement	MI	WI	/ō/ as o in cone	/e/ as e in bet
11	It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia	It's Always Sony in Philadelphia	PA	NM	/u/ as u in shucks	/ō/ as o in go
9	Jersey Shore	Jersey Roar	NJ	ME	/sh/ as sh in shucks	/r/ as /r/ in red
10	Murder, She Wrote	Murmur, She Wrote	ME	PA	/d/ as d in death	/m/ as /m/ in murmur
16	Nashville	Rashville	TN	GA	/n/ as n in dawn	/r/ as /r/ in red
13	Parks and Recreation	Parka and Recreation	IN	TX	/s/ as 2 nd s in shucks	/ə/ as e in kitten
5	Sex and the City	Sets and the City	NY	MI	/k/ as ck in shucks	/t/ as t in tie
4	Smallville	Smileville	KS	NY	/ō/ as aw in dawn	/ī/ as i in ice
1	Three's Company	Breeze Company	CA	LA	/th/ as th in tooth	/b/ as b in baby
2	True Blood	Tree Blood	LA	WA	/ü/ as oo in tooth	/ē/ as ea in easy
3	Twin Peaks	Twin Cheeks	WA	KS	/p/ as p in cheap	/ch/ as ch in chin
18	Walking Dead, The	Walking Dad, The	GA	NC	/e/ as ea in death	/a/ as a in ash