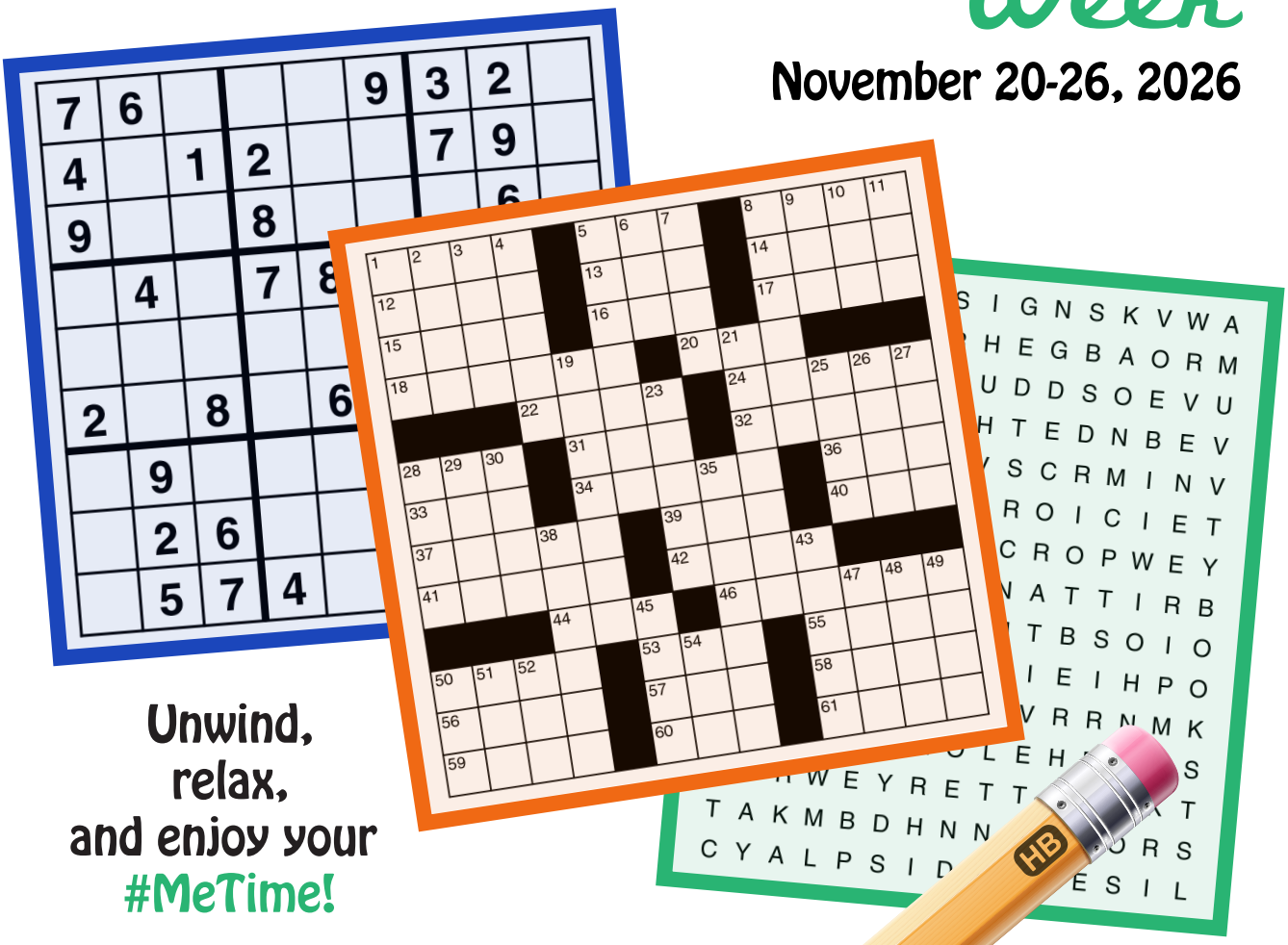
National GAME & PUZZLE Week

November 20-26, 2026



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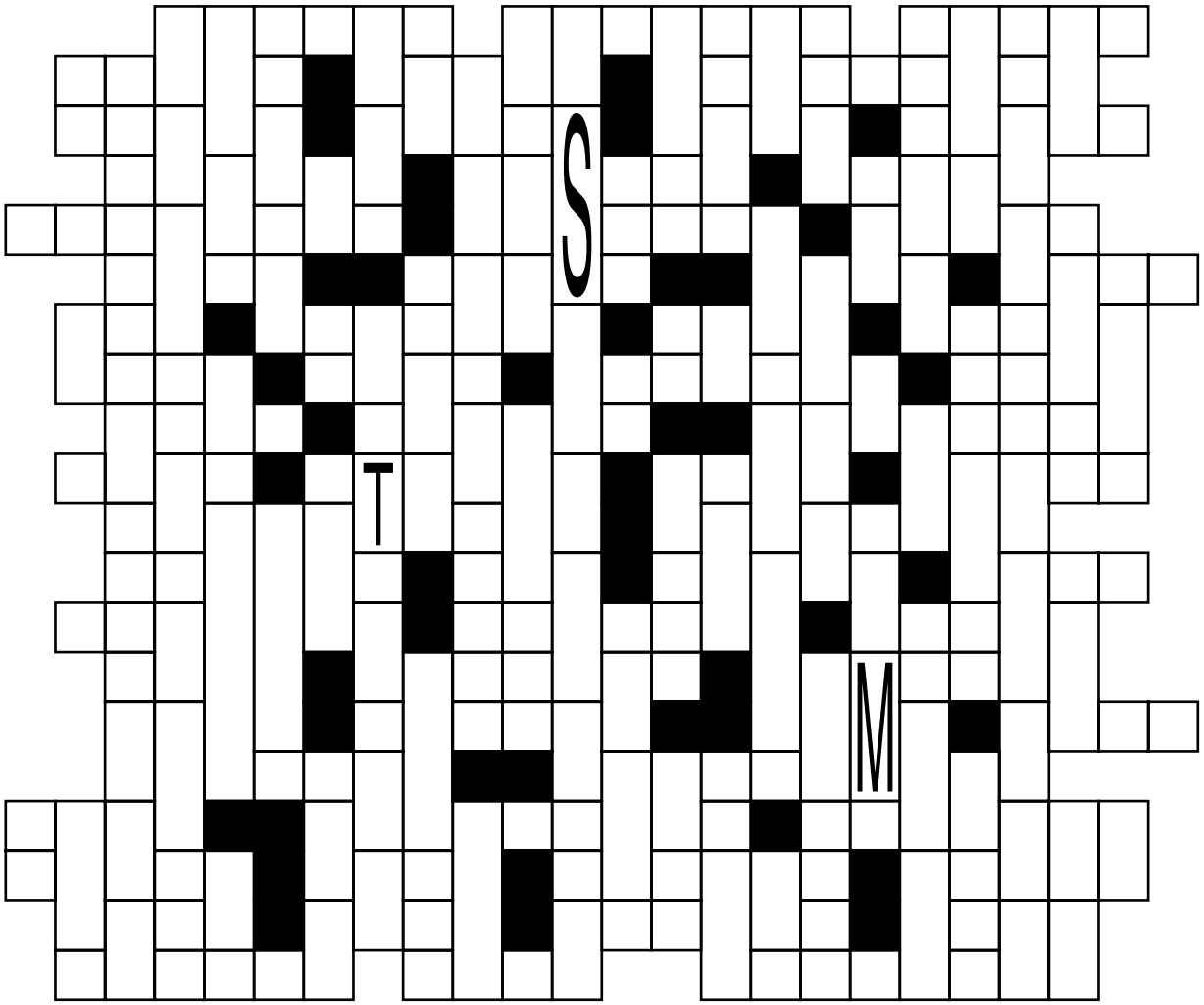
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STRETCH LETTERS

These words, listed alphabetically by length, are to be entered in the diagram across only. Words do not read down. When writing in a blank taller than a square, stretch the letter to the full height of the blank. The stretched letters are part of more than one entry. Solution on the last pages

• LET'S PLAY POKER •



3 Letters
Ten
Tie

4 Letters
Ante
Apps
Bets
Bust
Deck
Face
Five
Fold
Game
Hand
King
Lead
Nine
Odds
Rack
Room
Seat
Show
Suit
Tell
Trey
Turn

5 Letters
All in
Clubs
Dealt
Deuce
Flush
Jacks
Limit
Lucky
Overs
Queen
Raise
River
Rules
Table
Wager

6 Letters
Bluffs
Casino
Hearts
Hold 'em
Jokers
Kicker
Option
Spades
Stakes
Tactic

7 Letters
Cash-out
Declare
Defense
Gambler
Openers
Rounder
Sandbag
Shuffle
Stacked
Two pair

8 Letters
Baseball
Blue chip
Diamonds
Straight

9 Letters
Freezeout
Full house

10 Letters
Pocket aces
Tournament

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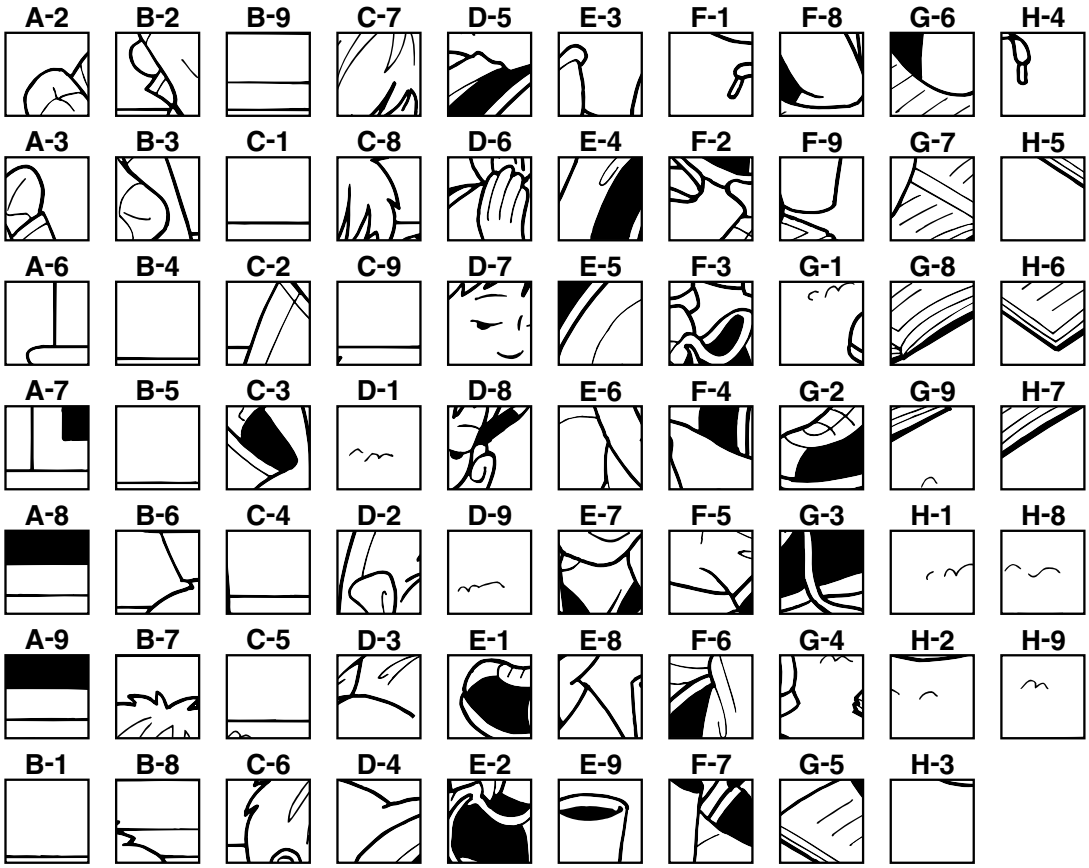
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PICTURE THIS

You do not need any special art training to produce a picture in the empty grid. Use the letter-number guide above each square and carefully draw what is shown into the corresponding square in the grid.

Picture on the last pages



	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
A									
B									
C									
D									
E									
F									
G									
H									

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ALPHABET SOUP

Insert a different letter of the alphabet into each of the 26 empty boxes to form words of five or more letters reading across. The letter you insert may be at the beginning, the end, or in the middle of the word. Each letter of the alphabet will be used only once. Cross off each letter in the list as you use it. All the letters in each row are not necessarily used in forming the word.

Our solution on the last pages

Example: In the first row across we have inserted the letter J to form the word MAJESTIC.

A B C D E F G H I ~~J~~ K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

W	E	L	L	M	A	**J**	E	S	T	I	C	Y
A	N	T	H	E	S		U	I	B	L	E	D
H	A	S	S	O	C		A	R	L	D	O	N
R	E	V	E	R	D		S	T	A	N	C	E
I	M	C	A	L	Y		S	O	U	N	D	Y
M	E	L	H	E	N		O	W	R	A	N	G
C	O	M	M	E	R		I	A	L	G	E	L
S	A	R	O	C	I		R	O	N	I	R	Y
O	N	G	I	N	G		A	M	B	E	L	D
N	E	L	O	P	U		C	T	U	A	T	E
T	H	R	E	A	M		R	I	A	D	U	L
R	A	I	N	B	O		L	A	V	I	N	C
E	N	C	R	A	I		H	R	E	W	D	O
J	I	M	O	C	C		S	I	N	D	R	E
Q	U	I	P	R	E		I	O	U	S	H	O
B	O	U	R	V	O		S	C	U	R	E	L
F	L	A	N	D	U		O	U	T	H	A	N
K	N	E	A	C	Q		I	R	E	G	R	O
S	T	I	E	L	E		C	E	L	N	U	M
V	A	L	O	N	U		E	R	O	U	S	T
D	I	S	B	L	A		E	K	N	A	O	R
H	U	E	R	D	S		S	A	M	E	N	D
A	D	D	I	T	I		N	G	R	O	U	H
P	W	R	I	T	E		M	B	O	A	S	T
L	A	M	I	I	N		L	A	T	E	B	O
G	E	D	I	M	P		E	F	A	R	M	Y





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WIZARD WORDS

WORD SEEK

The Wizard is wise and humorous. To complete his words, first loop all the listed words in the diagram, then read the leftover letters to reveal the missing words that will complete the Wizard's Words. Words in the diagram read forward, backward, up, down, and diagonally, and always in a straight line. Loop each word when you find it and cross it off the list. Words often overlap, and some letters may be used more than once.

Wizard's Words and solution on the last pages

THE GAME ___ ___ ___

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AMATEUR DETECTIVES

LOGIC PUZZLE

If you happen to have a free afternoon, you may enjoy taking a whodunit tour through historic Granville Hall, former home of the great shipping magnate and amateur detective, Homer L. Granville. Cindy enjoyed today's tour, during which she was asked to gather clues linking a different person to the theft of a different valuable object. Each object had been stolen from a different room in the mansion. Cindy soon discovered that each thief was a person employed by Mr. Granville in a different capacity. From the information provided, determine the object (one was a stamp) stolen from each room, the person (including Edwards) who stole it, and the capacity in which each person is employed.

1. Williams stole from the drawing room. The doctor stole from the study. Neither the valet nor Smythe (who is the lawyer) is the one who stole the antique vase.
2. The first-edition book was stolen from the library. The miniature portrait (which was taken by the butler) wasn't the object stolen from the master bedroom.
3. The caterer stole from the music room. Whitworth stole from the master bedroom.
4. The rare coin, which was stolen by Allen, wasn't taken from the music room.

This chart is to help you record information from the clues as well as the facts you deduce by combining information from different clues. We suggest you use an "X" for a "no" and a "•" for a "yes."

		ROOM					PERSON					CAPACITY				
		DRAWING ROOM	LIBRARY	MASTER BEDROOM	MUSIC ROOM	STUDY	ALLEN	EDWARDS	SMYTHE	WHITWORTH	WILLIAMS	BUTLER	CATERER	DOCTOR	LAWYER	VALET
OBJECT	BOOK															
	COIN															
	PORTRAIT															
	STAMP															
	VASE															
CAPACITY	BUTLER															
	CATERER															
	DOCTOR															
	LAWYER															
	VALET															
PERSON	ALLEN															
	EDWARDS															
	SMYTHE															
	WHITWORTH															
	WILLIAMS															

OBJECT	ROOM	PERSON	CAPACITY

Solution on the last pages

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SUDOKU

Place a number in each empty box so that each row, column, and nine-box square contains the numbers 1 to 9.

Solutions on the last pages

1.

3		8			7	5		
2		5	4				9	6
				9		1		
	7		8	2				5
5		4		3		6		8
8				4	5		2	
		2		1				
6	8				9	3		4
		3	6			2		7

2.

8		4		3	7		9	
	7							
	5	1			2	4		3
					9	2	5	6
		3	7	2	4	9		
9	1	2	5					
2		5	4			1	6	
							4	
	4		9	6		3		5

3.

			2	3	1	6	7	
	6							8
4	7			6	8	2		
9			8		7	5		3
		7				8		
2		4	5		3			1
		5	3	7			8	9
1							5	
	9	3	1	8	5			

4.

	7	5				6		4
				6			5	
8	4		5		3			
7	6		1					
		3	7		4	9		
					6		1	5
			3		5		7	2
	1			4				
5		9				3	4	

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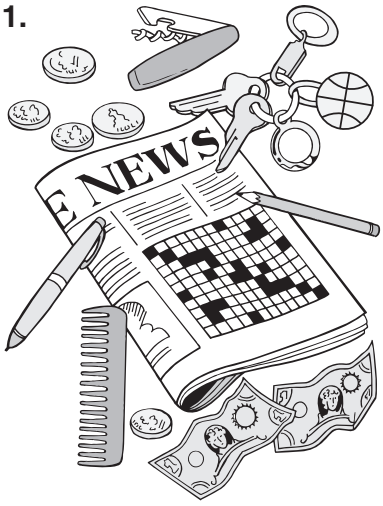
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THE SHADOW

Can you find the picture that matches the silhouette shown?
Answer and explanation on the last pages



1.


2.


3.


4.


5.


6.


7.


8.


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WHAT'S LEFT?

Following the instructions, cross off words in the diagram. When you are finished, the remaining words will form a message reading left to right, line by line. Some words may be eliminated by more than one of the instructions. Words that have been crossed off may be used to eliminate other words.

Answer on the last pages

1. In columns A and C, cross off each word that is immediately below a word starting with P.
2. In columns B and D, cross off all words that contain the word HAND.
3. Cross off all words in the tenth row.
4. Cross off all words that can follow SHOE to form a compound word.
5. Cross off all 3-syllable words that start with a 3-letter palindrome.
6. Cross off all words that end in NDLE.
7. Cross off all words that rhyme with TIE.
8. Cross off all pairs of 4-letter words that are anagrams of each other.
9. Cross off all 6-letter words with DD in the center.
10. Cross off all 5-letter words that are still words if the second letter is removed.

A	B	C	D
BOBOLINK	CHANDLER	POTS	YOU
LEARN	SMEAR	WE	TOTALLY
CANDLE	A	HIGH	LIE
MADDEN	FLOW	MOMENTOUS	LOT
WOLF	TRUNDLE	ABOUT	CHORE
PEOPLE	THORN	BUNDLE	GOLF
HOCKEY	EYE	CUDDLE	HANDBAG
BUDDHA	WHEN	FLOG	LACE
WRY	HORN	YOU	EVERYTHING
ROOT	ODOR	POLO	BOLO
PLAY	POPULAR	A	HIDDEN
JAM	FOREHAND	TREES	GAMES
SPLAT	WITH	SPY	SWINDLE
STOP	SODDEN	THEM	BOX
DWINDLE	SHINE	CRANE	HANDSOME

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JIGSAW SQUARES

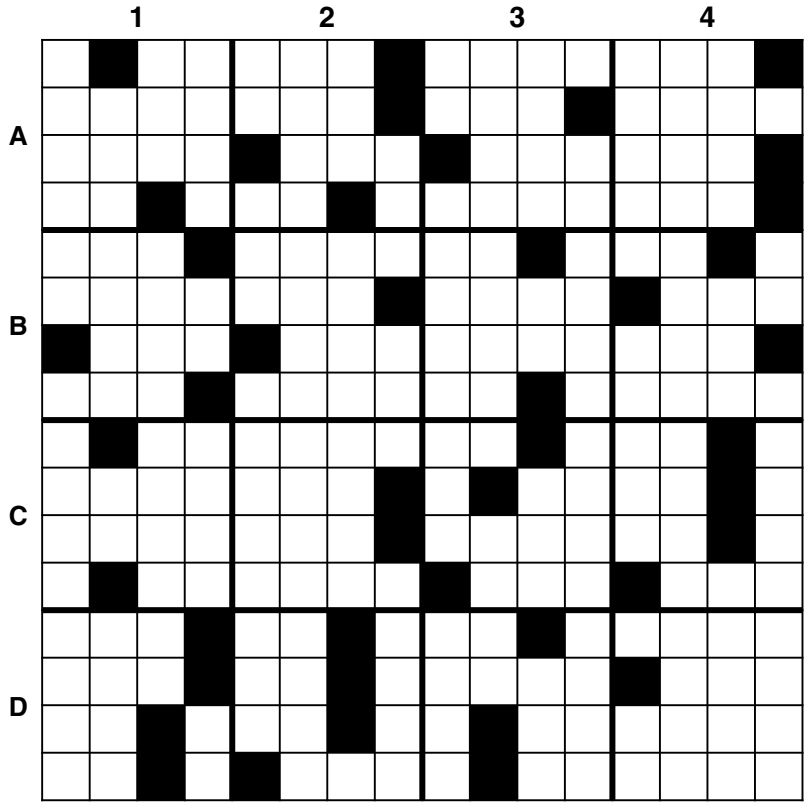
Your goal is to fit the PUZZLE PIECES into their proper places in the diagram to reveal an anecdote. Fill the diagram by placing the PUZZLE PIECES horizontally into their corresponding sections of the diagram. The 16 sections are identified by letter-number combinations (A-1, A-2, A-3, etc.). The anecdote reads left to right, line by line. A black square indicates the end of a word—words do not necessarily end at the end of a line.

Solution on the last pages

PUZZLE PIECES

A-1	A-2	A-3	A-4	B-1	B-2	B-3	B-4
A	R	TUR	ATE	AND	ATE	B	R
H	ER	WAS	EGE	FOR	HEA	H	ER
TO	AND	COLL	NED	HER	ADVI	CE	NES
YO	ENT	OOMM	STRE	OOMM	SMIL	ED	OFF
SSED	UNG					DPHO	EFOR
STUD						TOOK	

C-1	C-2	C-3	C-4	D-1	D-2	D-3	D-4
E	ING	I	I	A	I	E	RIG
F	NET	T	O	N	R	I	NTER
BR	OOKS	LO	W	HT	T	M	REAM
RE	PLYI	NG	HE	NG	ON	HE	TCHI
ATCH		AND	OS	ERS	OW	ST	
NTER		VIDE	VE	NET	TO	WA	
			RIV		LIV	ELAX	



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CROSSWORD

• GAMES PEOPLE PLAY •

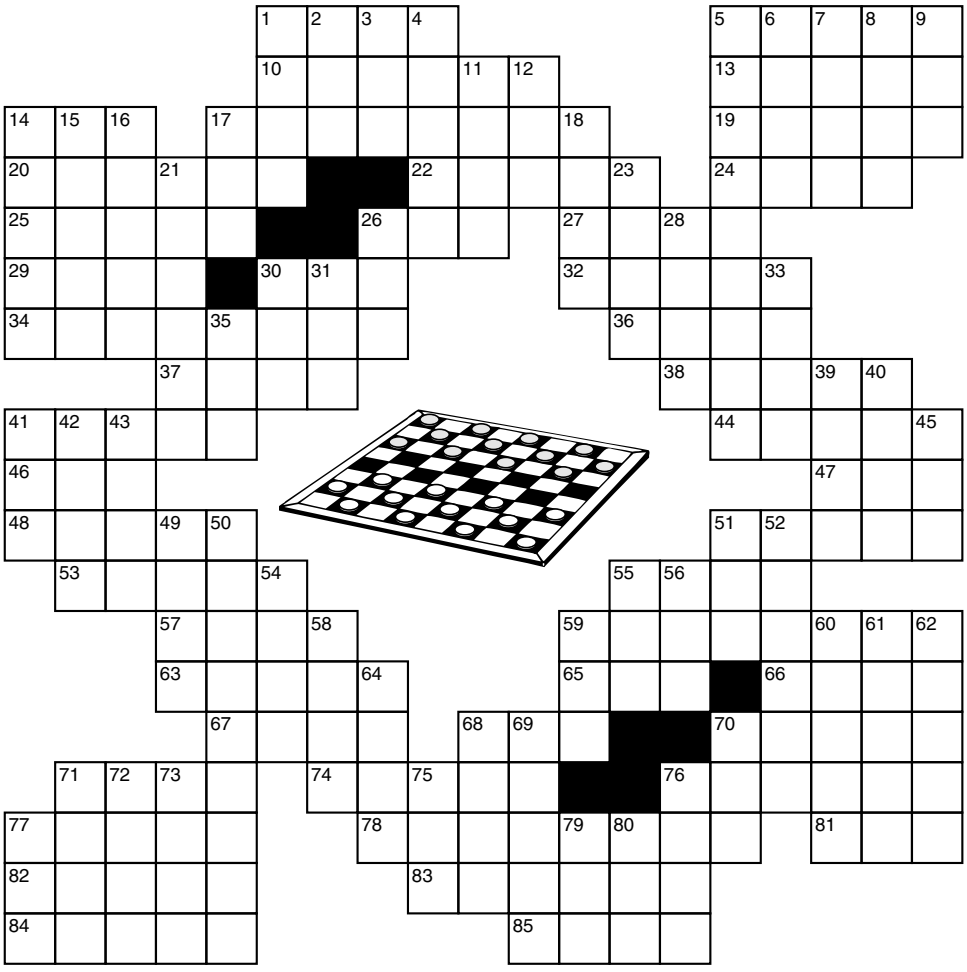
ACROSS

1. Races a motor
5. Indian drum
10. Like some doorways
13. Spot of land
14. Na Na preceder
17. Acting out?
19. Terminate
20. Stringed instruments
22. Marry again
24. Bar bills
25. Irritated
26. Tenn. neighbor
27. Succotash bean
29. Gulf near Yemen
30. Follower: suff.
32. Parasite
34. Tabling one's tennis?
36. Schlep
37. Without slack
38. Night crawlers
41. Blues
44. Mrs. Bunker
46. Bring into the open
47. Feed lines to
48. Diagram
51. Malicious person
53. So long in Sonora
55. "____ the night . . ."
57. Petty dispute
59. Seeking crowning glory?
63. Horses' kin
65. What to hedge
66. Romance lang.
67. Emulate Oprah
68. Nitrogen, e.g.
70. Cure, as sausage
71. Additionally
74. Poison ____ tree
76. Acted dreamily
77. "____ a Boy" (Grant film)
78. Laying tiles?
81. Elders: abbr.
82. Army doc
83. Birds that ape
84. Molars, e.g.
85. Birthstones

DOWN

1. Arena sounds
2. Pitcher's letters
3. DVD player's kin
4. Stock unit
5. X-O-rama?
6. Out of port
7. Tell all
8. Fewer
9. Brunched
11. Garden of gardens
12. Morning mist
14. Waste metal
15. Alpine girl
16. Host Funt
17. Edible fish
18. Peddle
21. Duration
23. Food plan
26. Small cask
28. Persian's cry
30. Letters of debt
31. Explosive inits.
33. Zebra group
35. ____ de deux
39. Transparent mineral
40. Stupefy
41. Diamond corner
42. Malta's money unit
43. Romanian city
45. Watch it!
49. Tower town
50. Leaping between the lines?
51. Certain apple, for short
52. American ____ dog (type of spitz)
54. Pageant ribbon
55. "As ____ World Turns"
56. Saturated
58. Social gatherings
59. TV network
60. Stiff collars
61. Leaf remover
62. Runners bear them
64. House timber
68. Strong, as meat
69. Serving perfectly
70. Mayday letters
71. Busy as ____
72. Quarry find
73. Tuxedo, e.g.
75. Naomi, to Wynonna
76. Clutter
77. Qty.
79. Glasgow negative
80. Electric unit

Solution on the last pages



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SIMON SAYS

Follow the directions carefully to discover an answer that is apropos. **Solution on the last pages**

1. Start with ANNOYING BIRD PUNS. — 1. ANNOYINGBIRDPUNS
2. Move the first vowel from the right to the immediate right of the second vowel from the left. — 2. _____
3. Add M to the immediate left of the fifth consonant from the right. — 3. _____
4. Change the set of double letters to T's. — 4. _____
5. Switch the first vowel from the left with the letter in the puzzle that comes next in the alphabet. — 5. _____
6. Add L to the right of the second vowel from the left. — 6. _____
7. Delete the fourth letter from the right. — 7. _____
8. Change all I's to A's. — 8. _____
9. Move the third consonant from the left four spaces to the right. — 9. _____
10. Change the first letter from the right to E. — 10. _____
11. Delete the third consonant from the right. — 11. _____
12. Move the second consonant from the right to the immediate left of the third consonant from the left. — 12. _____
13. Add C before the third consonant from the left. — 13. _____
14. Change the second N from the right to T. — 14. _____
15. Move the third vowel from the right five spaces to the left. — 15. _____
16. Move the first consonant from the right to the immediate left of the fourth consonant from the left. — 16. _____
17. Add H to the right of the second T from the right. — 17. _____
18. Delete the first consonant from the left. — 18. _____
19. Add A between the second and third consonants from the left. — 19. _____

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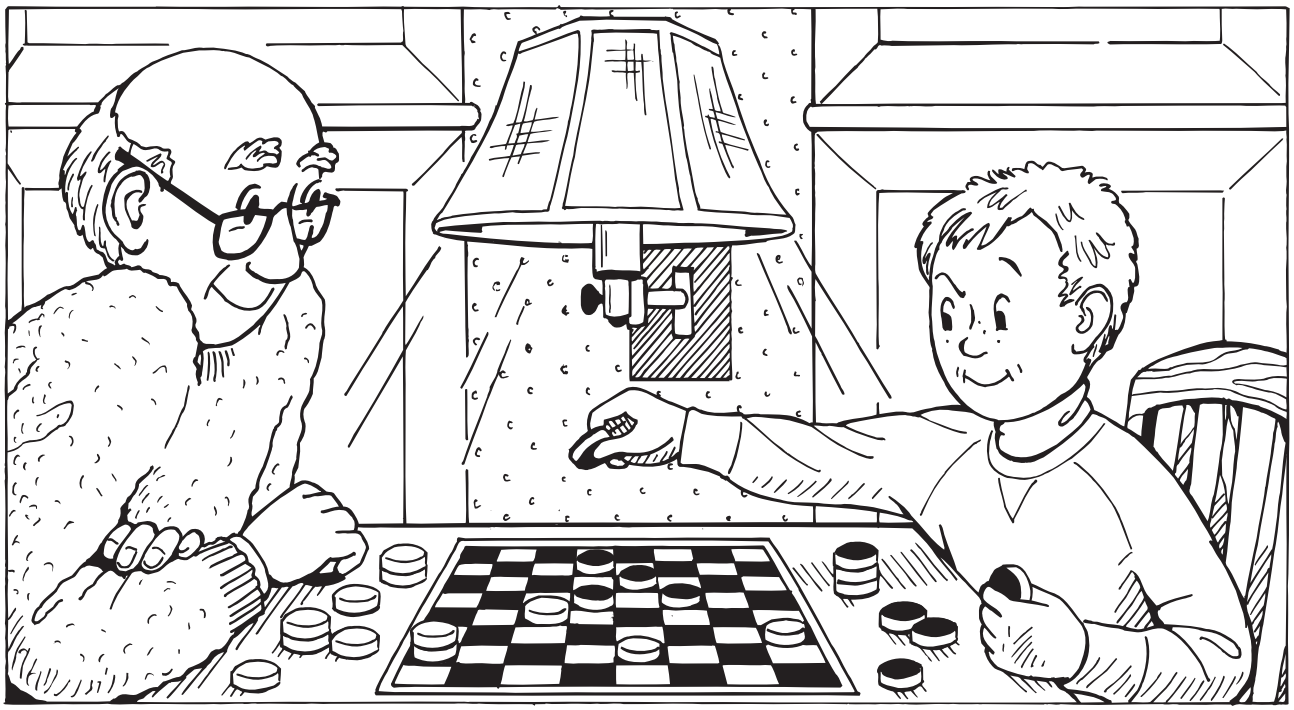
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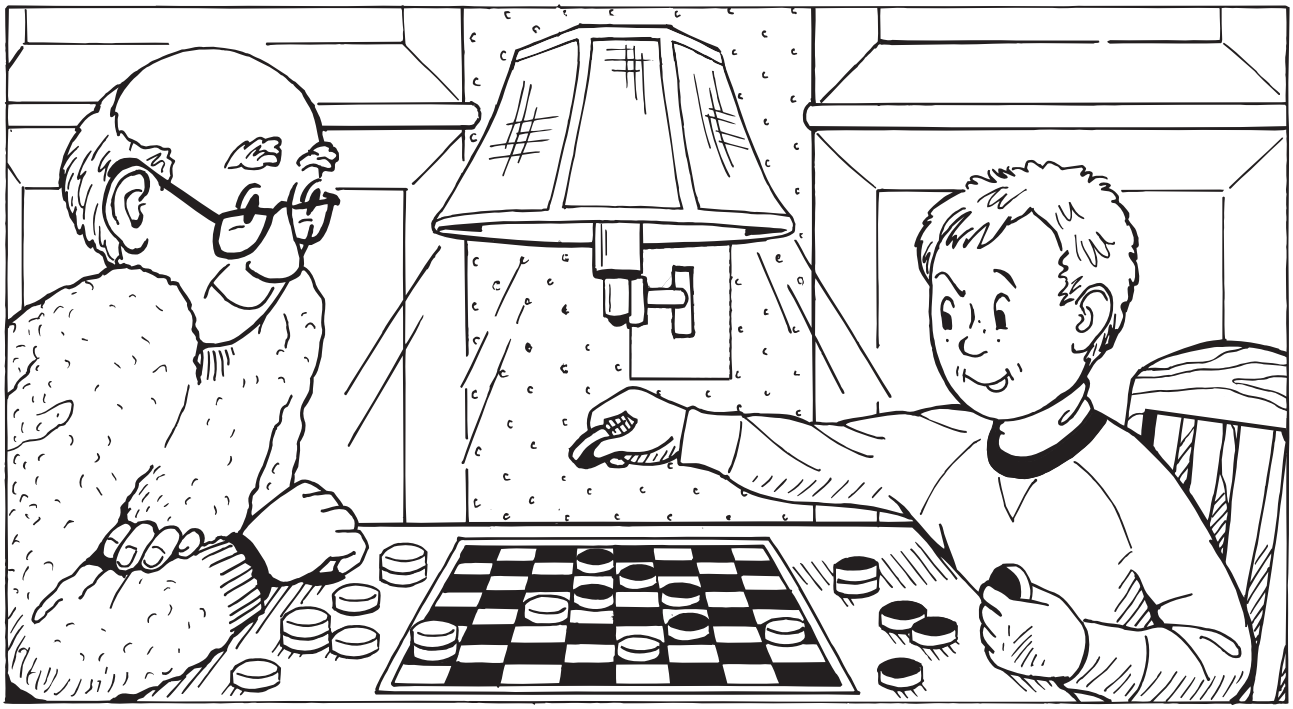
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CHANGE OF SCENE

These two scenes look alike, but there are actually 11 differences in the bottom scene. Can you find them all?

Solution on the last pages



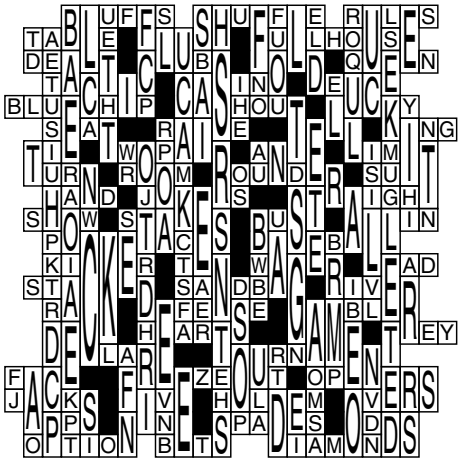


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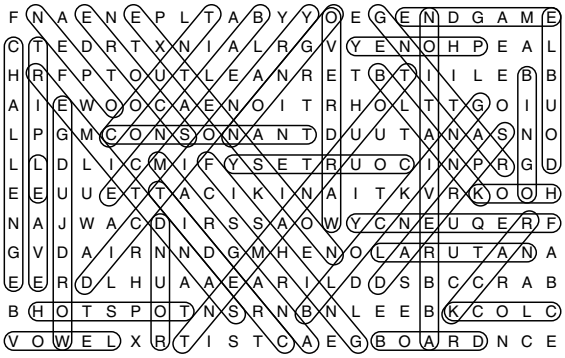
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STRETCH LETTERS



WIZARD WORDS WORD SEEK



PICTURE THIS



LOGIC PUZZLE

(Clue numbers in parentheses)

Allen [coin (4)] didn't steal from the drawing room [Williams (1)], library [book (2)], master bedroom [Whitworth (3)], or music room (4); that one stole from the study [doctor (1)]. The vase wasn't stolen by the valet, lawyer [Smythe (1)] (1), or butler [portrait (2)]; the caterer stole the vase from the music room (3). The portrait wasn't stolen from the bedroom (2); it was stolen from the drawing room. The stamp was stolen from the bedroom. Whitworth [bedroom] isn't the caterer [music room]; that one is the valet. Edwards is the caterer. Smythe stole from the library.

In summary:
Book, library, Smythe, lawyer
Coin, study, Allen, doctor
Portrait, drawing room, Williams, butler
Stamp, master bedroom, Whitworth, valet
Vase, music room, Edwards, caterer

ALPHABET SOUP

				M	A	J	E	S	T	I	C	
					S	Q	U	I	B			
H	A	S	S	O	C	K						
					D	I	S	T	A	N	C	E
		C	A	L	Y	P	S	O				
				E	N	D	O	W				
C	O	M	M	E	R	C	I	A	L			
				C	I	T	R	O	N			
		G	I	N	G	H	A	M				
				P	U	N	C	T	U	A	T	E
					M	Y	R	I	A	D		
R	A	I	N	B	O	W						
						S	H	R	E	W	D	
		M	O	C	C	A	S	I	N			
			P	R	E	V	I	O	U	S		
					O	B	S	C	U	R	E	
				D	U	G	O	U	T			
			A	C	Q	U	I	R	E			
					E	X	C	E	L			
				N	U	M	E	R	O	U	S	
			B	L	A	Z	E					
					S	E	S	A	M	E		
A	D	D	I	T	I	O	N					
	W	R	I	T	E	R						
				I	N	F	L	A	T	E		
		D	I	M	P	L	E					

SUDOKU

1

3	9	8	1	6	7	5	4	2
2	1	5	4	8	3	7	9	6
4	6	7	5	9	2	1	8	3
1	7	9	8	2	6	4	3	5
5	2	4	9	3	1	6	7	8
8	3	6	7	4	5	9	2	1
7	5	2	3	1	4	8	6	9
6	8	1	2	7	9	3	5	4
9	4	3	6	5	8	2	1	7

2

8	2	4	6	3	7	5	9	1
3	7	9	1	4	5	6	8	2
6	5	1	8	9	2	4	7	3
4	8	7	3	1	9	2	5	6
5	6	3	7	2	4	9	1	8
9	1	2	5	8	6	7	3	4
2	3	5	4	7	8	1	6	9
1	9	6	2	5	3	8	4	7
7	4	8	9	6	1	3	2	5

3

8	5	9	2	3	1	6	7	4
3	6	2	7	5	4	9	1	8
4	7	1	9	6	8	2	3	5
9	1	6	8	2	7	5	4	3
5	3	7	4	1	6	8	9	2
2	8	4	5	9	3	7	6	1
6	4	5	3	7	2	1	8	9
1	2	8	6	4	9	3	5	7
7	9	3	1	8	5	4	2	6

4

2	7	5	9	8	1	6	3	4
9	3	1	4	6	2	8	5	7
8	4	6	5	7	3	2	9	1
7	6	8	1	5	9	4	2	3
1	5	3	7	2	4	9	8	6
4	9	2	8	3	6	7	1	5
6	8	4	3	9	5	1	7	2
3	1	7	2	4	8	5	6	9
5	2	9	6	1	7	3	4	8

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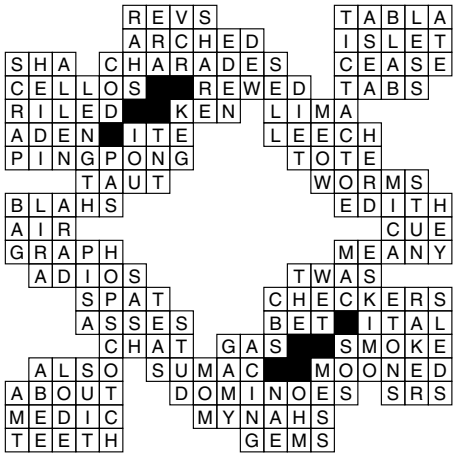
THE SHADOW

7 matches. (Differences: 1. Bottom pages on right side of newspaper not showing, 2. Pencil shorter, 3. Top-most key fob different, 4. Right-hand dollar bill moved, 5. Small coin closest to newspaper moved, 6. Comb smaller, 8. Corkscrew missing from pocketknife.)

WHAT'S LEFT?

You learn a lot about people when you play games with them. (Laura Moncur)

CROSSWORD



JIGSAW SQUARES

A young college student was stressed and turned to her roommate for advice. Her roommate took off her headphones and smiled before replying, "The Internet! I love watching videos of brooks and rivers on the Internet to relax. Right now I'm watching a live stream."

SIMON SAYS

1. **ANNOYINGBIRDPUNS**
2. ANNOUYINGBIRDPNS
3. ANNOUYINGBIMRDPNS
4. ATTOUYINGBIMRDPNS
5. BTTOUYINGAIMRDPNS
6. BTTOULYINGAIMRDPNS
7. BTTOULYINGAIMRPNS
8. BTTOULYANGAAMRPNS
9. BTOULYTANGAAMRPNS
10. BTOULYTANGAAMRPNE
11. BTOULYTANGAAMPNE
12. BTOUPLYTANNGAAMNE
13. BTOUCPLYTATGAAMNE
14. BTOUCPLYTATGAAMNE
15. BTOUCPLAYTATGAMNE
16. BTOUCNPLAYTATGAME
17. BTOUCNPLAYTHATGAME
18. TOUCNPLAYTHATGAME
19. **TOUCAN PLAY THAT GAME**

CHANGE OF SCENE

Differences: Lampshade shorter, glasses earpiece curved, lamp wall plate unshaded, boy's eyebrow lower, lamp switch missing, boy's tongue out, chair crosspiece straightened, boy's collar dark, one of boy's checkers missing, man's cuff dark, extra checker on board.

WIZARD WORDS WORD SEEK

(The game) fan played tile after tile without luck. It was a real hardscrabble existence.

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