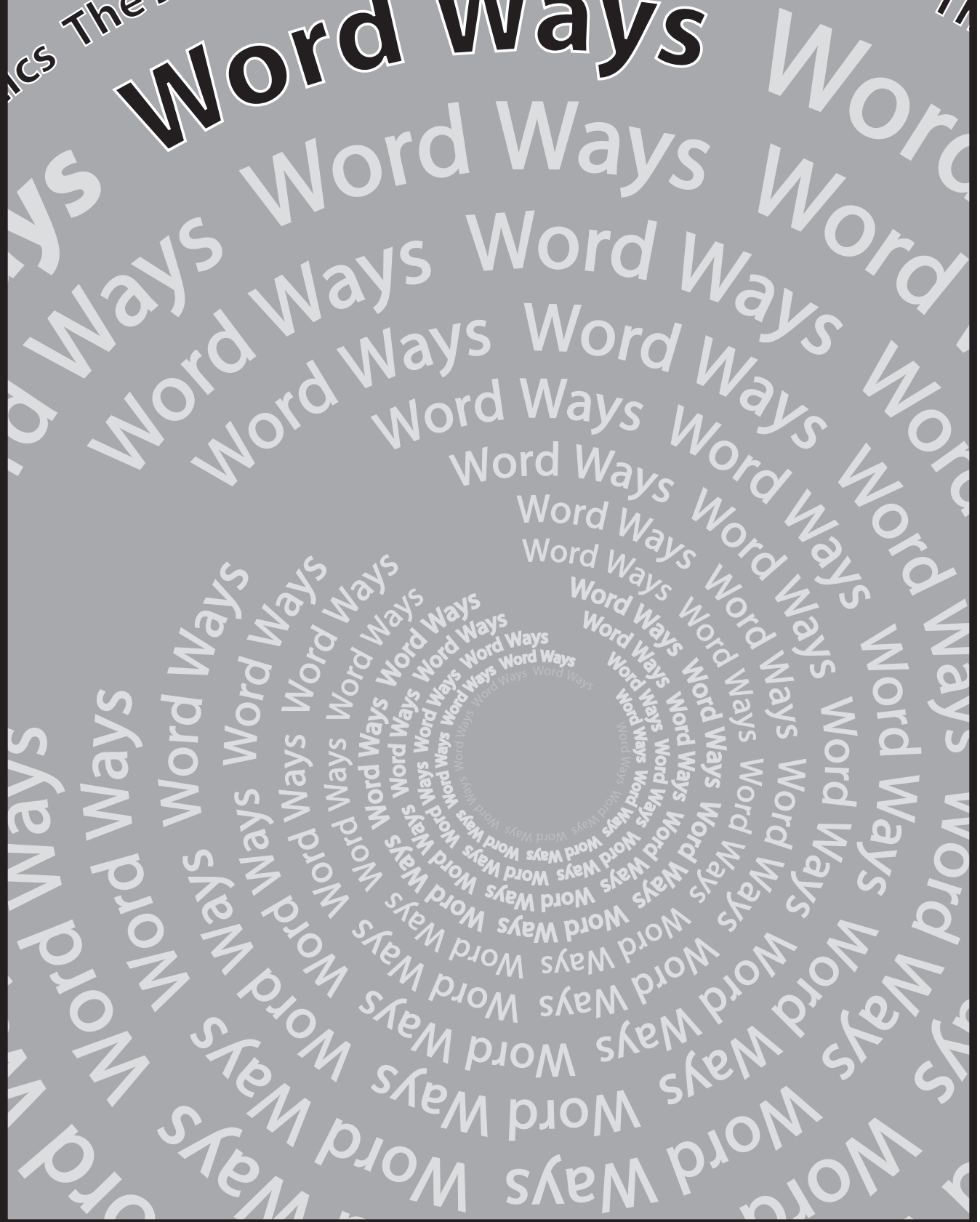


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# Word Ways



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## AMERICAN CITIES: MORE TRANSPOSALS

**Jeff Grant**  
**Hastings, New Zealand**

In the last issue of *Word Ways* (Volume 51, Issue 4), in his 43-page epic ‘Criticism A Name (Otherwise: Transposing American Cities)’, Darryl Francis provides transposals for most of the 310 American cities with a population of over 100,000.

This is an attempt to fill in some of the gaps and to improve on some of the transposals. Not all new transposals are necessarily improvements, but they are at least worth noting.

We have recorded the rank, name, transposal, definition and source for each city, but not the state. Reference to Darryl’s article will provide that information.

| <b>Rank</b> | <b>City</b>         | <b>Transposal</b>                |   |
|-------------|---------------------|----------------------------------|---|
| <b>2</b>    | <b>Los Angeles</b>  | <b>Angelloses</b>                | people named <b>Angellos</b> , a first name recorded 9 times in 4 different countries. [ <a href="http://namespedia.com">namespedia.com</a> (Net)]  |
| <b>3</b>    | <b>Chicago</b>      | <b>Coigach</b>                   | peninsula in Northwest Highlands, Scotland. [Wiki]  |
| <b>5</b>    | <b>Philadelphia</b> | <b>Phillipa Head</b>             | the name of several people on <i>Facebook</i> , including <b>Phillipa E Head</b> of Bolton, England.  |
| <b>6</b>    | <b>Phoenix</b>      | <b>Hoxpine</b><br><b>Oxiphen</b> | a limited company in Queensland, Australia. [Net]<br>1950s brand of laxative pills. [ <a href="http://www.trademarkia.com">www.trademarkia.com</a> (Net)]                                   |
| <b>12</b>   | <b>Jacksonville</b> | <b>Jackson Levil</b>             | 20-year-old son of Eliza Levil, living in Wildcat, Tipton Co., Indiana, recorded in the 1880 US Federal Census. [ <a href="http://hagen.familyfiles.info">hagen.familyfiles.info</a> (Net)] |
| <b>13</b>   | <b>Indianapolis</b> | <b>Diana Polini’s</b>            | possessive form of <b>Diana Polini</b> . [ <i>Facebook</i> ] <b>Diana Polini’s</b> home country is Costa Rica.  |
| <b>17</b>   | <b>Charlotte</b>    | <b>Coltheart</b>                 | Max, an Australian cognitive scientist. [Wiki]  |

|    |                |                              |  |
|----|----------------|------------------------------|--|
| 25 | Nashville      | Shanville                    | a guest house near Limerick in Ireland. [ <a href="http://www.limerick.ie">www.limerick.ie</a> (Net)]  |
| 32 | Albuquerque    | Alburqueque                  | Alex <b>Alburqueque</b> is a Peruvian baritone. This is how his name is spelt. [Net]   |
| 36 | Long Beach     | Bong Leach                   | album by reggae/ska group 'Long Beach Rehab'. [Net]  |
| 37 | Kansas City    | Katy Cassin                  | an individual on <i>Facebook</i> .   |
| 39 | Virginia Beach | Virginia Bache               | a resident of Blackfoot, Idaho. [Facebook] There are 3 people named <b>Virginia Bache</b> on <i>LinkedIn</i> [Net]   |
| 47 | Minneapolis    | mininopales<br>Minnie Opal's | a tapestry featuring small 'nopales' cacti. [ <a href="http://homefeliz.blogspot.com">homefeliz.blogspot.com</a> (Net)]<br>possessive of <b>Minnie Opal</b> , a Portland-based clothing and shoe line.<br>[ <a href="http://minnieopal.com">minnieopal.com</a> (NetI)] |
| 48 | Cleveland      | Lev Candle                   | a brand of perfumed candles created in France in 2017.<br>[ <a href="http://levcandle.com">levcandle.com</a> (Net)]  |
| 50 | Arlington      | Larington<br>Ralington       | a surname, there are lots on <i>Facebook</i> .<br>Pharma is an Indian pharmaceutical company. [Net]  |
| 51 | New Orleans    | laneowners                   | the owners of (bowling) lanes; compare 'homeowners'.<br>'... it would be interesting to hear from actual <b>laneowners</b> and their struggle to keep the centre going.'<br>[ <a href="http://www.bowltech.com">www.bowltech.com</a> , Forum, 1 Nov 2012 (Net)]        |
| 52 | Bakersfield    | Breakfields                  | people with the surname <b>Breakfield</b> . According to the 2010 US Census there were 767 <b>Breakfields</b> in the United States. [Wikt]   |

|    |                       |   |   |
|----|-----------------------|---|---|
| 54 | <b>Honolulu</b>       | <b>Lulu Hoon</b>  | a resident of Gold Coast, Queensland, Australia. [ <i>Facebook</i> ]  |
| 59 | <b>Riverside</b>      | <b>driveries</b>  | plural of <b>drivery</b> , a display of driving prowess. [ <i>Urban Dict.</i> ]   |
| 60 | <b>Corpus Christi</b> | <b>Christi Croup's</b>  | possessive form of <b>Christi Croup</b> of Venetia, Pennsylvania, US. [ <i>Whitepages</i> ]   |
| 61 | <b>Pittsburgh</b>     | <b>Britt Pughs</b>  | people named <b>Britt Pugh</b> , such as several on <i>Facebook</i> .   |
| 63 | <b>Anchorage</b>      | <b>Cora Hagen</b>   | the name of several people on <i>Facebook</i> .   |
| 64 | <b>Stockton</b>       | <b>Notstock</b>   | an annual multi-day arts event held at Minot State University, North Dakota, US. [ <i>Net</i> ]   |
| 65 | <b>Cincinnati</b>     | <b>Cincinnati</b><br><b>Nita Cincin</b> and <b>Tinacincin</b><br><b>Tinacin Cin</b> | would be a cool name for a girl from Cincinnati.<br>are on <i>Facebook</i> .<br>lives in Jakarta, Indonesia. [ <i>Facebook</i> ]                            |
| 72 | <b>Lincoln</b>        | <b>Collinn</b>  | appears many times as a given name and surname on <i>Facebook</i> , probable variant of Col(l)in.   |
| 74 | <b>Fort Wayne</b>     | <b>Faerytown</b><br><b>Wayne Fort</b>   | a fictional town in the fantasy novels of Michele Hauf. [ <i>Net</i> ]<br>the name of several people on <i>Facebook</i> .                                   |
| 75 | <b>Jersey City</b>    | <b>Cyrie Jesty</b>  | possible nickname of <b>Cyril</b> (Benjamin) <b>Jesty</b> , who was born in Weymouth, England in 1892. [ <i>livesofthefirstworldwar.org</i> ( <i>Net</i> )] |
| 79 | <b>Norfolk</b>        | <b>Folknor</b>  | surname of 9 residents of Edson, Wisconsin, recorded in the 1880 US Federal Census. [ <i>genealogytrails.com</i> ( <i>Net</i> )]                            |

|     |                        |  |   |
|-----|------------------------|--|---|
|     |                        | <b>Klofron</b> House is in Wisbech, Norfolk, England.<br>[ <a href="http://www.zoopla.co.uk">www.zoopla.co.uk</a> (Net)] |   |
| 87  | <b>Glendale</b>        | <b>engalled</b>  | past tense of ‘engall’, to embitter.<br>[ <i>OED</i> , en- prefix, B.1.b]   |
|     |                        | <b>Gleeland</b> Street is in Deer Park, New York. [Net]  |   |
| 88  | <b>Hialeah</b>         | <b>Halahei</b>   | a town in Inner Mongolia. [ <i>Geo</i> ]  |
| 90  | <b>Baton Rouge</b>     | <b>outer Gabon</b>   | representing some isolated,<br>backward region.<br>‘We are league champions of<br>England, not <b>outer Gabon</b> for God’s<br>sake.’ [ <a href="http://worldsoccertalk.com">worldsoccertalk.com</a> (Net)]   |
| 92  | <b>Chesapeake</b>      | <b>Chase Peake</b>   | a resident of Altamonte Springs,<br>Florida, US. [ <i>Facebook</i> ]  |
| 94  | <b>Scottsdale</b>      | <b>Todcastles</b>  | a prehistoric burnt mound in<br>Scotland. [ <a href="http://canmore.org.uk">canmore.org.uk</a> (Net)]<br>Also, persons named <b>Todcastle</b> , or<br><b>Todcastle’s</b> , relating to the<br>settlement of <b>Todcastle</b> in south<br>Lanarkshire, Scotland. [Net] |
| 95  | <b>North Las Vegas</b> | <b>Last Hangover’s</b>   | relating to <b>Last Hangover</b> , a 2010<br>song by Keyshia Cole. [Net]  |
| 96  | <b>Fremont</b>         | <b>fortmen</b>   | men who guard a fort.<br>‘...each fort is manned by about a<br>dozen <b>fortmen</b> , whose duty it is to<br>garrison and defend the work.’ [ <i>The<br/>Life of Sir James Brooke, Rajah of<br/>Sarawak</i> , Sir Spenser St John, 1879,<br>p387]                     |
| 100 | <b>Birmingham</b>      | <b>Min Brigham</b>   | possible nickname of <b>Minnie B<br/>Brigham</b> , who died in Savannah,<br>Georgia in 2009.<br>[ <a href="http://www.legacy.com">www.legacy.com</a> (Net)]   |
| 102 | <b>Richmond</b>        | <b>Chromind</b>  | a European Union trademark for an<br>industrial chemical mix.<br>[ <a href="http://www.trademarkia.com">www.trademarkia.com</a> (Net)]  |

|     |                  |                          |   |
|-----|------------------|--------------------------|---|
| 103 | Spokane          | <b>Kapones</b>           | a sports bar in St Clair Shores, Michigan, US.<br>[ <a href="http://www.kaponesbar.com">www.kaponesbar.com</a> (Net)]   |
|     |                  | <b>Peakson</b>           | a limited company in Singapore.<br>[ <a href="http://sg.kompass.com">sg.kompass.com</a> (Net)]  |
|     |                  | <b>Speakon</b>           | trademarked name for an electrical connector, first made by Neutrik.<br>[Wiki]  |
| 109 | Shreveport       | <b>Herve Prost</b>       | resident of Brecey, France.<br>[Facebook]   |
| 110 | Fontana          | <b>nanofat</b>           | emulsified and filtered fat, injected to improve age lines, thinning skin, scars, etc.<br>[ <a href="http://www.faceplus.com">www.faceplus.com</a> (Net)]   |
| 113 | Moreno Valley    | <b>Evelyn la Moro</b>    | a resident of Buenos Aires, Argentina. [Facebook]   |
| 116 | Columbus         | <b>Sublocum</b>          | a company in Birmingham, England.<br>[ <a href="http://www.companiesintheuk.com">www.companiesintheuk.com</a> (Net)]  |
|     |                  | <b>sumo club</b>         | a club devoted to Japanese sumo wrestling. There are hundreds throughout the world. [Net]   |
| 117 | Augusta          | <b>Agutua's</b>          | relating to the <b>Agutua</b> , a river in Ontario, Canada. [Geo]   |
|     |                  | <b>Taugaus</b>           | persons with the surname <b>Taugau</b> , such as several in Port Moresby, New Guinea. [Facebook]  |
| 118 | Little Rock      | <b>ticket-roll</b>       | a roll of tickets, such as raffle tickets, attendance tickets, etc.<br>'Blearily, he sat himself down behind the counter,... and readied his <b>ticket-roll</b> .' [www.dictionary.com, 'blearily' example (Net)] |
| 121 | Huntington Beach | <b>hunting the bacon</b> | slang for pig-hunting.<br>'My favourite (gun) for <b>hunting the bacon</b> is my 6.8 SPC Piston AR.'<br>[Hog hunting? forums, <a href="http://1911forum.com">1911forum.com</a> (Net)]                             |
| 122 | Glendale         | <b>engalled</b>          | (see no. 87)  |



|     |                         |                            |   |
|-----|-------------------------|----------------------------|---|
| 123 | <b>Grand Rapids</b>     | <b>Sparring Dad</b>        | title of a YouTube clip.<br>[ <a href="http://www.youtube.com">www.youtube.com</a> (Net)]   |
| 125 | <b>Tallahassee</b>      | <b>Althea Sales</b>        | resident of Quezon City, Philippines.<br>[ <i>Facebook</i> ]  |
| 128 | <b>Knoxville</b>        | <b>Love Linkx</b>          | an online sex shop on Twitter.<br>[ <a href="https://twitter.com/lovelinkx">twitter.com/lovelinkx</a> (Net)]  |
| 129 | <b>Grand Prairie</b>    | <b>rapid-rearing</b>       | developing quickly, used in farming research for example.<br>'These heifers were bred to calve at 19 months and were considered the <b>rapid-rearing</b> group.' [The Effect of Pre-Pubertal Dietary Restriction..., K L Waite, 1997, p25]  |
| 131 | <b>Brownsville</b>      | <b>Brownvilles</b>         | communities named <b>Brownville</b> , such as <b>Brownville</b> , Maine and <b>Brownville</b> , Nebraska.[ <i>Wiki</i> ]  |
| 133 | <b>Overland Park</b>    | <b>Park Overland</b>       | apartments in Overland Avenue, Century City, Los Angeles, California. [ <a href="http://parkoverland.com">parkoverland.com</a> ]  |
| 138 | <b>Chattanooga</b>      | <b>a Chattanooga</b>       | someone surnamed <b>Chattagoon</b> ; there are several on <i>Facebook</i> , but no <b>A Chattanooga</b> .   |
| 139 | <b>Fort Lauderdale</b>  | <b>foulard-related</b>     | pertaining to a type of silk head-scarf.<br>'There are plenty of reasons why you may suddenly be feeling some <b>foulard-related</b> urges.'<br>[ <a href="http://www.whowhatwear.co.uk">www.whowhatwear.co.uk</a> (Net)]   |
| 140 | <b>Rancho Cucamonga</b> | <b>'couch anagram con'</b> | according to <a href="http://www.wordhelp.com">www.wordhelp.com</a> , there is one exact anagram of 'couch' allowed in Scrabble. That word is 'couch'. Even if it is pronounced differently (as in 'couch' grass) it is still the same letters and is thus a <b>'couch anagram con'</b> ! |

|     |                |                       |  |
|-----|----------------|-----------------------|--|
| 146 | Springfield    | <b>Fieldspring</b>    | Street is in Lake Los Angeles, California.<br>[ <i>Net</i> ]   |
| 148 | Pembroke Pines | <b>Bespoken Prime</b> | a fictional city (probably a deliberate transposal) in ‘Holiday Tales Unlike Any Other’.<br>‘Ninja sat high on the cliff of a mountain, overlooking the city of <b>Bespoken Prime.</b> ’<br>[ <a href="http://www.wattpad.com">www.wattpad.com</a> ( <i>Net</i> )]   |
| 150 | Peoria         | <b>Poreia</b>         | a populated place in west Macedonia, Greece. [ <i>Geo</i> ]  |
| 152 | Elk Grove      | <b>keg lover</b>      | someone who likes beer from a keg (large storage vessel); also <b>keg-lover</b><br>‘Whether you’re a cask lover, a <b>keg lover</b> or love them all, we’ve got beer to suit you.’[The Landsdowne Pub, <a href="https://twitter.com">twitter.com</a> ( <i>Net</i> )]<br>‘... to the total delight of <b>keg-lovers</b> one and all...’<br>[ <a href="http://pagosasan.com">pagosasan.com</a> ( <i>Net</i> )] |
| 156 | Palmdale       | <b>Leadlamp</b>       | a type of portable, handheld light made by Wolf Safety.<br>[ <a href="http://www.wolfsafety.com">www.wolfsafety.com</a> ( <i>Net</i> )]  |
| 158 | Springfield    | <b>Fieldspring</b>    | (see no. 146)  |
| 165 | Escondido      | <b>condoised</b>      | converted into a condo (block of apartments in which each unit is separately owned).<br>‘St-Jean-de-la-Croix (the <b>condoised</b> church).’ [ <a href="http://archive.rabble.ca">archive.rabble.ca</a> ( <i>Net</i> )]  |
| 166 | Kansas City    | <b>Katy Cassin</b>    | (see no. 37)   |
| 170 | Sunnyvale      | <b>Lyna Venus</b>     | a resident of Algiers, Algeria.<br>[ <i>Facebook</i> ]   |
| 175 | Syracuse       | <b>cessuary</b>       | old colloquial/dialectic for ‘accessory’.<br>‘...’howsomever, you see, young man, you are but a <b>cessuary</b> before the fack, and not arter, which is   |

|     |                  |                        |   |
|-----|------------------|------------------------|---|
|     |                  |                        | something in your favour.” ‘ [ <i>The Step-mother</i> , Vol 2, G P R James, 1846, p344]   |
| 176 | Naperville       | Pearl Levin            | a resident of Cape Town, South Africa. [ <i>Facebook</i> ]  |
| 177 | McKinney         | Nickymen Phenyo Tshose | lives in Taung, South Africa. [ <i>Facebook</i> ]   |
| 178 | Mesquite         | Equistem               | Technology is a company in Phoenix, Arizona, US. <a href="http://www.bizapedia.com">www.bizapedia.com</a> (Net)]  |
|     |                  | Quemites               | people named <b>Quemite</b> , such as Jesus <b>Quemite</b> and Adrian <b>Quemite</b> . [ <a href="http://www.youtube.com">www.youtube.com</a> ]   |
|     |                  | Questime               | a company that organizes theme party games for various events, based in Boston, US.[ <a href="http://questime.com">questime.com</a> ]   |
| 189 | W. Valley City   | city levy law          | the law relating to city levies in the PC military strategy game ‘Crusader Kings 2’ ‘ <b>City Levy Law</b> is normal - 65 percent.’ ‘This is modified by normal <b>city levy law</b> .’ [ <a href="http://forum.paradoxplaza.com">forum.paradoxplaza.com</a> (Net)] (Not a great transposal. We need better!) |
| 191 | New Haven        | Wenhaven Drive         | is a road in Chagrin Falls, Ohio, US. [ <a href="http://www.spokeo.com">www.spokeo.com</a> (Net)]   |
| 192 | Sterling Heights | sight-sheltering       | protecting the eyes. ‘The Blind Long-tailed Owl... has evolved a <b>sight-sheltering</b> plumage to cope with the desert conditions.’ [ <a href="http://www.ameliusmagazine.com">www.ameliusmagazine.com</a> (Net)]   |
| 195 | Thousand Oaks    | South Sandoka          | theoretically, the southern part of Sandoka, a settlement in Nigeria. [ <i>Geo</i> ]  |
| 199 | Visalia          | Vasilia                | a populated place in Cyprus. [ <i>Geo</i> )]  |
| 200 | Waco             | awoc                   | early form of ‘awoke’. [ <i>Middle English Dictionary</i> , awaken, c1275 quot.]  |

|     |            |                              |   |
|-----|------------|------------------------------|---|
| 201 | Elizabeth  | Belize Hat                   | a woven straw Panama style hat with a gold chain decor, by Milano Collection<br>[ <a href="http://www.voguewigs.com">www.voguewigs.com</a> (Net)]   |
| 202 | Bellevue   | Vuebelle                     | Holdings Ltd, a company based in Dublin, Ireland.<br>[ <a href="http://www.solocheck.ie">www.solocheck.ie</a> (Net)]  |
| 206 | Carrollton | Collartron<br><br>controllar | Systems, a New Zealand firm that makes training collars for dogs.<br>[ <a href="http://www.collartron.co.nz">www.collartron.co.nz</a> (Net)]<br>early Scots for a 'controller'. [DOST]  |
| 210 | Concord    | condroc                      | a plains bird in the video game Warfare.<br>[ <a href="http://warframe.fandom.com">warframe.fandom.com</a> (Net)]   |
| 211 | Roseville  | Loverlies                    | 'The <b>Loverlies</b> ' are a worship band from Denton, Texas, US. [Facebook]<br>The spelling <b>loverly</b> also represents a nonstandard form of 'lovely', which can be a noun. 'Good morning, my <b>loverlies</b> , let's get this party started.' [Cracked, K M Walton, 2012, p177] |
| 214 | Lafayette  | Lafeyetta                    | female given name, eg <b>Lafeyetta</b> Jackson and <b>Lafeyetta</b> Davis [Facebook],<br>and <b>Lafeyetta</b> Wah. [Whitepages]   |
| 219 | Midland    | Dimland<br><br>Maddlin       | <b>Dimland</b> Castle or <b>Dimland</b> Lodge is another name for Dimlands, a small gentry house SW of Cowbridge, SE Wales. [Wiki]<br>female given name (variant of Madeleine?), eg <b>Maddlin</b> Isha, <b>Maddlin</b> Bandalo and <b>Maddlin</b> McGown (all Facebook)                |
| 222 | Allentown  | nonwallet                    | not relating to a wallet.   |

‘This is called **nonwallet** data as it is historical in nature and would not typically be found in a person’s wallet.’ [*Strategic Information Security*, J Wylder, 2003, p113]

- 226            **Independencede-ninepenced**            a contrived word, which could apply in the following context:  
‘Jack’s mother gave him ninepence for school lunch, but a big boy **de-ninepenced** him, so he went hungry.’  
(Darryl’s **Independence MO** = **omnidependence** is much better!)
- 227            **Springfield**            **Fieldspring**            (see no. **146**)
- 228            **Ann Arbor**            **Barranon**            a surname listed many times on *Facebook* and *Whitepages*. Lots of people named **Barranon** live in California, US. [*Net*]
- 230            **Peoria**            **Poreia**            (see no. **150**)
- 232            **Berkeley**            **Kerbeley**            a village in the commune of Squiffiec, Brittany, NW France. [[www.infobretagne.com](http://www.infobretagne.com)] (*Net*)  
**Kerbylee**            first name of **Kerbylee** Rosales of Digos, Philippines. [*Facebook*]  
**Lee Kerby**            a North Carolina, US, resident. [*Facebook*]  
Also, people named **Beryl Kee**, **Bree Kyle**, **Kyle Bree** and **Kyle Beer** are listed on *Facebook* and *Whitepages*.
- 234            **Murfreesboro**            **bourse reform**            a stock exchange shake-up.  
‘**Bourse Reform** is the title of a short online article at Oxford Analytica Daily Brief. [[dailybrief.oxan.com](http://dailybrief.oxan.com), Nov 21, 1988] (*Net*)  
(Darryl’s ‘**Rumors of beer**’ sounds good though.)

|     |               |   |  |
|-----|---------------|---|--|
| 240 | Miami Gardens | <b>Miriam Danges</b><br><br><b>Miriam Degans</b>                                  | resident of Cobb, Georgia, recorded in the 1940 US Census. [ <a href="http://www.archives.com">www.archives.com</a> ( <i>Net</i> )]<br>females named <b>Miriam Degan</b> , such as the 2 <b>Miriam Degans</b> on <i>Facebook</i> .   |
| 243 | Wilmington    | <b>Milton Wing</b><br><br><b>miltowning</b>                                       | a fictional character played by Regis Toomey in the 1961 film ‘The Last Sunset’. [ <i>Wiki</i> ] There are of course many real people named <b>Milton Wing</b> . [ <i>Whitepages</i> ]<br>(1950-60s slang) relaxing; turning on with a ‘Miltown cocktail’. Miltown was a tranquillizer containing the drug meproamate.<br>‘Within a few years of its introduction, people were <b>miltowning</b> : turning on with “Miltown cocktail” washed down with a Bloody Mary...’<br>[ <i>Manufacturing Depression</i> , G Greenburg, 2013] |
| 245 | Fargo         | <b>Fogra</b><br><b>forga</b><br><br><b>Frago</b><br><b>Gofra</b> and <b>Gorfa</b> | populated place in Morocco. [ <i>Geo</i> ] old Scots for ‘forgo’, to do without. [ <i>DOST</i> ]<br>populated place in Ghana. [ <i>Geo</i> ]<br><b>Goraf</b> are streams in Ethiopia, and <b>Goraf</b> is the name of mountains in Somalia. [ <i>Geo</i> ]   |
| 247 | Carlsbad      | <b>Clabards</b>   | persons with the French surname <b>Clabard</b> , such as Etienne <b>Clabard</b> (b1672), daughter of Jacques and Marie <b>Clabard</b> . Jacques <b>Clabard</b> (b1635), son of Jean and Francoise <b>Clabard</b> [ <a href="http://www.myheritage.com">www.myheritage.com</a> . ( <i>Net</i> )]<br>Ruelle des <b>Clabards</b> is a street in Serain, N france. [ <i>Net</i> ]  |
| 248 | Westminster   | <b>Western Mist</b>   | variously, a holiday complex in Kanthaloor, India [ <a href="http://www.tripadvisor.com">www.tripadvisor.com</a> ( <i>Net</i> )], an Australian racehorse  |

|     |             |                                |  |
|-----|-------------|--------------------------------|--|
|     |             |                                | <a href="http://www.racingzone.com.au">[www.racingzone.com.au (Net)]</a> and a Canadian fishing vessel<br><a href="http://www.fao.org">[www.fao.org (Net)]</a>   |
| 251 | Clearwater  | claretware<br><br>Walter Race  | red glasses for claret<br><a href="http://www.gumtree.com">[www.gumtree.com (Net)]</a><br>resident of Branford, Florida, US.<br><a href="#">[Facebook]</a>   |
| 252 | Lowell      | Lellow<br><br>Olwell           | a baby and children's clothing store in Canberra, Australia.<br><a href="http://www.lellow.com">[www.lellow.com (Net)]</a><br>there are many people surnamed <b>Olwell</b> in Ireland and elsewhere around the world. Patrick <b>Olwell</b> is a world-renowned maker of Irish flutes. <a href="#">[Net]</a>   |
| 254 | Pueblo      | Bolupe<br>Pobule               | a stream in Latvia. <a href="#">[Geo]</a><br>locality in the Ninawa region, Iraq. <a href="#">[Geo]</a>  |
| 256 | Fairfield   | feldifair                      | 16th century variant of 'fieldfare', a species of thrush (bird). <a href="#">[OED]</a>   |
| 257 | West Covina | native cows<br><br>Tonic Waves | a type of cattle run in Florida, US, in the 19th and early 20th centuries. Generally, any indigenous cows. 'The "cracker cow", also known as the " <b>native cow</b> ", or "scrub cow" averaged about 600 pounds, with large horns and feet.' <a href="http://www.newworldencyclopedia.org">[www.newworldencyclopedia.org]</a> , under 'cowboy' <a href="#">[Net]</a><br>a 2004 song by Jonni Glaser. <a href="http://www.deezer.com">[www.deezer.com (Net)]</a> |
| 258 | Billings    | Billsing                       | surname of Matilda, Ida, John and David <b>Billsing</b> , residents of Doniphan, Kansas, US, recorded in the 1900 US Federal Census. <a href="http://ancestry.com.au">[ancestry.com.au (Net)]</a>  |
| 260 | High Point  | High Pinto                     | a colour pattern on hedgehogs (see quote).   |

|     |            |                   |  |
|-----|------------|-------------------|--|
|     |            |                   | <p>‘<b>High Pinto</b> - A <b>High Pinto</b> hedgehog has all white patches or spots on 50-75 percent of its body and less than 50 percent of its spines colored.’<br/> <a href="http://www.dreamflowermeadows.com">[www.dreamflowermeadows.com</a><br/> <i>(Net)</i></p> |
|     |            | <b>Hopi Night</b> | <p>an annual electronic music festival at Hopi Hari, a Brazilian theme park near Sao Paolo. <i>[Wiki]</i></p>  |
| 261 | Round Rock | <b>Ron Rudock</b> | <p>resident of Mt Carmel, Pennsylvania, US. <a href="http://www.spokeo.com">[www.spokeo.com</a> <i>(Net)</i></p>   |
| 263 | Cambridge  | <b>MacBridge</b>  | <p>(or <b>Macbridge</b>) a surname found in old census records in US, Canada and Scotland.<br/> <a href="http://www.ancestry.com.au">[www.ancestry.com.au</a> <i>(Net)</i>] John <b>MacBridge</b> and Steve <b>MacBridge</b> are on {<i>Facebook</i>}.</p>               |
| 264 | Norwalk    | <b>Kronlaw</b>    | <p>legal services firm in Brasov, Romania. <i>[Facebook]</i></p>   |
|     |            | <b>low-rank</b>   | <p>low-ranking, having a low rank or position<br/> ‘Who pays attention to <b>low-rank</b> priests?’ <i>[Dragon and Phoenix, J Bertin, 2000]</i></p>  |
| 267 | Temecula   | <b>Cluemate</b>   | <p>an advisory tool for the deduction board game Clue.<br/> <a href="http://www.geekgrade.com">[www.geekgrade.com</a> <i>(Net)</i></p>   |
|     |            | <b>EMaculet</b>   | <p>a reggae artist<br/> <a href="http://www.deezer.com">[www.deezer.com</a> <i>(Net)</i></p>   |
|     |            | <b>metaclue</b>   | <p>a clue summing up all other clues.<br/> ‘This is a <b>metaclue</b> to the fate of his character.’<br/> <a href="http://watchkissanimes.blogspot.com">[watchkissanimes.blogspot.com</a> <i>(Net)</i></p>   |
| 268 | Green Bay  | <b>Greybane</b>   | <p>Ruth <b>Greybane</b> lives in Hampton, Virginia, US <i>[Whitepages]</i>.<br/> <b>Greybane</b> is also a character in the online role-playing game World of Warcraft. <i>[Net]</i></p>   |



|     |                 |  |   |
|-----|-----------------|--|---|
| 270 | Wichita Falls   | <b>fishtail claw</b>                       | <p>in jewellery, a particular type of setting.<br/>         'The ring displays 17 round brilliant cut diamonds,...that elegantly dance across the band in a <b>fishtail claw</b> setting.'<br/> <a href="http://www.laingsuk.com">www.laingsuk.com</a> (Net)]</p> |
| 271 | Burbank         | <b>rabbunk</b>                             | <p>fictional cross between a rabbit and a chipmunk (or skunk), in digital artwork.<br/>         'It's her fursona, a rabbit/chipmunk hybrid! Marie the <b>rabbunk</b> by Fishlover.'<br/> <a href="http://www.deviantart.com">www.deviantart.com</a> (Net)]</p>   |
| 273 | Centennial      | <b>Lennie Cant</b>                         | <p>resident of Stevenage, England.<br/> <a href="#">[Facebook]</a></p>  |
| 276 | Pompano Beach   | <b>beachpoopman</b>                        | <p>contrived name for a guy who craps on the beach. (combining 'beachpoop' and 'poopman' which exist on the Net.</p>  |
| 279 | West Palm Beach | <b>cheap lamb stew<br/>the cable swamp</b> | <p>available in tins mostly. [Net]<br/>         used to describe a mass of cables.<br/>         'Finally,... I turned my attention to <b>the cable swamp</b> under my desk.'<br/> <a href="http://tow.com/decluttering">[tow.com/decluttering]</a></p>            |
| 284 | Davenport       | <b>provanted<br/>Petrovdan</b>             | <p>supplied with provisions. [OED]<br/>         a church in Serbia. [Geo]</p>   |
| 285 | Las Cruces      | <b>AccessURL</b>                           | <p>a Chrome extension to share online account access, without sharing passwords.<br/> <a href="http://www.producthunt.com">www.producthunt.com</a> (Net)]</p>   |
| 287 | South Bend      | <b>Beth Sound<br/><br/>The Bounds</b>      | <p>a pop music artist.<br/> <a href="http://www.deezer.com">www.deezer.com</a>(Net)]<br/>         a farmstead in the Marlborough region, New Zealand.<br/> <a href="http://nz.geoview.info">[nz.geoview.info</a> (Net)]</p>                                       |

|     |                      |                       |  |
|-----|----------------------|-----------------------|--|
| 288 | <b>Flint</b>         | <b>Fintl</b>          | Peter <b>Fintl</b> , Director of Technology and Innovation at Altran Germany.<br>[ <a href="http://www.altran.com">www.altran.com</a> (Net)]   |
| 291 | <b>Clinton</b>       | <b>Coltinn</b>        | variant of the male given name ‘Colton’. [ <i>The Very Best Baby Name Book</i> , B Lansky, 2012]   |
| 295 | <b>Greeley</b>       | <b>Gerylee</b>        | female given name, eg <b>Gerylee</b> M Baron is a lawyer in Alexandria, Virginia, US.<br>[ <a href="http://www.legaldirectories.com">www.legaldirectories.com</a> (Net)]   |
|     |                      | <b>Greylee</b>        | variant of ‘Greyley’, a male given name.<br>[ <a href="http://www.babynamespedia.com">www.babynamespedia.com</a> (Net)]  |
| 296 | <b>Hillsboro</b>     | <b>Boris Holl</b>     | resident of Belgrade, Serbia<br>[ <i>Facebook</i> ]  |
|     |                      | <b>Rob Hollis</b>     | the name of several individuals on <i>Facebook</i> .   |
| 297 | <b>Jurupa Valley</b> | <b>July par value</b> | ‘Par value’ is the face value of a share certificate or bond [ <i>Collins English Dictionary</i> , 2015]. Therefore, the face value in July is the <b>July par value</b> . There are a couple of Net hits, but improvement is definitely needed. |
| 300 | <b>Lewisville</b>    | <b>Ivell Lewis</b>    | a young female resident of Pinckard, Alabama, recorded in the 1940 US Census.<br>[ <a href="http://www.ancestry.com">www.ancestry.com</a> (Net)]   |
|     |                      | <b>Wileville’s</b>    | relating to the community of <b>Wileville</b> , Nova Scotia, Canada.<br>[ <i>Wiki</i> ]  |
| 302 | <b>San Angelo</b>    | <b>Angelano’s</b>     | a family restaurant in Manteca, California, US [ <i>Facebook</i> ]   |
| 303 | <b>San Mateo</b>     | <b>anastome</b>       | a bird of the stork genus <i>Anastomus</i> .<br>[ <i>Century Dictionary</i> , 1914]  |
|     |                      | <b>Somatane</b>       | a village in the Maharashtra state, west-central India. [ <i>Wiki</i> ]  |

|     |            |                            |   |
|-----|------------|----------------------------|---|
| 306 | Tuscaloosa | Lucas Osato<br>Saulo Costa | a resident of Ibiuna, Brazil.<br>[ <i>Facebook</i> ]<br>name of several persons on<br><i>Facebook</i> . |
| 308 | Vacaville  | Cave Villa                 | a temple complex in Batu Caves,<br>Malaysia. [ <i>Wiki</i> , under 'Batu Caves']                        |
| 310 | Woodbridge | Bridgewood                 | populated place in Henry County,<br>Georgia, US. [ <i>Geo</i> ]   |

## References

|                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| <i>DOST</i>        | <i>Dictionary of the Older Scottish Tongue</i> [ <a href="http://dsl.ac.uk">dsl.ac.uk</a> ] ( <i>Net</i> )                       |
| <i>Facebook</i>    | online social networking site  |
| <i>Geo</i>         | GeoNet Names Server, US Board on Geographic Names<br>[ <a href="http://geonames.usgs.gov">geonames.usgs.gov</a> ] ( <i>Net</i> ) |
| <i>Net</i>         | the Internet, using Google search program  |
| <i>OED</i>         | <i>Oxford English Dictionary</i> , 2nd ed., 1989   |
| <i>Urban Dict.</i> | Urban Dictionary [ <a href="http://www.urbandictionary.com">www.urbandictionary.com</a> ] ( <i>Net</i> )                         |
| <i>Whitepages</i>  | telephone directories [ <a href="http://whitepages.com">whitepages.com</a> ] ( <i>Net</i> )                                      |
| <i>Wiki</i>        | Wikipedia, online encyclopedia [ <a href="http://en.wikipedia.org">en.wikipedia.org</a> ] ( <i>Net</i> )                         |
| <i>Wikt</i>        | Wiktionary, online dictionary [ <i>Net</i> ]   |

## MEAN SIDEWALKS

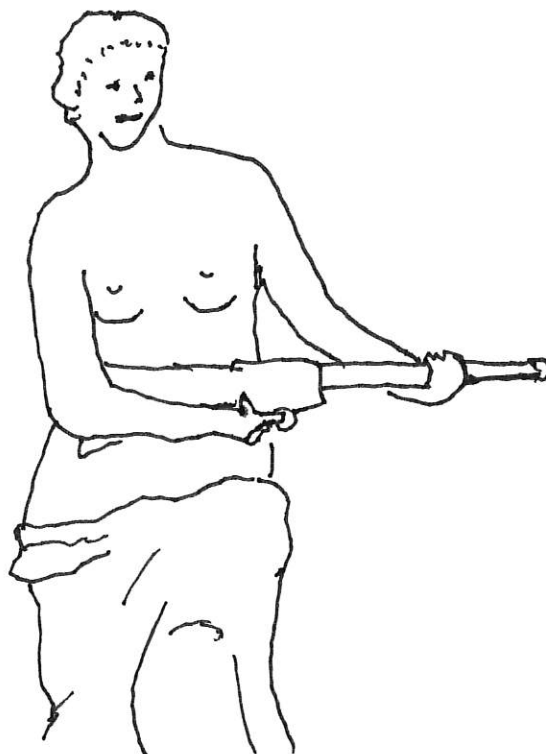
ANIL

Perth, Australia

### REBUSES:

- |                                |             |
|--------------------------------|-------------|
| 1. (*_*)                       | 5. 4N8      |
| 2. bdii                        | 6. pcpc     |
| 3. xrrii                       | 7. 111      |
| 4. ELMS (hint: horror weapons) | 8. 1th/7:13 |

### VENUS DE MILO BEFORE BEING DISARMED



Is this the answer to the question I asked earlier, Who's afraid of Venus de Milo?

### REBUS ANSWERS:

- |                                  |  |
|----------------------------------|--|
| 1. Yep, that's a meerkat.        | 5. foreign aid                             |
| 2. beady eyes (another meerkat?) | 6. a politically correct personal computer |
| 3. exercise                      | 7. not one iota                            |
| 4. landmines (L and M in ES)     | 8. oneth upon a time                       |

### 'INCORRECT' ANSWER

Teacher: Complete the common saying, "up, up and \_\_\_".

Student: "... up."

Wondeland

etiquette

Or: Advice from a Kather-  
pillar

*By Katherine Shelton*

## About-face

*T*HE purpose of this book is to know when to do the right thing or the left thing in any social, emotional, or mental position in which you might find yourself.

The author found an unfortunate want of this text. For over one hundred and fifty years, travelers have come to Wonderland without any clue of its rules. The consequence of rule-breaking here might not be as great as England, but serious or not, it is never pleasant to hear a Queen ask for your head.

# *Contents*

This book starts at the beginning and goes on until the end.  
After which, it is advisable to stop.



1

If you want to keep your little sister engaged with the text and not pondering daisy-chains, it is best to supply her with suitable reading material. Books that have neither pictures or conversations are too dull to look at.

2

While falling for a very long while and finishing orange marmalade, it is best to remove the label before leaving it so as not to give others false hope.

3

If you find yourself facing the decision of whether or not to drop an item from a great height in a peculiar rabbit hole, you'll likely find that stronger relationships are formed when you do not kill others.

4

If you should fall clear to the other side of the world through a deep, long-lasting rabbit hole, is best not to ask where you are-- for doing contrariwise will undermine the whole reason signs were invented and the whole reason you learned to read.

5

When wanting to travel through small doors, do not attempt to send your head someplace without your shoulders. It shan't get very far; and if it does, it is doubtful that you will enjoy the experience.

6

When bottling poison and leaving it on a glass table, one must *always* label the contents. Poison does agree with so few people, after all.

7

If you left a shrinking potion on that glass table instead of poison, do ensure that the potion has limitations. Nobody wants to learn what the doused flame of a candle feels like.

8

Even if you have grown exponentially from eating a cake, it is inadvisable to lose contact with your feet. Even if postage gets expensive as you grow, this is a relationship you never want on the wrong foot.

9

Speaking of altering size (whether through cakes or mushrooms), be wary of your appearance. Tall persons should avoid excess crying: you are likely to drown someone with your tears and most people do not appreciate that. It's no use contradicting someone who thinks you are a predator-- the politest thing to do is leave. Likewise, if a dog is towering over you, you ought to treat it differently than an average-sized-little girl might. Additionally, when finding yourself enormous, do not bother trying to speak to rodents, such as rabbits or mice or guinea pigs. You will frighten them and frightfulness-- in yourself or others-- is not particularly mannerly.

10

It is advisable to write down who you are prior to entering and then to keep amending as you change. You will change so very often, it can be difficult to keep track of. If you run out of ink or misplace your pen, you might write with your finger, a habit donned by lizards named Bill. But this will yield limited success.

11

There are few situations where it is acceptable to speak about cats, particularly if you are fond of the creatures. Whether your audience is rodents, birds, or a wary King, introducing a cat to the situation will not go well.

12

It is customary as a guest to have prizes at the ready, in case you should find yourself involved in any sort of drying exercise, like a caucus race.

13

There is no reason to overspeak in Wonderland. In fact, it is exceedingly boorish to adopt elongated, laborious vocabulary. Do not be a Dodo.

14

Do not laugh in the face of serious events. This should indeed be obvious, but what is odd to you might be sacred to another-- such as gifting someone the thimble they already owned.

15

Do listen to all tails from mice, as long and sad as they might be.

16

When communicating with said mouse, be double-certain that you are understanding the correct homonym being used. Responding to another looks like downright nonsense.

17

Keeping track of personal items, or another person's--all items, is mannerly and might save lives! Collect white kid-gloves for rabbits in particular.

18

If you find yourself in a rabbit's house, be wary of bottles and cakes without instructions. Although it will always be interesting, that interest could end in a snapped neck, especially when drinking indoors. This is not a lovely sight to leave for your host to find. That said, if you *must* frighten your host, kindly aim to do so away from glass.

19

Try to maintain proper communication with your rabbit host. If you are stuck within a house because you have grown monstrously large eating a cake, everyone will want to help you out-- particularly in ways that hurt no one!

20

Be ready to use your notes of who you are and who you're becoming when you meet a caterpillar-- but if you are not ready to answer the question, at least make up for the error by remaining patient with the asker.

21

Be mindful of your thoughts in Wonderland. Like whispers, some might hear them better than others. Try not to be rude in your head. The caterpillar will know.

22

Although in England it is considered good practice to always knock, you must think critically of its use in Wonderland. If there is a ruckus in the house from a cook, Duchess, and infant, and if there is a frog footman on the side of the door you are on, knocking might not get you anywhere.

23

In general, it is good to accept the "truth" of what a Duchess tells you. You will either learn or know you are wiser. But she need not know if it's the latter. No one likes to feel underwise. The exception to this rule is if their logic will hurt you or another. Even so, it is more polite to quietly steal the abused baby than to directly confront the Duchess.

24

Even though cats are often disliked-- or perhaps because of it-- you'll find that should you treat a friendly-looking Cheshire Cat with respect, you are sure to make a friend.

25

Some Cheshire Cats have found that accepting the inherit madness of dreaming opens it up to deliberate magical properties. You might also gain this ability. You might disappear and reappear, or you might grow without treats, or shuffle a difficult stack of cards. Use this selectively; too much is practically bragging and thus impolite. And, when using dream-magic, comply to requests. There's no need to vanish quickly, and you might just make someone's day with a single grin!

26

Time can be fickle. Treat him like royalty and he should not work against you or, worse, snub you altogether into perpetual teatime.

27

Although it's just darling to offer wine to guests, make sure you have the wine you are offering on your table for tea. In short, be civil.

28

Refrain from personal remarks. But do expect to hear them from Hatter or March Hares. It's best to lead by example. If you embarrass someone by chastising them, they are bound to turn your words against you sooner or later.

29

Practice these good tea-manner: do say what you mean. It's more helpful than meaning what you say. Similarly, if you don't think, there's not much value in talking.

30

If you can remember to bring a functioning watch, particularly one with the date, you might find someone in desperate need of it. Even the very best butter might not fix the gears in a Hatter's watch.

**31**

You'll find there's not a lot of point in trying to win games, like croquet with the Queen. Instead, enjoy the company, conversation, mayhem, and fun. Do not feel bad for not prioritizing the game itself. It's perfectly healthy to not enjoy playing with living things (flamingoes, hedgehogs, and cards) as tools.

**32**

It is difficult to thrive in society while looking foolish. As such, here are some tools to help you avoid looking stupid. When possible, do practice demonstrating your intellect while alone; it can be frightful to find yourself saying the complete wrong thing to someone who nose more. Do have more than one way of handling your problems; someone or something is bound to come along that will render your tactic useless (like a bodyless cat that needs to be beheaded).

**33**

If at all possible, avoid those spices that rile your temper. If your cook is too fond of pepper, try your best to manage the chaos. Consider adding more sweet things to your diet to balance your mood.

**34**

Although a Duchess' sharp chin is a nuisance, it is most polite to ignore it.

**35**

You might find helping Duchess' find morals will increase general morale. Some people are quite fond of inventing reason where it doesn't belong.

**36**

But also be aware that a Duchess will not take well if you think too deeply. It can interrupt the flow of idle conversation.

37

Although it is common knowledge that no one will truly be beheaded, it is most polite to react with fear-- especially if the queen is present. The same can be said for a Mock Turtle fancying it's sad; that is, the nicest way to interact with Wonderlandians is to follow suit with whatever they are projecting.

38

I cannot stress enough that one of the rudest things you can do is to interrupt a Gryphon or Mock Turtle with a dull, simple question. This is tricky, because Wonderlandians have a different sense of these things. In general, if something strikes you as odd, think back to the last thing said and imagine if there is a pun to be made from it. If so, that is likely the "obvious" answer.

39

Unlike in England, you will find it rare to receive proper invitations. This includes anything from royal parties to a court summons. As such, it is best to keep walking until you get somewhere interesting.

40

In the event you have knocked people over on the jury bench, try to right them. In the event that you right them *leftly* (by *leaving* them upside down) do try to re-right them.

41

Care not to grow up too fast in Wonderland. You'll squeeze whoever you're next to and it is unpleasant to be crushed.

42

*All persons more than a mile high to leave the court.*

*-This last added by the King of Hearts*

# A CHRISTMAS CARD

SIMON NIGHTINGALE

Shrewsbury, England

$$y = \frac{\log_e(x/m - sa)}{r^2}$$

simon nightingale

$$ms_{m,s} = x - ms\alpha$$

$$ms_{m,s} = x - ms\alpha$$

$$s_{m,s} = x/m - \alpha$$

$$ms_{m,s} = \log_e(x/m - \alpha)$$

$$y = \frac{ms_{m,s}}{\log_e(x/m - \alpha)}$$

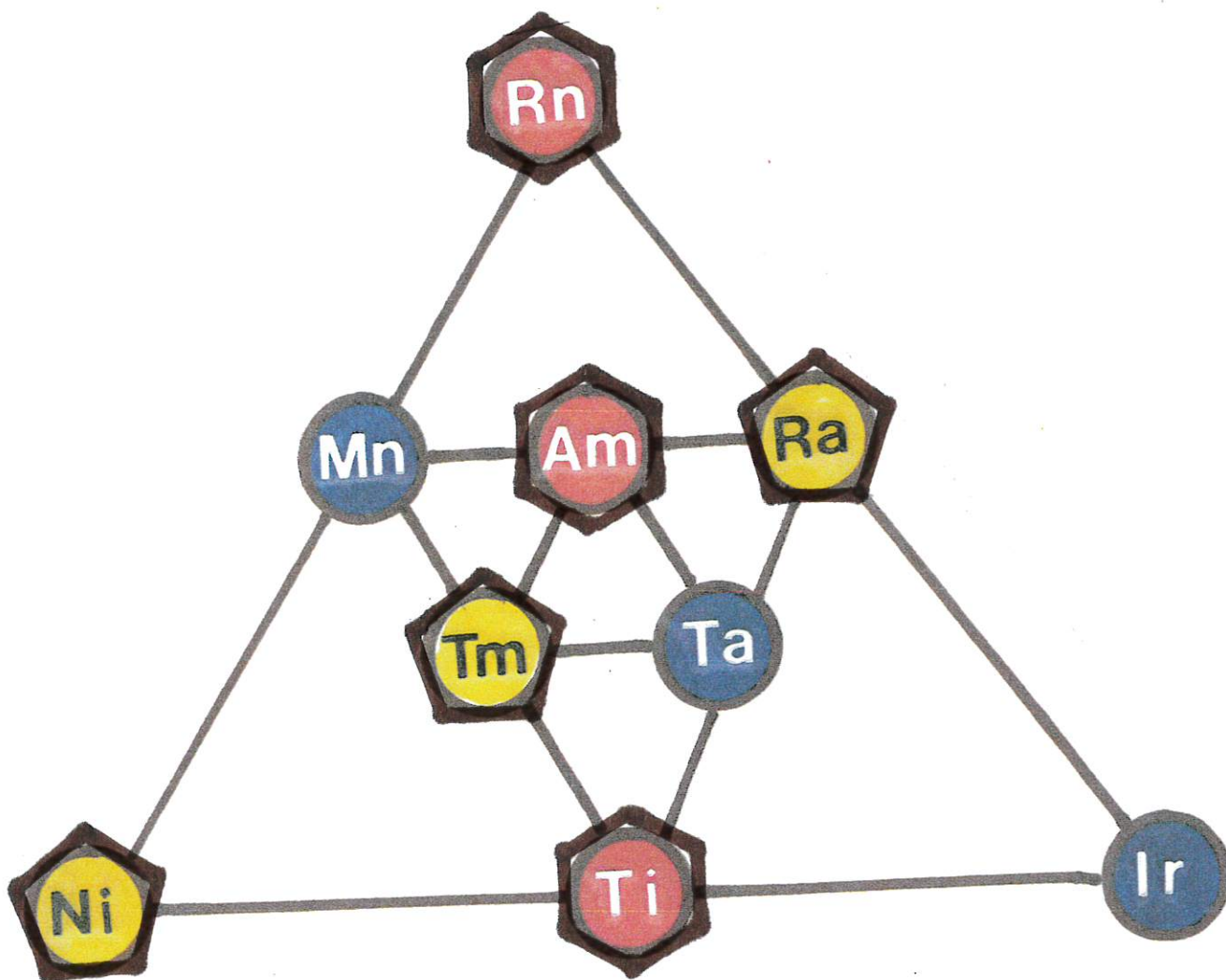


## THE MARTIN GAME

By Jeremiah Farrell

The MARTIN diagram uses each letter of the name exactly three times to form nine chemical symbols.

The Game. Two players alternately select nodes trying to obtain three nodes with a common letter or three nodes of the same color obtaining all the letters of MARTIN. To be completely fair both players have only four plays and if First cannot win in four moves the win is awarded to Second.



# MARTIN

## SOLUTIONS

How to win **Martin Gardner**. Take note of the three sets of misses. AIE, MRT, GND. First can take any node and if Second plays another in First's misses, First takes the third. When Second selects in a different miss set, First forces Second to waste a move by forcing Second to play another of his misses.

How to win at **Martin**. First can always win by initially selecting Mn, Ra or Ti. If Second chooses another of these three, First takes the last one and then plays rationally. If Second instead takes any other node than one of the three, First can win by forcing Second to block with a wasted move. Rational play will then win for First.

These games are examples of symmetric configurations and both are adaptations of some in the article "Configuration Games" by Jeremiah Farrell, Martin Gardner, and Thomas Rodgers in the 2005 book by AK Peters *Tribute to a Mathemagician*, edited by A. Cipa, E.D. Demaine, M.L. Demaine and T. Rodgers.

## MULTIPLE ELEMENTS IN SINGLE WORDS

Darryl Francis  
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Here's a little piece of wordplay that I've been tinkering with for a while. It's something I've been able to dip into for a few minutes, and then come back to after a couple of hours, days or weeks later to see if I could make some improvements. If Word Ways readers can improve on any of my finds, do let the editor know. Right, here we go ...

Here's the initial problem simply stated: what's the shortest word from which the names of 2 chemical elements can be spelled out? There's no point in wrestling with long element names like PLATINUM or RUTHERFORDIUM – it's best to consider short element names. With that in mind, it's not hard to spot that IRON and TIN can both be spelled out, separately of course, from **INTRO**. There's also **XENON**, from which both NEON and XENON can be spelled out, but I don't like that because of XENON being repeated.

The poser can be generalised: what's the shortest word from which an increasing number of chemical element names can be spelled out? Here are some 3-element 7-letter solutions:

**ADORING** has ARGON, IRON and RADON

**DIATRON** has IRON, RADON and TIN

**ORATING** has ARGON, IRON and TIN

I had hoped to find an 8-letter word from which 4 element names could be spelled out, but my best solutions so far are for 9-letter words. Is there a 4-element 8-letter solution? If you can find one, please get in touch.

**BACTERIUM** has BARIUM, CERIUM, ERBIUM and TERBIUM

**GRADATION** has ARGON, IRON, RADON and TIN

**RELOADING** has ARGON, GOLD, LEAD and RADON

To find the shortest word containing 5 element names, I had to progress to a 10-letter word:

**CUMBRAITES** has BARIUM, CERIUM, CESIUM, ERBIUM and TERBIUM

Of course, you could swap the American spelling of CESIUM for the British spelling CAESIUM, but I don't think you can include both of them – after all, they are the same element. Can anyone find a 5-element solution in a word of fewer than 10 letters?

I was able to jump over a 6-element solution and go straight to a 7-element solution with an 11-letter word. Here's my best 7-element find:

**BIMUCRONATE** has BARIUM, CARBON, CERIUM, ERBIUM, IRON, TERBIUM and TIN

How about an 8-element solution? Here's my best solution so far, using a 12-letter word:

**TURBINECTOMY** has BROMINE, CERIUM, ERBIUM, IRON, TERBIUM, TIN, YTTERBIUM and YTTRIUM

But a 10-element solution is possible by choosing a different 12-letter word, thus:

**TURBOMACHINE** has BARIUM, BOHRIUM, BROMINE, CARBON, CERIUM, ERBIUM, IRON, TERBIUM, THORIUM and TIN

Going with one letter longer, I managed to add one further element, with this 11-element 13-letter solution:

**UNPROBLEMATIC** has BARIUM, BROMINE, CARBON, CERIUM, COBALT, ERBIUM, IRON, NOBELIUM, PLATINUM, TERBIUM and TIN

However, harking back to the earlier TURBOMACHINE, by simply pluralizing it with an S, I managed to add three more elements to come up with this 13-element 13-letter solution:

**TURBOMACHINES** has ARSENIC, BARIUM, BISMUTH, BOHRIUM, BROMINE, CARBON, CERIUM, CESIUM, ERBIUM, IRON, TERBIUM, THORIUM and TIN

Onwards and upwards! I haven't been able to find a good 14-element solution, but I have jumped straight to this 15-element 15-letter solution:

**PULMOBRANCHIATE** has BARIUM, BOHRIUM, BROMINE, CARBON, CERIUM, COBALT, ERBIUM, HELIUM, IRON, NOBELIUM, PLATINUM, RHENIUM, TERBIUM, THORIUM and TIN

Once again, simple pluralisation by the addition of an S generates an additional three elements, for this 18-element 16-letter solution:

**PULMOBRANCHIATES** has ARSENIC, BARIUM, BISMUTH, BOHRIUM, BROMINE, CARBON, CERIUM, CESIUM, COBALT, ERBIUM, HELIUM, IRON, NOBELIUM, PLATINUM, RHENIUM, TERBIUM, THORIUM and TIN

One letter longer and with 2 more elements is this 20-element 17-letter solution:

**BRANCHIOPULMONATE** has BARIUM, BOHRIUM, BORON, BROMINE, CARBON, CERIUM, CHLORINE, COBALT, ERBIUM, HELIUM, IRON, LANTHANUM, NEON, NOBELIUM, PLATINUM, POLONIUM, RHENIUM, TERBIUM, THORIUM and TIN

Yet again, the addition of an S provides us with a plural and another 3 elements, leading to this 23-element 18-letter solution:

**BRANCHIOPULMONATES** has ARSENIC, BARIUM, BISMUTH, BOHRIUM, BORON, BROMINE, CARBON, CERIUM, CESIUM, CHLORINE, COBALT, ERBIUM, HELIUM, IRON, LANTHANUM, NEON, NOBELIUM, PLATINUM, POLONIUM, RHENIUM, TERBIUM, THORIUM and TIN

Looking back on the solutions above, the TURBINECTOMY solution hasn't been extended. To improve on TURBINECTOMY, I needed to find a longer word containing all the letters of TURBINECTOMY, and then see what additional elements, if any, it allowed for. The only longer word containing all the letters of TURBINECTOMY appears to be INTERCOMMUNABILITY. This allows for 9 additional elements, so I now have a 17-element solution from this 18-letter word, thus:

**INTERCOMMUNABILITY** has ACTINIUM, AMERICIUM, BARIUM, BROMINE, CALCIUM, CARBON, CERIUM, COBALT, ERBIUM, IRON, NIOBIUM, NOBELIUM, TERBIUM, TIN, TITANIUM, YTTERBIUM and YTTRIUM

Clearly, the BRANCHIOPULMONATES solution (23 elements, 17 letters) is a superior solution. That's about as far as dictionary-listed words take me.

However, using a word not yet in dictionaries, but which can be found on the internet, with tens of thousands of Google hits, I managed to find this spectacular solution. There are 29 elements in this 22-letter word:

**NANOBIOPHARMACEUTICALS** has ACTINIUM, ARSENIC, BARIUM, BISMUTH, BOHRIUM, BORON, BROMINE, CALCIUM, CARBON, CERIUM, CESIUM, CHLORINE, COBALT, ERBIUM, HELIUM, IRON, LANTHANUM, LITHIUM, NEON, NIHONIUM, NIOBIUM, NOBELIUM, PLATINUM, POLONIUM, RHENIUM, SILICON, TERBIUM, THORIUM and TIN

Here's a brief explanation of NANOBIOPHARMACEUTICALS: Nanobiopharmaceutics is the application of nanotechnology into the world of medicine. It is an inter-disciplinary field involving the usage of nanoparticles to deliver biopharmaceutical products into the body. It involves knowledge from nanobiotechnology, biotechnology and biopharmaceutics. The different products so delivered are termed **nanobiopharmaceuticals**.

As the lengths of the 'solution' words presented above have increased, the numbers of elements contained in those words have increased. You might say that increasing the length of the solution word and/or increasing the number of its different letters will inevitably lead to an increased number of elements. But this isn't necessarily so, though. Consider the familiar isogram **DERMATOGLYPHICS** with its 15 different letters – this contains just 2 elements, GOLD and LEAD. Consider another familiar 15-letter isogram, **UNCOPYRIGHTABLE** – this contains a meagre 5 elements, ARGON, CARBON, COBALT, IRON and TIN. Thus, isograms aren't necessarily a route to finding multi-element solutions. How about really long words? The longest main entry in the Oxford English Dictionary is the 29-letter **FLOCCINAUCINIHLIPIILIFICATION** – it contains a solitary element, TIN. As with isograms, long words aren't an obvious route to finding solution words with multiple element names.

Key to finding solution words with multiple element names is to find groups of elements with several shared letters, and then attempt to add one or two letters at a time while expanding the number of elements in the solution word. Once I got beyond the 5-letter solutions, it was useful to note the overlap between ERBIUM and TERBIUM. Addition of an A brings in BARIUM, then adding a C captures CERIUM. Adding an S adds CESIUM (or CAESIUM, if you prefer). Then addition of N and O allows for the additional elements BROMINE, CARBON, IRON and TIN. So by now, I'm looking for solutions with the letters ABCEIMNORSTU. Adding an H will rope in BOHRIUM and THORIUM. And then adding an L will allow for CHLORINE, COBALT and HELIUM. I would suggest that we now have a group of 14 letters ABCEHILMNORSTU that will need to exist in any solution word that has at least 13 elements. COUNTERESTABLISHMENT is a good 20-letter example, but BRANCHIOPULMONATES is better still, with fewer letters (18) and the addition of a P and a second O.

Here are the solution words used in this article, briefly defined, with a dictionary source shown.

**INTRO** (a usually short introduction to something; the online Unabridged Merriam-Webster Dictionary - UMW)

**ADORING** (present participle of adore; UMW)

**DIATRON** (a type of electrical circuit; Collins English Dictionary)

**ORATING** (talking in a declamatory or impassioned manner; UMW)

**BACTERIUM** (a microorganism that typically lives in soil, water, organic matter, or the bodies of plants and animals; UMW)

**GRADATION** (a series of things forming successive stages or steps; UMW)

**RELOADING** (loading again; UMW)

**CUMBRAITES** (plural of CUMBRAITE, a type of rock; Webster's Second Edition – W2)

**BIMUCRONATE** (having two points; W2)

**TURBINECTOMY** (surgical removal of one or more turbinate bones; UMW)

**TURBOMACHINE(S)** (a machine of the nature of a turbine; W2)

**UNPROBLEMATIC** (not presenting puzzles or raising questions or doubts; UMW)

**PULMOBRANCHIATE(S)** (a book lung, as of a spider; UMW)

**BRANCHIOPULMONATE(S)** (a type of arachnid, such as a king crab; W2)

**INTERCOMMUNICABILITY** (the quality of being mutually communicable; UMW)

**NANOBIOPHARMACEUTICALS** (nanobiopharmaceutics is the application of nanotechnology into the world of medicine; it is an inter-disciplinary field involving the usage of nanoparticles to deliver biopharmaceutical products into the body; it involves knowledge from nanobiotechnology, biotechnology and biopharmaceutics; the different products so delivered are called nanobiopharmaceutics)

**DERMATOGLYPHICS** (the science of the study of skin patterns; UMW)

**UNCOPYRIGHTABLE** (not able to be copyrighted; OED)

**FLOCCINAUCINIHIPIPILIFICATION** (the action or habit of estimating as worthless; OED)

**Footnote:**

Throughout this article I have used the names of elements as approved by IUPAC (the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry). I have ignored the Latin names used for some of the elements (for example, NATRIUM, STANNUM and STIBIUM) and I have also ignored old/earlier/suggested/preliminary names used for some of the elements (eg BRIMSTONE for SULPHUR/SULFUR, CELTIUM for HAFNIUM, and TYRIUM for NEODYMIUM). Many of these alternative names can also be spelled out from the solution words mentioned above, thereby increasing the total number of elements which can be spelled out. Most dramatically, the NANOBIOPHARMACEUTICALS list of additional elements includes these:

**NANOBIOPHARMACEUTICALS** also has ALABAMINE (suggested name for ASTATINE), ATHENIUM (proposed name for EINSTEINIUM), BRIMSTONE (old name for SULPHUR/SULFUR), CELTIUM (suggested name for the discredited discovery of HAFNIUM), NATRIUM (Latin name for SODIUM), NITON (former name for RADON), NORIUM (suggested name for the discredited discovery of HAFNIUM), POLICIUM (proposed name for DARMSTADTIUM), SPECTRIUM (suggested name for YTTERBIUM), and STIBIUM (Latin name for ANTIMONY)

## **“I WONDER IF THEY SERVE JOOKIES IN KALE” A Plethora of New Spoonerisms, Transpositions, and Chiasmus**

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In May of last year, NBC’s *Saturday Night Live* parodied the “To Catch a Predator” series that ran on the same network for a decade. In the skit, Tina Fey plays an undercover investigator in an entrapment operation. Rummaging through the culprit’s bag, and finding a package of snacks, she sarcastically proclaims: “*I wonder if they serve jookies in kale!*”

The “mistake” is part of the script. The “director” calls for a retake, baffling the hapless offender, who is unaware that he’s participating in a reality show. It’s pretty darn funny. Search the punch line to find the video on YouTube. At this writing, 850 comments are posted, although I didn’t spot any that noted that the joke is a spoonerism.

Speaking of comedy troupes, you may be acquainted with the Capitol Steps.

Launched by a gang of congressional aides in 1981, the acclaimed group has been performing ever since. The Steps’ repertoire involves recasting popular songs for purposes of political satire. (Samples: “I’m So Indicted.” “Help Me Fake It to the Right.”) But every show also includes a spoken-word spoonerism routine. (Example: “He’s in trig bubble!”) Although the content changes to reflect current events, the monologues, lampooning Washington scandals and gossip, are always called “Lirty Dies.” Videos are online; Google that distinctive nonsensical locution.

When I researched my spoonerism book, *Cruel and Unusual Puns*, in the late ’80s, I recalled those routines from performances I had attended while in Washington on business. I interviewed William Strauss, one of the founders and original cast members. He granted me permission to reprint one of the skits, and supplied background details, recounted in the book.

Last June, the Capitol Steps made a rare appearance in New York City, my hometown, and I attended a performance. Toward the end of a packed evening of musical parodies, I thought the spoonerism segment might have been dropped. Fortunately, a performer emerged in the nick of time to deliver the trademark act.

The audience went wild! It was a long, rapid-fire, pyrotechnic spiel that must have had people wondering how anyone could possibly have memorized it all. My impression was that this part of the show generated more laughter and applause than anything that had preceded it.

But I soon encountered a lone dissenter. On exiting, I overheard two women of a certain age, one of whom was clearly irritated. “What was that last thing all about?” she grumbled to her companion. “I didn’t understand it.”

I couldn't resist breaking in: "Did you hear the audience?" They seemed interested, so I delivered a brief impromptu lecture on how spoonerisms work and who Dr. Spooner was, and even explained that speech errors provide a "window into the mind," generating valuable insights for psychologists, neurologists, and linguists.

Of course, I always carry reprints of my *Word Ways* articles, so I gave her a recent one on the subject under discussion. I hope she subsequently reconsidered her testy reaction.

With that morality tale concluded, let's proceed to the latest specimens. Originality disclaimer: With the three exceptions noted in the credit line below, my searches generated no matches. (Hmm. That suggests a fictional C&W singer named Mo Natchez.)

- Secret society for pirates and witches: *Skull and Boss Crones*.
- Esoteric landscaping practice: *The weeding of the rill*.
- In light of the frequent criticisms of people who game the system, an entrepreneur should create and market *System: The Game*.
- Sand Lakes is a recreational area in Michigan. The tourism authorities could adopt a somewhat retro slogan: "*Land Sakes! Sand Lakes!*"
- Lifestyle maxim: *Enjoy your retirement; don't retire your enjoyment*.
- Remember the children's verse about the journey of Wynken, Blynken, and Nod? Had the first two kids stayed behind, the poet could have exclaimed: *Nod only goes!*
- Advice for eulogists: *It is better to be dearly missed than merely dissed*.
- I am not so much worried about *the culture of scarcity . . .* as I am about *the scarcity of culture*.

Finally, a 2018 news roundup: Last July, a researcher discovered that in 1811, the future King George IV was a fan of Jane Austen—so he was both *a royal leader* and *a loyal reader*. In November, when F.A.O. Schwarz reopened after having been shuttered for three years, some longtime customers reportedly erupted in tears of joy—though my hunch is that disgruntled manufacturers uttered *jeers of toy*. And I learned that enthusiastic fans who visit the sites where their favorite movies have been filmed are called *set-jettlers*.

*Credits:* Re "boss crones," "retire enjoyment," and "Nod," online searches revealed that I was anticipated in each case by a few people, but the contexts above are my own creations.

*A postscript about William Strauss:* Bill and I kept in occasional touch. For many years, I received comp copies of the Capitol Steps' albums as they were released, thanks to his thoughtfulness and generosity. Bill also had a serious side: With Neil Howe, he wrote books on history, demographic trends, and generational theory. The team coined the now-ubiquitous term "Millennials." I was saddened to learn of his death in 2007.



## NOW AND THEN

Steve Kahan

When asked, "Where are you from?", the appropriate response might very well depend upon the year in which the question were posed. Such is the dilemma faced by the inhabitants of the twenty-four nations whose current names are listed in the "NOW" column below. Each country therein was formerly known by a different name, these being presented in the "THEN" column. The challenge that awaits you is to match the new monikers with the old ones.

### NOW

- (A) BANGLADESH
- (B) BELIZE
- (C) BENIN
- (D) BOTSWANA
- (E) BURKINA FASO
- (F) CAMBODIA
- (G) DJIBOUTI
- (H) ETHIOPIA
- (I) GHANA
- (J) IRAN
- (K) IRAQ
- (L) LESOTHO
- (M) MALAWI
- (N) MALI
- (O) MOLDOVA
- (P) MYANMAR
- (Q) NAMIBIA
- (R) SRI LANKA
- (S) SURINAME
- (T) THAILAND
- (U) TUVALU
- (V) VANUATU
- (W) ZAMBIA
- (X) ZIMBABWE

### THEN

- (1) ABYSSINIA
- (2) BASUTOLAND
- (3) BECHUANALAND
- (4) BESSARABIA
- (5) BRITISH HONDURAS
- (6) BURMA
- (7) CEYLON
- (8) DAHOMEY
- (9) DUTCH GUIANA
- (10) EAST PAKISTAN
- (11) ELLICE ISLANDS
- (12) FRENCH SOMALILAND
- (13) GOLD COAST
- (14) KAMPUCHEA
- (15) MESOPOTAMIA
- (16) NEW HEBRIDES
- (17) NORTHERN RHODESIA
- (18) NYASALAND
- (19) PERSIA
- (20) SIAM
- (21) SOUTHERN RHODESIA
- (22) SOUTHWEST AFRICA
- (23) SUDANESE REPUBLIC
- (24) UPPER VOLTA

**NOW AND THEN** – Answers

- |          |          |
|----------|----------|
| (A) (10) | (M) (18) |
| (B) (5)  | (N) (23) |
| (C) (8)  | (O) (4)  |
| (D) (3)  | (P) (6)  |
| (E) (24) | (Q) (22) |
| (F) (14) | (R) (7)  |
| (G) (12) | (S) (9)  |
| (H) (1)  | (T) (20) |
| (I) (13) | (U) (11) |
| (J) (19) | (V) (16) |
| (K) (15) | (W) (17) |
| (L) (2)  | (X) (21) |

# THE PUZZLE OF MY LIFE

JEREMIAH FARRELL

Indianapolis, Indiana

Unless noted, entries are from Chambers' Dictionary.

## ACROSS

- 1 Navy boats
- 5 Thesaurus editor
- 10 Foot part
- 14 Direction: abbr.
- 17 One of many here
- 18 Love muse
- 19 Move
- 20 Greek letter
- 21 Gem
- 22 African language group
- 23 Kin
- 24 Trains: abbr.
- 25 When I \_\_\_(with 47 and 70 across, my life story)
- 29 Strong needs
- 30 Rents
- 31 Informal greeting
- 32 Northern police
- 36 Atomic \_\_\_\_\_
- 37 Small cut
- 38 Photos were always \_\_\_ articles
- 39 Senior to be
- 40 Cash
- 41 \_\_\_one way to lose
- 42 Dry
- 43 Tunes
- 44 Seed hairs
- 45 Vigor
- 46 Swoop
- 47 See 25 across
- 54 \_\_\_a blank
- 55 Press
- 56 Game sixes
- 57 Nazi official Albert
- 59 Each
- 60 Shirkers
- 61 Mars
- 62 What's well to will
- 63 Art deco
- 64 Goofs
- 65 Gin type
- 66 Floppy rest area
- 67 \_\_\_and eights (poker hand)
- 68 Choir recess
- 69 Bewail
- 70 See 25 across
- 77 Chemical ending
- 78 Not sing.
- 79 Darnell or Evans
- 80 Certain reed
- 81 Nick
- 82 For \_\_\_jolly good fellow
- 83 Richard, artist
- 84 Tear
- 85 Gore's
- 86 Type of gun
- 87 \_\_\_et a travers (Fr. at Random)
- 88 Choppers

## DOWN

- 1 Garbage boat
- 2 Leg bone
- 3 Gets
- 4 Attractive
- 5 Moves the treasure
- 6 Fruits
- 7 Indian river
- 8 Feminine ending
- 9 Journey
- 10 Attach metal
- 11 Tell
- 12 School group
- 13 \_\_\_Kong
- 14 Masses
- 15 Striped
- 16 That \_\_\_lady. . .
- 26 The Dimaggio brother's
- 27 Homer work
- 28 Frosting
- 32 Fresno area, in brief
- 33 Edible bulb
- 34 Muslim body
- 35 Metallurgy etching (OED)
- 36 Theme
- 37 Visitor
- 39 Ma's mom
- 40 Middle East Kingdom
- 42 There outta be \_\_\_
- 43 In a while
- 45 Water jug
- 46 Sign word
- 48 Mine finds
- 49 Greek god
- 50 Scout, at times
- 51 Sour
- 52 Jules, science writer
- 53 Gaul's warchariot (OED)
- 57 Certain drivers
- 58 Old Persian dialect
- 59 Resin flavored
- 60 Sunday dinner often
- 61 Hypnotic barbiturate
- 62 Loser
- 63 To mutter
- 65 Mate
- 66 \_\_\_a frazzle
- 67 Jungean soul
- 68 Lace tag
- 69 Damp
- 71 Dashboard readings: abbr.
- 72 Dog bane
- 73 Wedding dance
- 74 Mountain goat
- 75 Nada
- 76 Obtains

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

## ANNA SQUARE

*Roman Pyrih, Seoul*

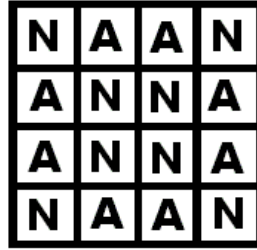
Sanskrit is renowned for its complexity, fineness and capacity to communicate subtle philosophical ideas. Less explored are its palindromic connections. Palindrome enthusiasts are probably aware of the marvel of Śísupālavadhā created by Magha, which displays a number of remarkable reverse verses and other forms of constrained writing and word play. Stanza 27 features famous 32-syllables ‘perfect in all directions’ *sarvatobhadra* verse – one of the most exquisite palindromes ever written.

Apart from that, awareness about experimentations in the oldest Indo-European language is rather limited. But let’s not overlook the pleasure and inspiration that can be derived from Sanskrit for recreational linguistics, as exquisiteness of methods used by Indian poets in many cases surpassed the scope of present-day logology. For example, unique in the history of literature is phenomenon of *shlesha* – bitextual poetry with different layers of meanings injected in one text.

Among the vast variety of Sanskrit poetic forms was also ingenious art of *chitrakavya*, combining visual poetry and word play. It included *vilomakavya* – syllabic palindromes and bidirectional verses. Remarkably, palindromes constructed by Indian poets were not only skillful, but also meaningful. Daivajna Suryadasa Kavi wrote famous Rāmākṛṣṇavilomakāvya – religious invocations for Rama, which read in reverse turn into Krishna’s praise.

Much more will be revealed to an inquisitive reader eager to venture into the realm of Sanskrit word play. As this paper is not intended to be a historical research, the abovesaid was mentioned for merely introductory purpose.

Below the author attempts to built Latin word squares, while using Sanskrit words. Avoiding Devanagari is dictated by the nature of experiment and is not meant to debase the visual beauty of the script.

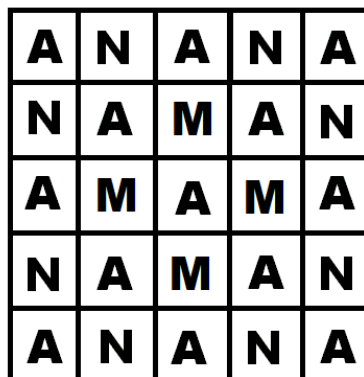


1. The first square displays combination of words *anna* (food, cereal, rice) and *naan* (oven-baked flatbread – Hindi word derived from Persian *nān*).

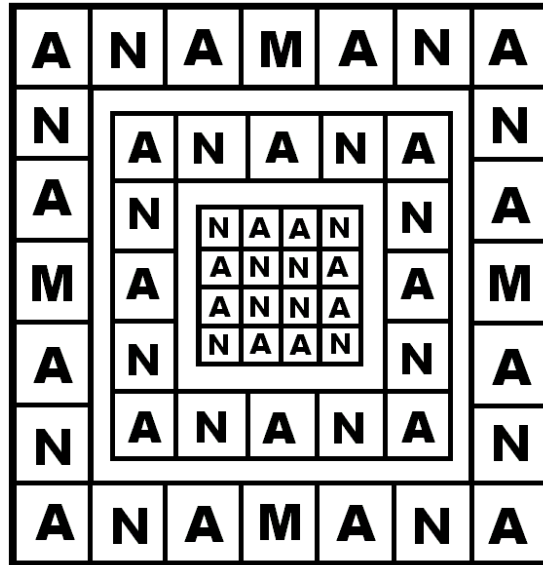
The square features balanced visual play between A and N letters, semantically denoting transformation of grain into bread or representing generalized food in opposition to its specific form. A’s shape can be compared with a seed, whereas N looks like splitting or braking something. A is traditionally the beginning of language and the first phoneme in initial sacred sound AUM.

It is worth mentioning that food has important connotations in Indian philosophy. In Upanishads food is generalized as sustaining substance or nurturing object. Taittiriya Upanishad exclaims ‘I’m food (*aham annam*), I’m food, I’m food! I’m the eater of food, I’m the eater of food, I’m the eater of food! I’m the poet, who joins the two together, I’m the poet, I’m the poet’!

Food becomes sacred after sacrificial offering, spiritualized by divine touch.



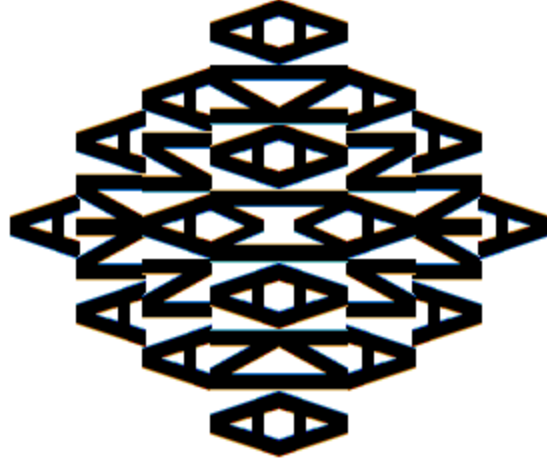
2. A new letter ‘M’ is introduced to the word square, while fortifying its visual symmetry. *Anana* means breathing, living, and further elaborates on idea of food as life sustaining agent. *Ānana* (with capital long [a:]) can also mean mouth or door, a nice match either. *Nāman* is name, essence, form or substance, while *amama* – devoid of attachment, egotism, indifferent. Combined meaning is quite vague, but we can suggest that the square hints at altruism as a real name behind living (nourished by food).



3. Finally to bring things together the word *ānāmana* – conciliation, propitiation – is introduced. We still have same 3 letters with original anna square in the middle, and enveloping anana and anamana lines, their letters almost erupting from the center, at the same time being contained by plain circular motion of the picture.

We can also put the palindrome into different visual shape, featuring some mouth opening and eye stretching (eye is *nayana* नयन in Sanskrit). See the next page.





As the final remark, the author would like to share his view that sustainable palindromic practice, apart from mastering a mother tongue, requires reinforcement with interdisciplinary and interlinguistic links. High palindrome is both poetic and intellectual deed that feeds on meanings and senses.

Otherwise, how on Earth would one know that DEITY TIED might have a very concrete definition? It is Damodar – another name of mischievous Krishna, who was tied with rope by his mother Yasoda.

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S.Srinivasarao, Chitrakavya – Chitrabandha

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Yigal Bronner, Extreme Poetry: The South Asian Movement of Simultaneous Narration

## Ode to Epaulette

She's a sad female soldier  
with a chip on her shoulder.

MORE FUNNY WORDS or NEW MEANINGS:

**airotic** deluded, only pretending or imagining oneself to be erotic

**Anilist** a calculating follower of Anil (Shucks, there must be at least one of you out there!)

**bottom line** cellulite

**Catholicism** New Age holistic philosophy for cool cats (Catholics call it "i c not!")

**detourist** a traveller who's had hir fill of detours, an ex-tourist

**doxop** a Dr. Duck sop or potion which also works when you are upside down

**dramedy** It's the new word for DRAMA-coMEDY movies. For real. Don't blame me this time.  
But it's often more apt the other way, COMedy-draMA?

**farce majeure** This article?

**involunteer** draftee

**katydo** young kaytdid before doing it

**Latin Americans** US citizens of Latin extraction (All about to be evicted?)

**male showmanist** one who isn't embarrassed to be a man

**obscenery** an outdoor sex show

**purrseverance** The cat's lost its tongue. (From persistently licking its paws the wrong way?)

**sodium chloride** a salt in battery

**spy ring** a kid's toy

**Taxistan** a tax haven country where rich old cabbies go to retire

**Urined!** a euphemism and anagram for when plans are **ruined** and you need to cuss in public (Reminds me of when my late father hurt himself and needed to swear in front of me. I was too young to hear real cussin' so he fiercely shouted "Intercourse!")

**undertaker** a person who nicks knickers (steals ladies' underpants) from clotheslines

**vs.-a-vs.** an endless fight or debate

**withdrawl** how Southerners get their money from the bank

# PINPOINTING LETTERS

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PINPOINTING can be defined as locating, fixing or directing with extreme precision.

Below, I offer a selection of phrases, each of which pinpoints a specific letter of the alphabet A - Z.

This is accomplished by using a word which targets the required letter:

**1. words which indicate that the required letter is at the beginning of a word**

HEAD FRONT BEGIN BEGINNING LEFT FIRST FORE START STARTING OPENER  
OPENING LEADER ENTRANCE

**2. words which indicate that the required letter is at a specific position inside a word**

CENTER EYE MID MIDDLE. SECOND, THIRD, FOURTH etc.

**3. words which indicate that the required letter is at the end of a word**

TAIL BACK END RIGHT LAST HIND FINISH CLOSE CLOSED CLOSING  
TERMINAL TERMINUS FINAL BEHIND

## AN A - Z OF LETTER LOCATION

A. THE BEGINNING OF THE ALPHABET THE FIRST OF APRIL FIRST OF ALL  
THE SECOND BALL (cricket) THE END OF AIDA (the opera)

B. STARTING BLOCKS BAND LEADER LEFT BANK OPENING BAT (cricket)  
HEAD BOY THIRD RUBBER (bridge) HIS LAST JOB BACK COMB (hair)

C. CAN OPENER THE FIRST CUCKOO THE OPENING CHORUS CCHEER LEADER  
CCOLD FRONT THE FIRST CHAPTER FIRST CCLASS THE OPENING CCEREMONY  
THE SECOND ACT THE THIRD OF DECEMBER THE FOURTH OF MARCH  
THE END OF THE TTITANIC

D. THE OPENING D DEAL THE OPEN D DOOR THE FIRST OF D DECEMBER  
IN THE MIDDLE OF INDIA SECOND EDITION THE END OF THE WORLD  
THE LAST ROUND D DEAD END RIGHT HANDED D THE LAST WORD D

E. THE BEGINNING OF THE END FIRST EDITION IN THE MIDDLE OF THE OCEAN / SEA  
THE FOURTH DIMENSION THE END OF THE LINE THE LAST IN LINE LAST MINUTE E  
THE END OF THE VOYAGE E FINAL SCORE E LAST DANCE E LAST CHANCE E LOOSE END

F. FIRST FOOTING FIRST FLOOR FIRST FINGER MID OFF (in cricket) A SECOND OFFER  
FINISH OFF

G OPENING GAMBIT FIRST GLIMPSE HEAD GIRL THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT  
MIDDLE AGE THE EYE OF THE TIGER THIRD DEGREE LAST LEG RIGHT WING  
FINAL FLING THE END OF SPRING

H FIRST HAND LEFT HANDED SECOND CHANCE SECOND THOUGHTS  
IN THE MIDDLE OF NOWHERE THE END OF THE MATCH THE CLOSING SPEECH

I IN THE FIRST INSTANCE THE FIRST IN (to bat) SECOND SIGHT SECOND FIDDLE  
CENTRE Point

J. JANUARY THE FIRST A THIRD OF THE MAJORITY THE END OF THE RAJ

K. HER FIRST KISS IN THE MIDDLE OF THE SKY THE FOURTH TICKET  
KICK BACK LAST LOOK THE END OF THE BOOK

L THE FIRST IN LINE THE FRONT LINE FIRST LIGHT SECOND FLOOR  
SECOND CLASS MIDDLE ENLAND LAST OF ALL HIS LAST MEAL

M THE FIRST OF THE MONTH THE FIRST MEMBER THE FIFTH COLUMN  
THE FIFTH OF NOVEMBER TRAM TERMINUS TERM END

N THE START OF THE NEW YEAR THE OPENING NIGHT THE THIRD IN LINE  
THE FOURTH AMENDMENT MID MORNING CLOSING DOWN THE THIRD MAN

O STARTING OUT LEFT OUT START OVER THE SECOND IN COMMAND  
THE EYE OF THE STORM THE MIDDLE OF THE PELOTON GOES SOLO

P A POOOR START FIRST POST HEAD PORTER IN THE MIDDLE OF THE PAPER  
END UP THE LAST DROP THE LAST STOP THE CUP FINAL LAST LAP  
LAST GASP

Q THE HEAD OF THE QUEUE THE QUEEN'S HEAD THE FIRST QUESTION  
THE THIRD INQUEST THE LAST OF THE CINQ PORTS

R THE FIRST ROUND FRONT RUNNER THE SECOND FRONT MIDDLE EARTH  
THE MIDDLE OF THE AFTERNOON THE END OF THE AFFAIR LAST YEAR  
THE FINAL FRONTIER THE LAST SUPPER THE LAST OVER (cricket)

S SEA FRONT THE OPENING SPEECH IN THE MIDDLE OF THE MISSISSIPPI  
THE CENTRAL MASSIFF (in France) BUS TERMINUS LANS END JOURNES END  
THE LAST OF THE MOHICANS HOWARDS END

T THE FIRST TIME THE BEGINNING OF TERM TIN OPENER CENTRAL STATION  
THE MIDDLE OF THE MATCH THE LAST ACT THE LAST POST

U START UP OPEN UP LET US BEGIN INSIDE OUT THE THIRD ROUND  
MIDDLE STUMP (cricket) THE END OF YOU

V FIRST VISIT THE FIRST VOYAGE SECOND OVER (cricket) THE SECOND EVENT  
FIFTH ANNIVERSARY TV CLOSE DOWN

W WARM FRONT LEFT WING CENTRE FORWARD THE END OF THE RAINBW  
THE LAST STRAW THE THIRD IN A ROW

X THE BEGINNING OF XMAS THE SECOND EXTRA (in the match)  
A FINAL SIX (ended the cricket match)

Y THE START OF THE YEAR YOU'RE FIRST THE THIRD ROYAL THE THIRD LAYER  
THE FOURTH PLAYER THE END OF THE DAY TERMINAL VELOCITY  
RAILWAY TERMINUS THE END OF THE STORY THE RIGHT OF WAY

Z THE ZOO'S ENTRANCE THE THIRD AND FOURTH PUZZLES THE LAST WALTZ

### Phrases having a choice between 2 pinpointed letters

START AT THE BEGINNING START AT THE BEGINNING

LEFT BEHIND LEFT BEHIND

### SINGLE WORDS

In some cases a single word pinpoints a letter within itself:

A. FRONTAL MIDDAY

B. FOREBEARS FOREBODE

C. CONFRONT

D. ENDED

E. STARTED DOVETAIL BEHIND

F. OFFEND

G. WAGGTAIL MIDNIGHT

H. FOREHEAD BACKLASHH

I. FRONTICE

J. HEADJOGS - a hairdresser in Ilford, UK

K. BACKK

L. HEADLINE FORELOCK LOGGERHEAD (turtle)

M. HEADMASTER

N. FANNTAIL

O. MIDDLELETON

P. UPPEND

Q.

R. TAILORR MIDDLEMARCH

S. ENDLESSS WALLSEND (in UK)

T. HINDSIGHTT

U. UPSTART

V. VIVEND (a company name)

W. HEADWAY

X. OXTAIL

Y. ENDERBY

Z.

Sometimes the meaning of a whole word pinpoints a letter, without ‘attaching’ a word indicating the beginning, middle or end:

PENULTIMATETE and ANTIPENULTIMATEATE are prime examples of this.

## 5 x 5 WORD SQUARES – 1

Steve Kahan

A 5 x 5 word square consists of ten distinct words, five across and five down, one such being

|   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| S | P | I | T | E |
| C | A | R | O | M |
| A | G | A | T | E |
| L | A | T | E | R |
| E | N | E | M | Y |

In each of the three offerings here, the nine letters that constitute the two diagonals have been supplied, along with sixteen additional letters that require appropriate placement in order to complete the square. In the illustrative example above, the puzzle would look like this:

|   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| S | - | - | - | E |
| - | A | - | O | - |
| - | - | A | - | - |
| - | A | - | E | - |
| E | - | - | - | Y |

{A, C, E, E, G, I, L, M, M, N, P, R, R, T, T, T}

1.    S    -    -    -    P  
       -    A    -    O    -  
       -    -    A    -    -  
       -    E    -    E    -  
       T    -    -    -    S

{A, A, B, E, E, G, M, O, R, R, S, S, T, T, T, W}

2.    S    -    -    -    E  
       -    E    -    O    -  
       -    -    E    -    -  
       -    A    -    S    -  
       E    -    -    -    R

{A, C, D, E, E, I, L, L, M, M, N, N, N, P, P, T}

3.    A    -    -    -    E  
       -    E    -    A    -  
       -    -    A    -    -  
       -    I    -    E    -  
       A    -    -    -    T

{E, E, L, L, L, M, N, O, P, P, R, R, R, R, T, X}

**5 x 5 WORD SQUARES – 1** – Answers

1.    S    W    A    M    P  
      T    A    B    O    O  
      A    G    A    T    E  
      R    E    S    E    T  
      T    R    E    S    S

2.    S    P    A    C    E  
      L    E    M    O    N  
      I    N    E    P    T  
      M    A    N    S    E  
      E    L    D    E    R

3.    A    P    P    L    E  
      R    E    L    A    X  
      O    R    A    T    E  
      M    I    N    E    R  
      A    L    E    R    T



## BALTIMORE

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We first encountered the term “Baltimore transdeletion” in Dmitri Borgmann’s *Language on Vacation*. Although the book was first published in 1965, we didn’t discover it until a couple of years later, 1967. Borgmann introduced the term in chapter 4, *Word Surgery*, where he offered eight transdeletions of the word CREATIONS: SENORITA, CANOEIST, CAST-IRON, CORNIEST, SCENARIO, ENACTORS, SCANTIER, ROTACISE and REACTION. Although Borgmann used the term Baltimore transdeletion, he didn’t explain the origin of the name. The transdeletion part is obvious, but why Baltimore? The term didn’t originate with Borgmann. It had appeared much earlier in the pages of *The Enigma*, the journal of the National Puzzlers League (NPL). Here is the entry for Baltimore transdeletion taken from the glossary in the NPL’s 1906 publication *A Key to Puzzledom*:

*A variety of transdeletion, in which a letter being deleted from whole, the remaining letters are transposed to form first; the letter being restored, and another taken, the letters then remaining being transposed to make two, and so on. Invented by L. M. N. Terry in 1904.*

L. M. N. Terry was the nom de plume of Charles Newton Crowder, of Baltimore, who was a member of the Eastern Puzzlers League/National Puzzlers League from 1897 until his death in 1932. The Baltimore part of the term is now apparent.

We thought it would be interesting to come up with a Baltimore transdeletion for BALTIMORE itself. The table below gives just one example for each deleted letter, although we could have offered many additional examples.

| -          | Definition  | Source                                   |
|------------|---|--|
| B rolamite | A nearly frictionless elementary mechanism consisting of two or more rollers inserted in the loops of a flexible metal or plastic band with the band acting to turn the rollers whose movement can be directed to perform various functions | UMW (Unabridged Merriam-Webster, online) |
| A bromlite | A mineral $BaCa(CO_3)_2$ midway between witherite and strontianite — called also alstonite  | UMW                                      |
| L Amberoti | A first name - for example, Amberoti Nikora, Minister of Environment, Lands and Agricultural Development of the Republic of Kiribati  | Wikipedia                                |
| T bromelia | Any plant of the genus <i>Bromelia</i>  | UMW                                      |
| I Lamberto | An Italian first name - Wikipedia gives examples for 25 individuals with this first name  | Wikipedia                                |
| M laborite | A member of a group favoring the interests of labor   | UMW                                      |

|   |          |  |           |
|---|----------|--|-----------|
| O | Beltrami | Eugenio Beltrami (1835-1900) was an Italian mathematician notable for his work concerning differential geometry and mathematical physics   | Wikipedia |
| R | biometal | Any metal normally present, in small but important and measurable amounts, in biology, biochemistry, and medicine; the metals copper, zinc, iron, and manganese are examples of metals that are essential for the normal functioning of most plants and the bodies of most animals, such as the human body | Wikipedia |
| E | Tamboril | A municipality of the Santiago province in the Dominican Republic  | Wikipedia |

### BALTIMORE – Substitute-letter transposals

In *Language on Vacation*, Borgmann also introduced substitute-letter transposals, where one letter of a word is substituted for another, and the new set of letters is rearranged to form another word. Borgmann gave the example of ENIGMATOGRAPHY – PYTHAGOREANISM, where a G in the first word has been replaced by an S in the second word. We thought it would be worth exploring the substitute-letter transposability of BALTIMORE. Each of the 9 letters can potentially be replaced by 25 other letters, for a total of 225 combinations of ‘letter removed – letter added’. We wondered how many of the 225 possible combinations would result in legitimate transpositions. In the table below, we offer transpositions for 159 of the 225 possibles, just over a 70% success rate. Of necessity, we have been rather liberal in our choice of transpositions, including some two-word terms, foreign words, and even the use of the two-letter abbreviations for US state-names.

### BALTIMORE: Substitute-letter transposals

|   | - | + |            | Definition   | Source          |
|---|---|---|------------|--|-----------------|
| 1 | A | D | Motbilder  | Before the Swedish election 2014, ICIA (Institute for Contemporary Ideas and Art) organised a big art project called Motbilder, which took place between August 22 and September 14 2014 at various places in Gothenburg City                                | Wikipedia       |
| 2 | A | G | Timberlog  | An app which is a timber log volume calculator; it calculates timber volume in cubic metres, cubic feet, board feet, from a given diameter or circumference and length, creates a wood log and shares it over email, Dropbox and other sharing apps for free | play.google.com |
| 3 | A | H | Trimble OH | A village in Trimble Township, Athens County, Ohio, with a population of 390 at the 2010 census  | Wikipedia       |

|    |   |   |            |  |   |
|----|---|---|------------|--|---|
| 4  | A | K | Tom Kibler | An American baseball player (1886-1971), coach of basketball and baseball, college athletics administrator and Minor League Baseball executive   | Wikipedia   |
| 5  | A | L | Lolitrem B | One of many toxins produced by a fungus called <i>Epichloë festucae</i> , which grows symbiotically in perennial ryegrass  | Wikipedia   |
| 6  | A | M | Trimble MO | A city in Clinton County, Missouri, with a population of 646 at the 2010 census  | Wikipedia   |
| 7  | A | N | Libermont  | A commune in the Oise department in northern France  | Wikipedia   |
| 8  | A | O | bolometri  | Italian word for 'bolometer', a sensitive electrical instrument for measuring radiant energy   | Wiktionary  |
| 9  | A | R | Robert Lim | A Chinese doctor (1897-1969), affectionately known as Bobby Lim  | Wikipedia   |
| 10 | A | S | imbolster  | A variant of 'embolster', to bolster out, to pad   | OED (Oxford English Dictionary, online)                                       |
| 11 | A | T | Tom Birtle | Thomas William Birtle (1926-2010) is a former English cricketer  | Wikipedia   |
| 12 | A | W | Tim Bowler | An English author (born 1953) of books for children, teenagers and young adults; he won the 1997 Carnegie Medal from the Library Association for the novel <i>River Boy</i>                                      | Wikipedia   |
| 13 | A | Y | Liberty MO | A city in Clay County, Missouri, which is a suburb of Kansas City, with a population of 29,149 at the 2010 census  | Wikipedia   |
| 14 | A | Z | Tom Zirbel | An American road bicycle racing cyclist (born 1978) from Clear Lake, Iowa  | Wikipedia   |
| 15 | B | A | Malortiea  | A genus of palms, primarily found in Central America; the name seems to be a synonym of the genus name <i>Reinhardtia</i>  | Dictionary of Flowering Plants and Ferns, J C Willis, 7 <sup>th</sup> edition |
| 16 | B | C | Cimaterol  | A beta-adrenergic agonist, a drug that activates certain receptors in the brain  | Wikipedia   |
| 17 | B | D | Dotmailer  | An online marketing company listed on the Alternative Investment Market (AIM) of the London Stock Exchange; it is an email service provider, and in 2015 is the UK's largest email marketing automation provider | Wikipedia   |
| 18 | B | E | meliorate  | To make better or more tolerable   | UMW (Unabridged Merriam-Webster, online)                                      |
| 19 | B | F | Metalfrío  | A US company making commercial refrigerators, based in Texas   | www.metalfrío.com   |

|    |   |   |                    |   |  |
|----|---|---|--------------------|---|--|
| 20 | B | G | <b>martiloge</b>   | <b>A list or register of martyred saints, sometimes with an account of their lives; a book containing this information. Occasionally also: the burial register of a cathedral or religious community</b>  | OED  |
| 21 | B | H | <b>Melothria</b>   | <b>A genus of chiefly tropical monoecious herbaceous vines (family <i>Cucurbitaceae</i>) with white or yellow flowers, an elongated ovary, and a fruit resembling a typical berry that are cultivated as ornamentals</b>                                | UMW  |
| 22 | B | I | <b>Marielito</b>   | <b>Any one of the gang members of Cuban immigrants that left Cuba from the Port of Mariel in 1980; approximately 135,000 people left the country to the United States from April to September in what became known as the Mariel boatlift</b>           | Wikipedia  |
| 23 | B | K | <b>Lake Ritom</b>  | <b>A lake in Switzerland</b>  | TIG (Times Index Gazetteer)                              |
| 24 | B | L | <b>Rollamite</b>   | <b>A user-name on both Facebook and YouTube, a play on the word 'rolamite'</b>  | Facebook & YouTube                                       |
| 25 | B | M | <b>marmolite</b>   | <b>A thin laminated usually pale green serpentine</b>   | UMW  |
| 26 | B | N | <b>meliorant</b>   | <b>A thing that makes something better</b>  | OED  |
| 27 | B | O | <b>mole ratio</b>  | <b>The mole ratio is the ratio of moles of one substance to the moles of another substance in a balanced equation, where a mole is a chemical counting unit, such that 1 mole = <math>6.022 \times 10^{23}</math> particles</b>                         | Wikipedia  |
| 28 | B | P | <b>Romipetal</b>   | <b>In respect of which Rome functions or is regarded as a central authority</b>   | OED  |
| 29 | B | R | <b>METRORail</b>   | <b>Houston's fast, convenient way to travel to downtown, midtown, the Museum District, Texas Medical Center, Moody Park and up to the Northline Transit Center</b>  | <a href="http://www.ridemetro.org">www.ridemetro.org</a> |
| 30 | B | S | <b>rolamites</b>   | <b>Nearly frictionless elementary mechanisms, each consisting of two or more rollers inserted in the loops of a flexible metal or plastic band with the band acting to turn the rollers whose movement can be directed to perform various functions</b> | UMW  |
| 31 | B | T | <b>Lattimore</b>   | <b>A town in Cleveland County, North Carolina, with a population of 488 at the 2010 census</b>  | Wikipedia  |
| 32 | B | U | <b>MailRoute</b>   | <b>An email security provider for "washing" email for viruses and spam; the company is based in California</b>  | <a href="http://www.mailroute.net">www.mailroute.net</a> |
| 33 | B | V | <b>Mt Olive AR</b> | <b>There are at least 7 locations in Arkansas called Mount Olive, or Mt Olive</b>   | Wikipedia  |
| 34 | B | X | <b>Max Oertli</b>  | <b>A Swiss painter (1921-2007)</b>  | Wikipedia  |

|    |   |   |             |  |   |
|----|---|---|-------------|--|---|
| 35 | B | Y | Tim O'Leary | An actor and producer, known for <i>The Thing Before the Thing</i> (2017), <i>The Crash</i> (2017) and <i>Love You Like Crazy</i> (2017).  | www.imdb.com  |
| 36 | B | Z | mortalize   | To make mortal; to treat as mortal   | UMW   |
| 37 | E | A | Baltimora   | A plant genus, found from Mexico to Colombia   | Dictionary of Flowering Plants and Ferns<br>Wikipedia |
| 38 | E | F | Borat film  | Any of the films of Sacha Noam Baron Cohen (born 1971), a British actor, comedian, screenwriter, and film producer; the term 'Borat film' appears in the Wikipedia entry for Sacha Cohen | Wikipedia   |
| 39 | E | G | Grim Batol  | A fortress in the computer game of Wowhead   | Wiktionary  |
| 40 | E | I | militabor   | A Latin word, the first person singular future passive indicative of the verb <i>militō</i> , meaning 'I am a soldier'   | TIG   |
| 41 | E | N | Libramont   | A place in Belgium   | Wikipedia   |
| 42 | E | O | Bortolami   | An Italian surname - Marco Bortolami and Gianluca Bortolami are notable sportsmen  | Wikipedia   |
| 43 | E | S | Maltisorb   | A natural sweetening alcohol made by Roquette of France, which can be used in baking, especially in making fillings for cakes and cookies  | Wikipedia   |
| 44 | E | U | libatorium  | A Latin word, the genitive plural of <i>libator</i> , meaning 'one who tastes'   | Wiktionary  |
| 45 | E | W | Tim Barlow  | An English actor (born 1936) who has performed many small roles in a variety of films, television programs and plays   | Wikipedia   |
| 46 | E | Y | Tim Baylor  | A former American football defensive back (born 1954) in the National Football League; he played college football at Morgan State University in <u>Baltimore</u> , Maryland              | Wikipedia   |
| 47 | I | A | Baltamore   | A US surname, the Baltamore family name was found in the US in 1880, when there were 4 Baltamore families living in Alabama  | www.ancestry.co.uk                                    |
| 48 | I | C | Metolcarb   | A chemical compound (chemical formula: $C_9H_{11}NO_2$ ) used as an acaricide and an insecticide   | Wikipedia   |
| 49 | I | D | Temblador   | A place in Venezuela   | TIG   |
| 50 | I | E | Bloemaert   | The surname of Abraham Bloemaert (1566-1651), a Dutch painter and printmaker in etching and engraving  | Wikipedia   |
| 51 | I | G | Boglemart   | This occurs in the street name Boglemart Street, which is in the town of Stevenston, Ayrshire, Scotland  | data.ordnancesurvey.co.uk                             |

|    |   |   |            |  |   |
|----|---|---|------------|--|---|
| 52 | I | H | alembroth  | A double chloride of ammonium and mercury believed by the alchemists to be a universal solvent   | UMW   |
| 53 | I | K | Lambert OK | A town in Alfalfa County, Oklahoma, with a population of 6 at the 2010 census  | Wikipedia   |
| 54 | I | L | mollebart  | An agricultural implement formerly used in Flanders, consisting of a kind of large shovel drawn by a horse and guided by a man   | Webster's International Dictionary, G & C Merriam, 1907 |
| 55 | I | M | Blommaert  | The surname of Jan Blommaert (born 1961), a Belgian sociolinguist and linguistic anthropologist, Professor of Language, Culture and Globalization and Director of the Babylon Center at Tilburg University, the Netherlands  | Wikipedia   |
| 56 | I | N | Lamberton  | A place in Minnesota   | TIG   |
| 57 | I | O | motorable  | Usable by motor vehicles; passable   | UMW   |
| 58 | I | R | belt armor | A layer of heavy metal armor plated onto or within the outer hulls of warships, typically on battleships, battle-cruisers and cruisers, and aircraft carriers  | Wikipedia   |
| 59 | I | S | stormable  | That can be taken by storm   | OED   |
| 60 | I | T | Lemrabott  | The surname of Mafoud Ould Lemrabott, the head of the supreme court of Mauritania, who died on 11 May 2013   | Wikipedia   |
| 61 | I | U | Mabuterol  | A selective adrenoreceptor agonist, a class of drugs that cause smooth muscle relaxation, dilation of bronchial passages, vaso-dilation in muscle and liver, relaxation of uterine muscle, and release of insulin; they are primarily used to treat asthma and other pulmonary disorders | Wikipedia   |
| 62 | I | V | Travelmob  | A social networking website for booking accommodation and room rentals, founded by Turochas Fuad, Dan Neary, Prashant Kirtane and Nick Gundry in July 2012   | uk.travelmob.com  |
| 63 | I | W | Bartolmew  | The surname of several individuals, appearing in US and UK census details - probably derived from the name Bartholomew   | www.ancestry.co.uk                                      |
| 64 | I | Y | Tom Barley | A British racing driver, who in 2013 competed in the British Touring Car Championship for the first time at the Brands Hatch racing circuit  | Wikipedia   |
| 65 | L | A | Tamboeria  | An extinct genus of middle sized carnivorous therocephalians (mammal-like reptiles) from the Tapinocephalus Assemblage Zone of South Africa  | Wikipedia   |

|    |   |   |              |   |                           |
|----|---|---|--------------|---|---------------------------|
| 66 | L | B | Boma tribe   | A tribe of the Ijaw people who live in Bayelsa State, Nigeria   | Wikipedia                 |
| 67 | L | C | metaboric    | An acid $\text{HBO}_2$ or $(\text{HBO}_2)_n$ formed as a glassy amorphous solid by heating orthoboric acid but usually obtained in the form of its salts  | UMW                       |
| 68 | L | D | Birtamode    | A municipality in Jhapa District of Nepal, the commercial, educational and transport hub of Jhapa District  | Wikipedia                 |
| 69 | L | E | abiteremo    | An Italian word, the first-person plural future of <i>abitare</i> , meaning 'to live in'  | Wiktionary                |
| 70 | L | F | obfirmate    | To confirm (a person) in an evil course, erroneous opinion; to make (a person's mind, etc) stubborn or obstinate  | OED                       |
| 71 | L | G | Bogarmite    | A member of a sect of heretics which arose about the year 1179, who held that the use of churches, of the sacrament of the Lord's supper, and all prayer except the Lord's prayer, ought to be abolished; that the baptism of Catholics is imperfect; that the persons of the Trinity are unequal, and that they often made themselves visible to those of their sect | www.studylight.org        |
| 72 | L | H | Thermobia    | A genus of primitive insects belonging to the family <i>Lepismatidae</i> ; by far the best known member of the genus is the firebrat <i>Thermobia domestica</i> , which is often seen in warm places indoors such as bakeries   | Wikipedia                 |
| 73 | L | I | Biometria    | The title of a journal published in Brazil  | www.tse.jus.br            |
| 74 | L | J | embotijar    | A Spanish word, meaning 'to put into jars'  | www.collinsdictionary.com |
| 75 | L | M | memorabit    | A Latin word, the third-person singular future active indicative of <i>memorō</i> , meaning 'to remind, to recall'  | Wiktionary                |
| 76 | L | N | tamborine    | A variant spelling of tambourine  | OED                       |
| 77 | L | O | Bai T. Moore | The commonly known pen-name of Bai Tamia Johnson Moore (1916-1988), a Liberian poet, novelist, folklorist and essayist; he is best known for his novella <i>Murder in the Cassava Patch</i> (1968)  | Wikipedia                 |
| 78 | L | P | improbate    | Wicked  | OED                       |
| 79 | L | R | Marie Bot    | Born 1946, a Dutch photographer and graphic designer  | Wikipedia                 |
| 80 | L | S | Boarmites    | A synonym of Boarmiini, a large tribe of geometer moths in the Ennominae subfamily  | Wikipedia                 |
| 81 | L | T | biomatter    | Matter of biological origin; (living or dead) tissue  | OED                       |

|    |   |   |            |  |                       |
|----|---|---|------------|--|-----------------------|
| 82 | L | V | vibratome  | An instrument used to cut thin slices of material; it is similar to a microtome but uses a vibrating blade to cut through tissue   | Wikipedia             |
| 83 | L | X | Ximo Tebar | Born 1963, a Spanish jazz musician (guitar, composition)   | Wikipedia             |
| 84 | L | Z | Matzo brei | A dish of Ashkenazi Jewish origin made from matzah fried with eggs, commonly eaten as a breakfast food during the Jewish holiday of Passover   | Wikipedia             |
| 85 | M | A | Aerialbot  | One of several fictional characters in the Transformers franchise  | Wikipedia             |
| 86 | M | B | orbitable  | This looks like a simple word meaning 'capable of being orbited', but this isn't in any regular dictionary; instead, the term can be found in kOS, or Kerbal Operating System, which is a community-supported mod for the popular game Kerbal Space Program  | ksp-kos.github.io     |
| 87 | M | C | cabriolet  | An automobile resembling a coupe in appearance and capacity but with a folding top   | UMW                   |
| 88 | M | D | tidal bore | A tidal flood that regularly or occasionally rushes with a roaring noise into certain rivers (such as the Amazon in South America) or narrow bays (such as the Bay of Fundy) of peculiar configuration or location and proceeds in one or more waves that often present a very abrupt front of considerable height dangerous to shipping | UMW                   |
| 89 | M | E | orbitelae  | A term from scientific Latin <i>Orbitelae</i> , the name of a division of spiders  | OED (at 'orbitelous') |
| 90 | M | F | abort file | A type of computer file to which details are written when something goes wrong with a transaction or other operation   | www.thinkage.ca       |
| 91 | M | G | Galo tribe | A central Eastern Himalayan tribe, who speak the Tani language Gallong; the Galo primarily inhabit the West Siang district of modern-day Arunachal Pradesh state in North Eastern India, but are also found in other parts of India  | Wikipedia             |
| 92 | M | H | Libtheora  | An item of computer software, the reference implementation of the Theora video compression format being developed by the Xiph.Org Foundation   | Wikipedia             |
| 93 | M | I | Liberatio  | The title of a symphonic rock album by Krypteria, released in 2005   | www.discogs.com       |
| 94 | M | K | REK Bitola | An energy company in the city of Bitola, Republic of Macedonia   | Wikipedia             |
| 95 | M | L | Ballitore  | A village in County Kildare, Ireland   | TIG                   |



|     |   |   |             |   |                               |
|-----|---|---|-------------|---|-------------------------------|
| 96  | M | N | Robilante   | A place in Italy  | TIG                           |
| 97  | M | P | portabile   | An Italian word, meaning 'portable'   | Wiktionary                    |
| 98  | M | R | liberator   | One that liberates  | UMW                           |
| 99  | M | S | sobralite   | A triclinic manganese pyroxene  | W2 (Webster's Second Edition) |
| 100 | M | T | trilobate   | Having or divided into three lobes  | UMW                           |
| 101 | M | U | Labourite   | A variant spelling of laborite  | UMW                           |
| 102 | M | V | Bert Oliva  | An international orator & leadership expert, who focuses on helping companies and individuals tap into their greatness by teaching them leadership, communication and helping to improve their overall performance  | Facebook                      |
| 103 | M | W | trowable    | An obsolete spelling of 'trowable', that can be believed, or which is credible  | OED                           |
| 104 | M | X | exorbital   | Outside the orbit (of the eyeball)  | OED                           |
| 105 | M | Y | Bore, Italy | A <i>comune</i> in the province of Parma, central Italy   | Wikipedia                     |
| 106 | O | A | Arambilet   | Ángel Luis Arambilet Álvarez (born 1957), generally known professionally as simply Arambilet, is a novelist, poet, screenwriter, painter, graphic artist and filmmaker of Spanish-Dominican descent   | Wikipedia                     |
| 107 | O | C | Bactrimel   | The tradename of a drug manufactured by Roche; it contains trimethoprim and sulfamethoxazole  | Wikipedia                     |
| 108 | O | E | meritable   | That deserves or accrues merit; meritorious   | OED                           |
| 109 | O | F | Fimbertal   | Also Fimbatal, an alpine valley situated between the Silvretta Alps and the Samnaun Alps  | Wikipedia                     |
| 110 | O | G | tiger balm  | A topical over-the-counter pain reliever that contains ingredients such as camphor, menthol, cajuput oil, and clove oil; it comes as a cream, gel, or liquid that is applied superficially to the area of pain and absorbed through the skin, and is often used for relief of a variety of types of pain, including back pain, joint pain, stiffness, sprains, and arthritis pain | www.tigerbalm.com/<br>uk      |
| 111 | O | H | Amberlith   | A brand of masking film manufactured by Ulano, New York   | Wikipedia                     |
| 112 | O | I | lambertii   | This occurs in the scientific name of zebrawood ( <i>Omphalobium lambertii</i> ), a large tree, native of Guiana  | OED (at 'zebrawood')          |
| 113 | O | J | Trebimlja   | A village in the municipality of Ravno, Bosnia and Herzegovina  | Wikipedia                     |
| 114 | O | L | Marti Bell  | A named individual on Facebook  | Facebook                      |
| 115 | O | M | Tim Ambler  | Born 1937, a British organizational theorist, author and academic on the field of marketing effectiveness   | Wikipedia                     |

|     |   |   |            |   |                     |
|-----|---|---|------------|---|---------------------|
| 116 | O | N | librantem  | A Latin word, the accusative feminine and masculine singulars of <i>librāns</i> , meaning 'balancing, leveling, making horizontal'  | Wiktionary          |
| 117 | O | N | Terminal B | An airport terminal at various airports, including Logan Airport (Boston) and San Jose International Airport  | Wikipedia           |
| 118 | O | R | TIM barrel | In biochemistry and molecular biology, the TIM barrel is a conserved protein fold consisting of eight $\alpha$ -helices and eight parallel $\beta$ -strands that alternate along the peptide backbone; the structure is named after triosephosphate isomerase, a conserved metabolic enzyme | Wikipedia           |
| 119 | O | S | marbliest  | Superlative of marbly   | UMW                 |
| 120 | O | T | tremblait  | A French word, the third-person singular imperfect indicative of trembler, meaning 'to tremble, to shake'   | Wiktionary          |
| 121 | O | U | umbratile  | Carried on in seclusion   | UMW                 |
| 122 | O | X | MetrixLab  | A global Market Research Company based in Rotterdam, the Netherlands, offering customer insight services & market research data for businesses of all sizes around the globe  | www.metrixlab.com   |
| 123 | O | Y | Tim Albery | An English stage director, best known for his productions of opera  | Wikipedia           |
| 124 | O | Z | Maltzbier  | A German Bock style beer brewed by Cerveza Artesanal BarbaRoja in Buenos Aires, Argentina   | www.beeradocate.com |
| 125 | R | A | Metabolia  | A division of the insects which undergo metamorphosis   | W2                  |
| 126 | R | B | bombilate  | To hum, to buzz   | OED                 |
| 127 | R | C | metabolic  | Of, relating to, or worked by metabolism  | UMW                 |
| 128 | R | D | domitable  | Tamable   | UMW                 |
| 129 | R | E | Mobitelea  | Mobitelea Ventures is the name of a company that formerly owned 12.5% of Vodafone Kenya Ltd, a 40% shareholder of Safaricom, a leading mobile network operator in Kenya   | Wikipedia           |
| 130 | R | F | fat emboli | Physical embolisms in which the embolus consists of fatty material, often caused by physical trauma such as fracture, soft tissue trauma, or burns  | Wikipedia           |
| 131 | R | G | TAG Mobile | A wireless telecommunications provider based in Dallas, Texas   | Wikipedia           |
| 132 | R | H | Betho Lima | A fitness instructor, specialising in Zumba, from Sao Paolo   | www.zumba.com       |
| 133 | R | M | telimomab  | A mouse monoclonal antibody which is an immunosuppressive drug  | Wiktionary          |

|     |   |   |             |   |                                      |
|-----|---|---|-------------|---|--------------------------------------|
| 134 | R | N | Tomblaine   | A commune in the Meurthe-et-Moselle department in north-eastern France  | Wikipedia                            |
| 135 | R | P | impotable   | Not suitable for drinking   | UMW                                  |
| 136 | R | S | biometals   | Metals normally present, in small but important and measurable amounts, in biology, biochemistry, and medicine; the metals copper, zinc, iron, and manganese are examples of metals that are essential for the normal functioning of most plants and the bodies of most animals, such as the human body | Wikipedia                            |
| 137 | R | T | omittable   | That which may be omitted   | W2                                   |
| 138 | R | U | Bail Me Out | The title of a song by artist Pete Murray, available on YouTube   | YouTube                              |
| 139 | R | V | vomitable   | That which may be vomited   | W2                                   |
| 140 | R | X | Metabolix   | A plastics/biopolymer company, headquartered in Woburn, Massachusetts   | globenewswire.com                    |
| 141 | R | Y | Tom Bailey  | Born 1954, an English singer, songwriter, composer, musician, and record producer, who came to prominence in the early 1980s as the lead vocalist for the new wave band Thompson Twins  | Wikipedia                            |
| 142 | T | B | mobile bar  | A mobile bar for serving alcoholic and other drinks – there are several of these advertised for sale on eBay  | www.ebay.co.uk                       |
| 143 | T | C | Crambe oil  | An inedible seed oil, extracted from the seeds of the <i>Crambe abyssinica</i> , a multibranched annual plant that is native to the Ethiopian Highlands also known as Abyssinia   | Wikipedia                            |
| 144 | T | C | Olbramice   | A village in Ostrava-City District, Moravian-Silesian Region, Czech Republic  | Wikipedia                            |
| 145 | T | D | bromeliad   | A plant of the family Bromeliaceae  | UMW                                  |
| 146 | T | E | EraMobile   | Short for Epidemic-based Reliable and Adaptive Multicast for Mobile, this is a bio-inspired reliable multicast protocol targeting mission critical ad hoc networks  | Wikipedia                            |
| 147 | T | G | bergamiol   | Linaloyl acetate, the principal constituent of the essence or essential oil of bergamot, now prepared in separate form and used in perfumery  | Century Dictionary, Supplement, 1909 |
| 148 | T | H | biohermal   | Pertaining to a bioherm, a body of rock built up by or composed mainly of sedentary organisms (such as corals, algae, or mollusks) and enclosed or surrounded by rock of different origin   | UMW                                  |
| 149 | T | I | airmobile   | Relating to a military unit whose members are transported to combat areas by helicopter   | UMW                                  |

|     |   |   |                   |  |   |
|-----|---|---|-------------------|--|---|
| 150 | T | K | <b>Borki Male</b> | <b>A village in the administrative district of Gmina Olesno, within Olesno County, Opole Voivodeship, in south-western Poland</b>  | Wikipedia   |
| 151 | T | L | <b>Mirabello</b>  | <b>Mirabello Bay is an embayment of the Sea of Crete on the eastern part of Crete in present-day Greece; it is the largest bay of the Greek islands and the fifth largest in the Mediterranean Sea</b> | Wikipedia   |
| 152 | T | M | <b>mobile arm</b> | <b>A device for holding a baby's mobile over its cot or chair – there are hundreds of different ones for sale on the internet</b>  | www.etsy.com  |
| 153 | T | N | <b>bromelain</b>  | <b>A protease obtained from the juice of the pineapple</b>   | UMW   |
| 154 | T | O | <b>Bloomeria</b>  | <b>A genus of plants, found in southern California</b>   | Dictionary of Flowering Plants and Ferns                  |
| 155 | T | P | <b>preamboli</b>  | <b>Italian word for 'preambles'</b>  | Wiktionary  |
| 156 | T | R | <b>Blairmore</b>  | <b>The name of at least 11 places and several geographical features in Scotland</b>  | Ordnance Survey Gazetteer of Great Britain, third edition |
| 157 | T | S | <b>bromelias</b>  | <b>Any plants of the genus <i>Bromelia</i></b>   | UMW   |
| 158 | T | U | <b>Maloubier</b>  | <b>The surname of Robert Maloubier (1923-2015), a French secret agent who worked for the British Special Operations Executive (SOE) in World War II</b>  | Wikipedia   |
| 159 | T | Z | <b>Mali Obrez</b> | <b>A settlement in the municipality of Brežice in eastern Slovenia</b>   | Wikipedia   |

If readers can improve on any of the examples above, or plug any of the gaps, do please let the Editor know.

## DISKOS A Puzzle Game

By Jeremiah Farrell, Emeritus, Mathematics

DISKOS is a puzzle-game that uses 12 domino disks and a 4x4 checkerboard. The diskos are labeled (1,2), (1,3), (1,4), (1,5), (2,3), (2,4), (2,6), (3,5), (3,6), (4,5), (4,6) and (5,6). As a puzzle we ask the player to place the 12 diskos on the checkerboard so that the four occurrences of each of the numbers 1 through 6 appear on the corner of a square on the checkerboard. The squares can thus be of size 2x2, 3x3 or 4x4. This puzzle has been adapted for play by the sighted impaired at the Indiana School for the Blind in Indianapolis. An example that uses the eight numbers 1 through 8 follows.

|       |       |       |       |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| (1,5) | (3,5) | (1,6) | (3,6) |
| (4,5) | (2,5) | (4,6) | (2,6) |
| (1,7) | (3,7) | (1,8) | (3,8) |
| (4,7) | (2,7) | (4,8) | (2,8) |

Squares on the Numbers from 1 through 8

For the blind, the numbers are raised domino pips that can easily be manipulated by touch alone. Notice that in DISKOS there are only six different numbers and, in fact, there are exactly six solutions to the puzzle, not counting rotations and reflections as different. We ask the reader to try to find all six. In the next issue the solutions will be given and we will explain the mathematics behind the puzzle.

Meanwhile a mildly entertaining two-person game can also be played using the 12 DISKOS. The players alternately place a DISKO of their choice on the checkerboard with the proviso that no two DISKOS can be placed in a row or column unless all the numbers on both DISKOS are different. The players choose their plays from a face-up pool of DISKOS and the last person to be able to play wins the game.

There is a forced win for one of the players in this game and we invite the reader to find it.

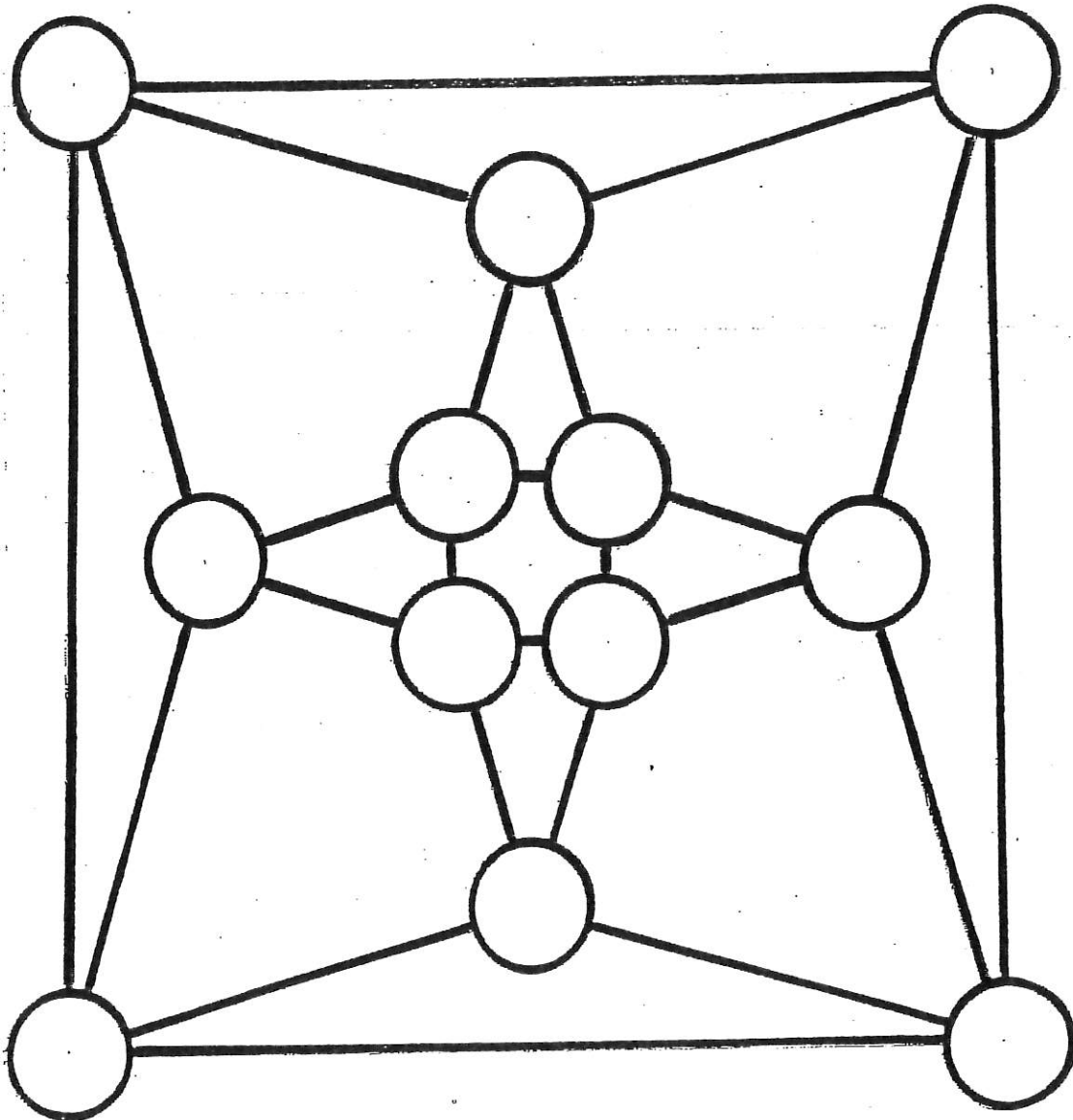
## DISKOS REVISITED

A new Puzzle: Place the 12 DISKOS on the 4x4 grid so that in each row and column exactly one of each number, 1-6, occurs. A correct placement will result in the grid becoming a magic square and each row or column will sum to the same total when all the pips in that row or column are added.

Game 1: Two players select at random six DISKOS from a face-down mix of the 12. They alternately play a DISKO of their choice on the grid following the placement rules of the new puzzle above. The last player to be able to place a DISKO wins.

Game 2: Similar to Game 1 except that now the players must place a DISKO so that it matches a number with all DISKOS already in its row and column.

Another Puzzle: Place the 12 DISKOS on the grid below so that two DISKOS are joined by an edge only if they have a pip in common. The grid is the Schlegel graph of the cuboctahedron. This puzzle is a favorite of students at the Indiana School for the Blind where a special embossed version was constructed. There are six solutions.



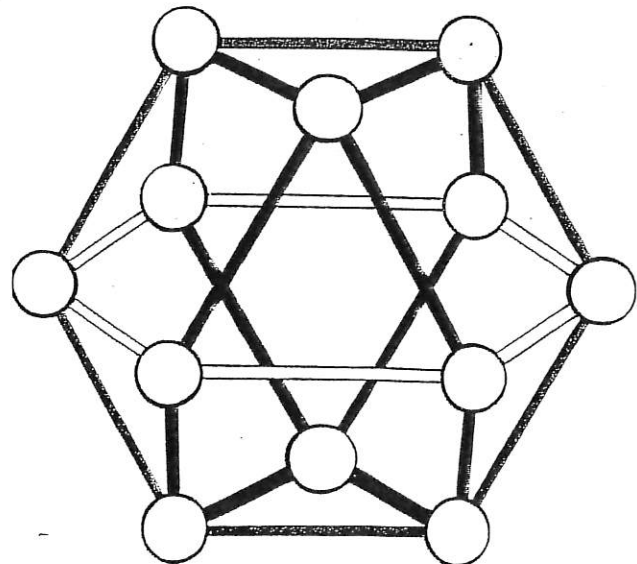
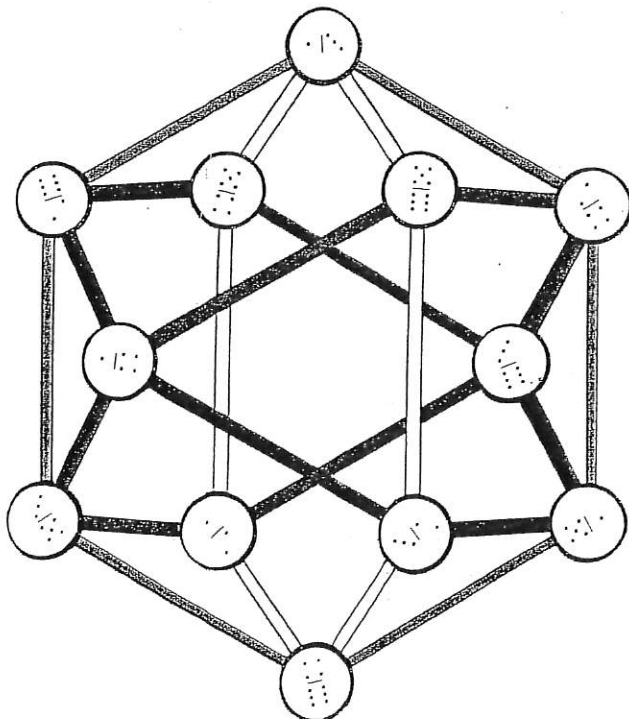
## DISKOS ONCE AGAIN

**SOME MAGIC:** The 12 diskos can be arranged end to end with matching pips just as is commonly done with dominoes. Place the diskos face down and stir them around but surreptitiously palm one of them. Sneak a peek at your stolen disko and write the two numbers down on a slip of paper with the written comment "Your chain will end on these two numbers!" Now let your subject make a chain with the remaining diskos. His or her chain will always end as predicted. This is due to a mathematical concept called an Euler path.

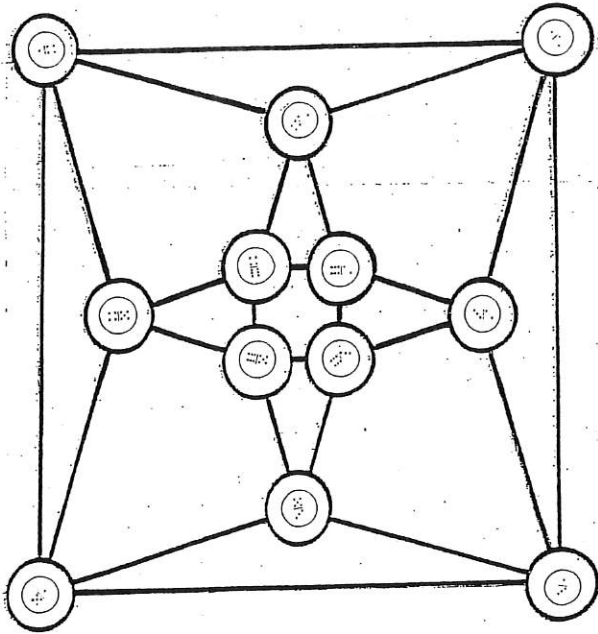
Ordinary playing cards can be used as substitutes for diskos since each card can be regarded as having a suit on one end and a denomination on the other. The 12 cards are chosen by first choosing the 16 cards of four denominations, say aces, kings, queens, and jacks. Then put aside 4 cards, one of each denomination and one of each suit. The remaining 12 act like the 12 diskos (remember one end of the card represents the suit and the other end the denomination.).

**FACT:** Have you noticed that the numbers 1 through 6 could be represented as the faces on a die? The individual diskos are the 12 edges of the die labeled by the two die faces the edge bounds. This gives a valuable clue on how to play the games we have suggested.

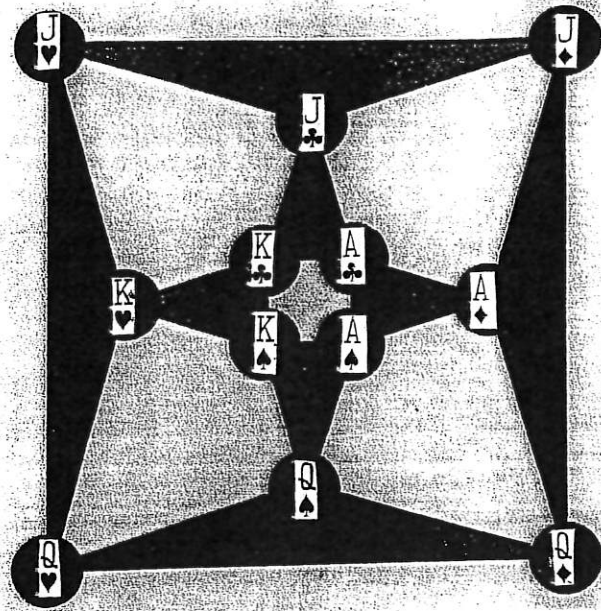
Several possible answers to our puzzles appear below.



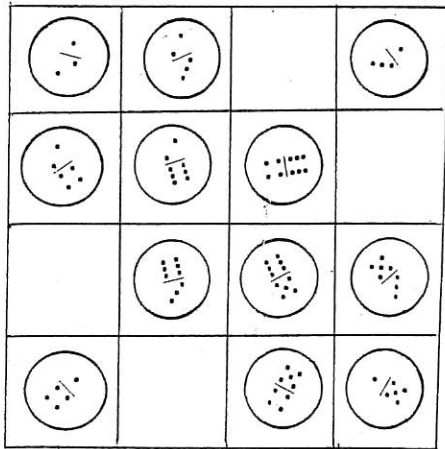
"Keep Away" using diskos on another depiction of a cuboctahedron. Can you discover an arrangement where all nodes match along the edges?



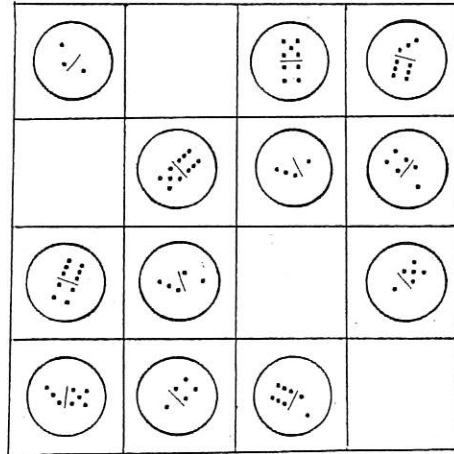
Diskos on a cuboctohedron.  
Note the common number in the 4-Gons.



Cards on a cuboctohedron.  
Note what is common in the 3-Gons.



Disko Squares



A Disko Magic Square



# SENTENCE SUDOKU PUZZLES

Johan de Ruiter

Mountain View, California

The following pages contain five puzzles. The first four are Sudoku puzzles which use letters instead of numbers. When the given letters are concatenated in row-major order, they form sentences. Because when solving a Sudoku puzzle, working with letters is typically much less convenient than working with the more conventional numbers from 1 through 9, appropriate puzzle titles were chosen to serve as useful mnemonics.

The fifth puzzle is not a Sudoku puzzle, but a Latin Square with extra constraints applied to the two main diagonals. In this case, it is the solution that has a special (self-referential) property.

Say It Once

---

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| I | C |   | A | N |   |   |   |   |
| N | O |   | T |   |   | A |   |   |
|   |   |   |   | S |   | Y |   |   |
| E | T |   | S |   |   |   |   |   |
|   |   |   |   |   |   |   | E |   |
|   |   |   | E |   | A | N |   | Y |
| C |   | O |   |   | N |   |   |   |
|   | N |   |   |   |   | E |   | C |
|   |   |   |   | T | I |   | O | N |

- Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, The Adventure of the Speckled Band -

Mighty Ape

---

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| H | A |   |   |   |   | P |   |   |
| P |   |   |   | Y |   |   |   |   |
|   | T |   | H |   | E |   | A |   |
|   |   |   |   |   |   | G |   |   |
|   |   |   | E | H | A |   |   |   |
|   |   | P |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|   | P |   | Y |   | T |   | H |   |
|   |   |   |   | E |   |   |   | T |
|   |   | I |   |   |   |   | M | E |

- Miguel de Cervantes, Don Quixote

Rome`s Whiz

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|   |   |   |   |  |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|--|---|---|---|---|
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|   |   |   | W |  |   |   | H |   |
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|   | W | H |   |  | E |   |   |   |
| R |   |   |   |  |   |   |   | E |
|   |   |   | H |  |   | I | S |   |
|   |   | E |   |  | R |   |   |   |
|   | R |   |   |  | O |   |   |   |
|   |   |   |   |  |   | R | I | S |

- Marcus Aurelius, Meditations -

Done Right (On the Grid)

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|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
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| D |   | O |   |   | T |   |   |   |
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|   |   |   | E |   |   | R |   | I |
|   | G |   |   |   | H |   | T |   |
| T | H |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|   |   |   |   |   | I |   | N | G |

HD Enigmas

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|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|   |   |   |   | N |   | G | M |   |
| G | M |   |   |   | A |   |   |   |
| D |   |   | H |   |   |   |   | M |
|   |   |   | E | S |   |   | H |   |
| M |   |   | A | G |   | S |   |   |
|   | S |   |   | A |   | M | G | N |
|   | G | D |   |   | N | H | I |   |
|   |   | M |   | D | H |   | N |   |
| H |   | G |   | M |   |   |   | A |

## AWK AWK

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Ron Singer's article *Poll Pirate* appeared in the November 2018 *Word Ways*, and made extensive use of the letters A, W and K. Which set us wondering - how many words are there which use only the letters A, W and K? We have managed to find just 51 of these rare specimens, listed in the table below.

Of particular note is the penultimate entry, **Kwakwakawakw**. This is especially notable for using four occurrences of each of the three different letters, while not being composed of a group of three letters simply being repeated four times. We cannot think of another solidly-spelled word or name with this property.

|              |  |                     |
|--------------|--|---------------------|
| <b>awk</b>   | Turned or done the wrong way   | UMW                 |
| <b>Kaw</b>   | A Siouan people of the Kansas river valley, Kansas   | UMW                 |
| <b>Kwa</b>   | A branch of the Niger-Congo language family that is spoken along the coast and a short distance inland from Liberia to Nigeria       | UMW                 |
| <b>wak</b>   | Moist, damp (obsolete)   | OED                 |
| <b>Akwa</b>  | Akwa Point is a place in   | TIG                 |
| <b>awak</b>  | A variant spelling of 'awake', used in a c1500 quotation at 'lover' (noun, 2) "Awak! awake! I bring, lufar, I bring The newis glad." | OED                 |
| <b>Awka</b>  | Awka is the capital of Anambra State, Nigeria with an estimated population of 301,657 as of 2006 Nigerian census                     | Wikipedia           |
| <b>Kawa</b>  | A people chiefly of the autonomous Wa States of mountainous northeastern Myanmar and adjoining parts of Yunnan province, China       | UMW                 |
| <b>kwak</b>  | A place in Nepal   | US Board Geog Names |
| <b>waak</b>  | 18th century variant spelling of 'walk'  | OED                 |
| <b>waka</b>  | A Maori seagoing craft , a canoe   | UMW                 |
| <b>wakk</b>  | 19th century spelling of 'walk', from Orkney, Scotland   | OED                 |
| <b>Akawa</b> | A populated place, Nigeria   | US Board Geog Names |
| <b>Awaka</b> | A village in northern Owerri, Imo State, southeastern Nigeria  | Wikipedia           |
| <b>Kaawa</b> | A place in New Zealand   | TIG                 |

|        |  |                     |
|--------|--|---------------------|
| Kakwa  | The Kakwa people are found in north-western Uganda, south-western South Sudan, and north-eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo, particularly to the west of the White Nile river  | Wikipedia           |
| Kawaa  | A French company situated at 27 Rue Piat, 75020 Paris, France. Kawaa is a web and mobile platform that allows users to connect in real life, proposing and participating in local and thematic meetings                                | Wikipedia           |
| Kawka  | Kawka is a village in the administrative district of Gmina Niemce, within Lublin County, Lublin Voivodeship, in eastern Poland, which lies approximately 7 miles west of Niemce and 11 miles north-west of the regional capital Lublin | Wikipedia           |
| kwaak  | Dutch word - first-person singular present indicative of <i>kwaken</i>   | Wiktionary          |
| Kwawa  | A place in the Democratic Republic of the Congo  | TIG                 |
| Waaka  | Stacey Waaka is a New Zealand rugby union player. She debuted for the Black Ferns in 2015, the same year her brother Beaudein Waaka made his Rugby sevens debut for New Zealand  | Wikipedia           |
| Wakaw  | Place and lake in Saskatchewan, Canada   | TIG                 |
| Wakka  | A character of <i>Final Fantasy X</i> and <i>X-2</i>   | Wikipedia           |
| Wawak  | Wawak Sewing is the US's number 1 sewing source for over 100 years   | Wawak               |
| Akaawa | There are streets called Akaawa Street in Kapolei and Makakilo, both in Hawaii   | Google              |
| Akwáwa | A Tupi–Guarani dialect cluster spoken in Pará in western Brazil  | Wikipedia           |
| awaaka | A named individual on Facebook   | Facebook            |
| Kaaawa | A small community and census-designated place located in Koolauloa, city & county of Honolulu on the island of Oahu, Hawaii, US. As of the 2010 Census, the total population for Kaaawa was 1,379                                      | Wikipedia           |
| Kakawa | Populated places in Poland, Congo, Nigeria and Malawi  | US Board Geog Names |
| kawaka | A tall evergreen tree ( <i>Libocedrus plumosa</i> ) of New Zealand having highly valued fine-grained, dark reddish-brown wood — called also <i>New Zealand cedar</i>   | UMW                 |
| kawaka | <i>Libocedrus plumosa</i> , with the common name kawaka, is a species of Libocedrus that is endemic to New Zealand   | Wikipedia           |
| Kawawa | A place in Japan   | US Board Geog Names |



|                       |  |                                   |
|-----------------------|--|-----------------------------------|
| <b>Kwakwa</b>         | <b>Victoria Kwakwa is a Ghanaian economist and serves as Vice President at the World Bank for East Asia and the Pacific</b>  | Wikipedia                         |
| <b>wakaka</b>         | <b>A Malaysian way of laughing, often referred to as 'ekek', 'kakaka', or an underline/bolded combination of the two</b>   | Urban                             |
| <b>Wakawa</b>         | <b>A populated place, Niger</b>  | US Board Geog Names               |
| <b>wakwak</b>         | <b>Wakwak is a vampiric, bird-like creature in Philippine mythology, said to snatch humans at night as prey</b>  | Wikipedia                         |
| <b>Wawaka</b>         | <b>A place in Indiana</b>  | TIG                               |
| <b>Awakawa</b>        | <b>A Japanese surname - for example, Yasuichi Awakawa (a Zen painter and art critic, born 1902: and Koichi Awakawa (a Japanese economist, 1902-1977); they may be the same person because of the same birth year</b> | Google                            |
| <b>kaw kaw</b>        | <b>A taunt popular in the sport of lacrosse in which a defender loudly caws like a bird when an offensive player is either passing or shooting in order to mess up the shot</b>                                      | Urban                             |
| <b>Kawkawa</b>        | <b>A lake located 1.6 miles east of Hope, British Columbia</b>   | Wikipedia                         |
| <b>Akwakwak</b>       | <b>A Pokemon character; in English, Golduck</b>  | Wikipedia                         |
| <b>Kakawaka</b>       | <b>A noise artist based in Berlin, Germany</b>   | Discogs                           |
| <b>kawakawa</b>       | <b>A shrub or small tree (<i>Piper excelsum</i>) chiefly of New Zealand and held to be sacred by the Maoris</b>  | UMW                               |
| <b>Wakakaka</b>       | <b>Wakakaka Cafe is in Kuching, Malaysia</b>   | Google                            |
| <b>Wakakawa</b>       | <b>A Japanese cosmetics company</b>  | Wakakawa                          |
| <b>Wakawaka</b>       | <b>Populated places in Ghana and Uganda</b>  | US Board Geog Names               |
| <b>Kawakawaka</b>     | <b>This surname (or username) appears on several social media websites, including Facebook</b>   | Facebook                          |
| <b>Wakakakaka</b>     | <b>Wakakakaka Cafe is in Kuching, Malaysia - from the 50,000+ internet hits, this looks like the same café as Wakakaka Café</b>  | www.google.com                    |
| <b>Wakka Wakka</b>    | <b>An Australian Aboriginal nation of south-east Queensland</b>  | Wikipedia                         |
| <b>Kwakwakawakw</b>   | <b>A member of a First Nations people living on the shores of Queen Charlotte Sound and on North Vancouver Island; the Wakashan language of this people</b>  | Collins Gage                      |
| <b>Kwakwaka'wakwa</b> | <b>A variant of Kwakwakawakw (see above)</b>   | Wikipedia (in the entry Dantsikw) |

## Bibliography

|                            |   |
|----------------------------|---|
| <b>Collins Gage</b>        | <b>Collins Gage Canadian Paperback Dictionary</b>                               |
| <b>Discogs</b>             | <b><a href="http://www.discogs.com">www.discogs.com</a></b>                     |
| <b>OED</b>                 | <b>Oxford English Dictionary, online</b>  |
| <b>TIG</b>                 | <b>Times Index Gazetteer</b>  |
| <b>UMW</b>                 | <b>Unabridged Merriam-Webster dictionary, online</b>                            |
| <b>Urban</b>               | <b><a href="http://www.urbandictionary.com">www.urbandictionary.com</a></b>     |
| <b>US Board Geog Names</b> | <b><a href="http://geonames.usgs.gov">geonames.usgs.gov</a></b>                 |
| <b>Wikipedia</b>           | <b><a href="http://en.wikipedia.org">en.wikipedia.org</a></b>                   |
| <b>Wakakawa</b>            | <b><a href="http://www.wakakawacosmetics.com">www.wakakawacosmetics.com</a></b> |
| <b>Wiktionary</b>          | <b><a href="http://en.wiktionary.org">en.wiktionary.org</a></b>                 |
| <b>Wawak</b>               | <b><a href="http://www.wawak.com">www.wawak.com</a></b>                         |

**Many thanks to Jeff Grant who helped to track down many of the above offerings.**

## **A Collection of Rhyming Palindromes**

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### **RETEP verse**

Rhyming, end-to-end, palindromic verse is one of my favourite types of wordplay. Jim Puder has given a good introduction to the form (Word Ways, Vol. 43. Iss. 1 article 10) and Jeff Grant responded soon after with some excellent letter-unit examples, adapted from earlier unrhymed palindromes (Word Ways, Vol. 43. Iss. 4 article 7). Other examples can be found in Word Ways and elsewhere, but they remain rather rare compared with unrhymed forms.

I have tried to develop some original letter-unit RETEPs with regular scanning and rhyming, all while maintaining consistent themes. That, at least, was my aim. Some of my better attempts are shown below.

#### **Word Ways Ode**

Was I abler Ed now, aye?  
Hero Monte's so golden Word Ways  
But, we fret, fade logology away?

Go logo-led after few tubs yaw  
Drowned logos set no more  
Hey, a wonder, Elba I saw.

#### **Arctic Hunt**

Kayak rower, cool Giotto  
Set in umiaq,  
Auk is no prattle-motto  
Melt tarp on sikuaq,  
Aim unites Otto,  
Igloo crew or kayak.

### **Reunion of Broken Parts**

$x$  I mar be glad  
As ye tut “it’s bust”  
Sum it if a fix  
If a fit I must  
Substitute  $y$ , sad  
Algebra mix.

### **Relativity**

Pal Aniet’s niece’s rap  
Net space-time spans star map  
Spam rats snap  
Semite caps  
Ten parsec, Einstein, a lap!

### **Down and Outcast**

Dennis mad at pews’ use  
Jeremiah’s if less pinned,  
Eden nightlife, rotten game  
Vex Eve-magnet, tore filth, ginned,  
Eden nips selfish aim  
Ere Jesus wept, Adam sinned.

### **Banker Almighty**

Dogma I say at sod  
Don’t panic it’s a crash  
Sack rower, it is odd  
Do sit, I rework cash,  
Sarcastic, inapt nod  
Do stay, as I am God.

The final two examples follow a tradition of ribald palindromes. Hopefully they will trigger more titters than tuts.

### **Defying the Hosepipe Ban**

Set a bad example  
Help mask rebate,  
Get a brut sample  
Help masturbate,  
Get a berk's ample  
Help; maxed, abates.

### **Bacchanalia**

Trap, bonks so reekily  
As I field dirtily  
Am sidling on sod's tart,  
Rats do snog, nil dismay  
Lit riddle, if I say  
Like Eros's knob-part.

### **Notes**

Sikuaq is an Inuit word for thin ice, but unlike kayak and umiaq does not appear to have entered English usage.

Reekily is a derivative from reeky: “adj. Obsolete, rare; blackened with smoke; filthy”; and is found in a quotation from *Hans Beer-pot, his Invisible Comedy of See me and See me not* (translated from Dutch and published in 1618 by the splendidly named dramatist Daubridgecourt Capability Belchier):

“*Bad him goe And wash his face, he lookt so reechilie, Like Bacon hanging on the Chimnies roof*”.

As an adverb, it is found in Scots dialect, such as in *Train Approaching?* by Alistair Heather (<https://discourse.scot/2017/08/09/trains-approaching/>):

“*A solution is chuggin reekily owre the horizon: the Buchan railway line*”.

The slang terms used are generally of British origin.

## COLLOQUY

**PHILIP ENGLISH MACKEY** of Lambertville, New Jersey submits the following poem:

Bellows bellow below.

“Blow low!”

Ow! O!

He comments: “This little poem has languished in my files for quite a while. When Willard Espy and I discussed it many years ago, he called it a “reverse rhopalic, except you don’t change the order of the remaining letters. Whatever we call it, I thought it might challenge Word Ways readers to come up with other such sequences.” ([philip.mackey@gmail.com](mailto:philip.mackey@gmail.com))

**TIM HEATH** replies to Jeff Grant’s colloquy contribution in November 2018:

“I am grateful to Jeff Grant for putting me straight on the origin of his “Satan oscillate my metallic sonatas” palindrome in the previous issue of Word Ways. I consider this one of the finest single-sentence palindromes and am thankful for the correction of my misattribution.

On the disputed origin of the famous palindrome “Doc, note: I dissent a fast never prevents a fatness. I diet on cod”, I think the uncertainty has been resolved quite convincingly. Credit was given to Peter Hilton by his wartime colleague Jack Good in the 1993 book *Codebreakers: The Inside Story of Bletchley Park*. This credit was subsequently confirmed by two maths professors who knew him well and worked with him. This information and much more was provided by Mark Saltveit in his fascinating article “The Palindrome Game of the Enigma Codebreakers” ([vocabulary.com](http://vocabulary.com), 24 February 2015).

**DARRYL FRANCIS** writes:

In the previous edition, Darryl Francis introduced the word LAMPROTINE, and explored some themes related to it. Darryl now writes ....

We note that there is a two-word transposal of trampoline, intemporal and lamprotine. It is Metro Alpin, which – according to Wikipedia - is an underground funicular railway situated above the Swiss town of Saas Fee. Opened in 1984, it links the Felskinn cable-car station (9,777 feet) on the shore of the Fee Glacier to the Mittelallalin (11,339 feet) in the north flank of the Allalinhorn. The Felskinn–Mittelallalin Tunnel has a length of 5,738 feet, with an altitude difference of 1,562 feet between the two stations. The Metro Alpin is the highest funicular railway in the world. Being a fully underground railway, it is also considered the highest subway in the world!

Going beyond the bounds of the English language, there is also a foreign word implorante. This exists in French, Italian and Latin, as an adjective meaning ‘imploring’. There is also an Italian word planimetro, a device used to measure the area of an irregular figure via tracing its outline.

Various implementations of anagram-solving software also offer Nil Patmore. While this looks like a personal name or placename, we can’t find any evidence that this actually exists. It could be an error for the personal name Neil Patmore, which does turn up on internet searches.

## **TWO regular Word Ways contributors have recent publications:**

**ANIL’s *Silly Animal Rhymes and Stories A to Z*** is for readers of all ages, 2 to 102. The catchy rhymes include fun illustrations and plays on words, with some subtle satire snuck in. The book is available for \$19.50 through the publisher’s website: [www.sbprabooks.com/Anil](http://www.sbprabooks.com/Anil) or at [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com) or [www.barnesandnoble.com](http://www.barnesandnoble.com).

**STEVE KAHAN’s *Afterwords: Sixty Incredible Adventures in Logology for the Connoisseur*** is his “eleventh compilation of sixty word puzzles designed to make you stop and think and think some more.” 2019 by Esskay Publishing Company, Hollis Hills, New York.

## E PLURIBUS UNUM

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Many words can be regarded as made up of a sequence of smaller ones. Obvious examples are compound words that can be broken down into their component parts, such as *ex-port*, *down-beat*, *fore-court*, *hand-cuffs*. But sometimes the elements of compound words do not conform to their original meanings – *sup-port*, *in-vest*, *in-tent*, *in-vent*, *per-mission*, *con-dole* and so on. Also, some can be broken down into different elements, like *port-end*, *kings-hip*, *best-ride*, *horses-hoe*. More frequent are words whose constituent elements are not related in meaning, such as *pal-ate*, *disc-over* *disco-very*, *ban-king*, *pun-gent*, *tref-oil*, *in-te-re-sting*, *par-a-no-id* and the old favourite *leg-end*

Susan Thorpe (WordWays August 2018) has found pairs of words whose elements can produce meaningful sentences. For example, the phrase ALLIED TOGETHER can be broken down to read AL LIED TO GET HER. For present purposes the use of upper-case letters is not going to be allowed but the less meaningful phrase *mangoes together* would be acceptable. However, combinations of words are not being looked at here, only individual words and their possible constituent elements.

In cryptic crosswords, the answers are to be spelled out in upper case - and distortions are allowed such as using the letters I and O to represent the numerals 1 and 0. A stricter regime not only limits elements to lower-case dictionary entries but would also deny word status to lower-case abbreviations like *ed*, *eg*, *ca*, *etc*, because these are not spoken words but are either spelled out letter by letter or spoken in unabbreviated form. These limitations do rule out otherwise attractive candidates like *not-or-i-o-us*, *o-pi-ate* and *par-li-a-men-tar-i-an*, but enough examples remain that can be viewed from several aspects, including: what word has the largest number of elements: how many different ways can a word be broken down into elements: what about words like *monotonous* which contains *mono* and *nous* as pairs of elements?



In a search for the word with the largest number of elements the ending *-ation* looks promising. Is there anything better than nine elements? Consider –

|            |                              |
|------------|------------------------------|
| 7 elements | in-tern-a-ti-on-a-list       |
| 8 elements | in-tern-a-ti-on-a-li-zed     |
| 9 elements | in-tern-a-ti-on-a-li-zati-on |

Then, because words can often be broken down a a variety of ways, what words have the largest number of alternative element breakdowns? For instance *monotonous* has four ways, depending on whether *mono* or *nous* or both are used as elements. Better still is *adoration* which has five ways –

a-do-ration  
a-do-rat-ion  
ad-oration  
ad-or-at-ion  
ad-or-a-ti-on

Does a better example exist?

Exploring another aspect, there are words of three elements in which the two pairs of elements are also words. There is *re-port-age* in which *report* and *portage* are also words. Likewise *for-got-ten*, in which *forgot* and *gotten* are present. Is there a word of **four** elements with the same properties? This would be a sequence of letters that yielded a total of **ten** words! The words *reformation* and *reformatted* yield a possible nine (the whole word plus eight sub-words), but it would be good to find a perfect ten.

Finally, how many words can be generated by how few letters? *Forgotten* produced six words from nine letters. The word *herein* yields six words from six letters. Equally ‘economical’ are the little words *are* and *ado*. Area is even better, yielding five words from only four letters. But the prize goes to an even shorter word, denoting a type of Hawaiian lava formation – *aa*, which creates three words from just two letters.

## LAMPROTINE

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We like the word **trampoline** – it's only one letter different from **palindrome** - and palindromes are long-established as being of great interest to logologists. That makes **palindrome** a substitute-letter transposal of **trampoline** – remove a letter (the T in this case), replace it with another letter (the D), and rearrange the new set of letters to form a new word. For years, we had thought that **trampoline** had just a single transposal, the word **intemporal**. This word appears in W2, W3 and the OED, all of which define it as 'timeless'. The word is sufficiently rare for it not to be listed in current desktop dictionaries such as *the Merriam-Webster Collegiate Dictionary*, *Chambers Dictionary*, *Collins English Dictionary* and the *Canadian Oxford Dictionary*. Neither does it appear in the bibles of allowable Scrabble words – *Collins Scrabble Words*, the *Official Tournament and Club Word List*, and the *Official Scrabble Players Dictionary*.

However, while searching for some other word, now forgotten, in *Funk & Wagnall's New Standard Dictionary of the English Language* (our edition is dated 1945), we stumbled on the word **lamprotine**. We immediately realised this was an anagram of **trampoline**, an even rarer anagram than **intemporal**. It turns out that **lamprotine** is also listed in an earlier edition of *Funk & Wagnall's Standard Dictionary of the English Language* (our edition is dated 1895). The actual entry in both of our *Funk & Wagnall's* is **lamprotin(e)<sup>s</sup>**. This means that the word has two spellings, one with the final letter e, and one without the e. The superscript <sup>s</sup> indicates the **lamprotin** spelling is approved by the long defunct Simplified Spelling Board (the Simplified Spelling Board existed during the years 1906-1920). Surprisingly, **lamprotine** isn't listed in any of W2, W3 and the OED.

So, what does **lamprotine** mean? *Funk & Wagnall's* doesn't give a definition for **lamprotine**, although it does mark it as both a noun and an adjective. The dictionary lists the word following the two entries **Lamprotinæ** and **Lamprotēs**. The former is defined as "noun plural, ornithology; a subfamily of tanagroid birds having the bill straight, stout, and hooked, and the feet with strong claws", while the latter is simply marked "noun (t.g.)", meaning "type genus". From these, we deduce that **lamprotine** is a type of tanagroid bird, or tanager. For an up-to-date definition of **tanager**, we turned to the online *Unabridged Merriam-Webster* which defines it thus: "any of numerous American passerine birds (family Thraupidae) having brightly colored males, being mainly unmusical, and chiefly inhabiting woodlands."

We checked the Wikipedia entry for **tanager**, and it tells us that there are numerous genera (ie plural of genus) of tanagers, and lists many of them, but none of the genus names is remotely similar to **Lamprotinæ**, **Lamprotēs** or **lamprotine**. What's going on?

We decided to Google the term **lamprotine**. We got just four hits, all of them referring to an entry in "*A Dictionary of Simplified Spelling, based on the publications of the United States Bureau of Education and the rules of the American Philological Association and the*

*Simplified Spelling Board*”, which appears to be a 1915 publication. The entries in this dictionary are compiled from simplified spellings in *Funk & Wagnall’s* dictionaries. Each simplified spelling is shown with its corresponding unsimplified spelling. Thus, **lamprotin** is an entry, with its unsimplified spelling alongside, **lamprotine**. So we appear to be back full circle to *Funk & Wagnall’s*! Why does **lamprotine** only seem to exist in the 1895 and 1945 *Funk & Wagnall’s*? Why is there no independent definition or description of **lamprotine**? Why nothing else on the internet?

We wondered if Googling the related terms **Lamprotinæ** and **Lamprotes** would provide any leads for **lamprotine**. First off, we were surprised to find that, in addition to being a genus of tanagers, **Lamprotes** is a genus of moths (according to Wikipedia). We found **Lamprotinæ** listed in the 1911 edition of *Encyclopedia Britannica* in the article on tanagers, as well as in several books on the taxonomy of bird names. However, none of these turned up the elusive **lamprotine**. We suspect that the subfamily name **Lamprotinæ** and the genus name **Lamprotes** have both been overtaken by newer ornithological names, but we are still surprised that it’s difficult to confirm that through Google searches. As a result, that’s probably why our new transposal **lamprotine** has faded away to near invisibility.

If any Word Ways readers can shed any light on **lamprotine** and why it seems to have disappeared from view, on the internet, at least, do please get in touch.

It’s interesting to note that dictionaries do include quite a few other words beginning **lampro-**. According to the OED, the combining form **lampro-** means “bright, shining”. Between them, the OED, W2, W3, the online *Unabridged Merriam-Webster*, *Funk & Wagnall’s*, and the *Century Dictionary* offer these words beginning with **lampro-**  
**Lamprocolius lampron Lamprophane lamprophanite lamprophoner  
lamprophonia lamprophony lamprophyllite lamprophyre lamprophyric  
lampropid Lampropidæ lampropoid Lamprops Lampropsidæ Lamprosoma  
Lamprotes Lamprotinæ Lamprotornis Lamprotornithinæ lamprototype**

And just to show that the unabridged dictionaries don’t contain all the words, here are another five **lampro-** words from *An Illustrated Medical Dictionary* (Foster, 1892):

**lamprocarpous lamprophyllus lampropus lamprospermous lamprotometer**

## QUIZ: DOUBLE UP IN TEARS 1.

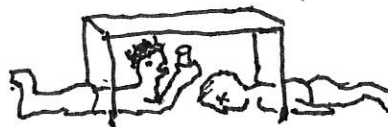
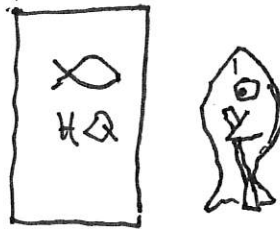
ANIL

Perth Australia

The object here is to solve the clues ("definitions") with two words that are spelt the same except one letter of one is doubled in the other. For example: breed bred; choose chose. However these two pairs are obvious relatives, whereas all pairs below are unrelated etymologically. Clues may be of the cryptic crossword type.

### DEFINITIONS, CLUES

1. National taxes
2. jail a policeman
3. undrunk weeper
4. fish headquarters \_\_\_\_\_
5. cop zaps the girls
6. Academic-immune
7. metallic underwear
8. police auction item
9. because s/he's a fool
10. Mickey's cream dish
11. fought but didn't kill
12. embrace your worries \_\_\_\_\_
13. police brutality survivor
14. Mother's church service
15. violator of a hip-hop artist
16. famous painter's corridors
17. a delay-causing drying out
18. one who outdrinks a drunk \_\_\_\_\_ \
19. an energising naughty look \
20. sacred Christmas decoration
21. of a beautiful fashion model
22. surrounded and whip-stripped
23. space for temporary memory
24. tremors of woodwind players
25. a clear gain from a fish-catcher
26. a pounce onto a bartering bargain
27. drove off all who were not barefoot
28. Young Kennedy started playing golf.
29. masochist's loud cheer on being beaten
30. dying to go steady with a fraternity boy



special categories

unusual feature

- 31. plant disease
- 32. French king’s wicked city
- 33. availability of winning serves
- 34. own multiple faces
- 35. take back your rest periods
- 36. have sheriff-gang pretenses

- 1 word answer
- 3 word answer
- 2 double letters singled
- “
- “
- 3 word serial reduction



XX

XX

XX

ANSWERS to Double Up #1, ANIL

(In some cases reversing the order of the words is also correct, if less so, but most often not.)

- 1. Fed feed
- 2. coop cop
- 3. sober sobber
- 4. basses’ bases
- 5. lasess lasses
- 6. Prof.-proof
- 7. brass bras
- 8. loot lot
- 9. as ass
- 10. mouse mousse
- 11. sparred, spared
- 12. caress cares
- 13. copper coper
- 14. Ma’s mass
- 15. rapper raper
- 16. Hals’ halls
- 17. staling stalling
- 18. toper topper
- 19. pep peep
- 20. holy holly
- 21. bony, bonny
- 22. walled, waled
- 23. ROM room
- 24. fluters’ flutters
- 25. net nett
- 26. swop swoop
- 27. shooed shoed
- 28. Ted teed.
- 29. whop whoop
- 30. pining pinning
- 31. rootrot
- 32. Louis’ vile Louisville
- 33. aces access
- 34. possess poses
- 35. repossess reposes
- 36. possess posse’s poses

# TRIPLE WORD LADDER PHRASES

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Consider the 3-word phrase VAN LED WAY. *Change the first of the 3 letters in each word to make another phrase, JAN WED RAY.* Repeat the exercise to make a third phrase, IAN FED MAY.

VAN LED WAY  
JAN WED RAY  
IAN FED MAY

VAN, JAN and IAN form a word ladder; LED, WED and FED form word ladder; WAY, RAY and MAY form a word ladder. These are Triple Word Ladder Phrases.

Another example is:

RON HIT MAN  
DON LIT PAN  
JON BIT DAN

A similar exercise *changes the second of the 3 letters in each word* to make another phrase.

|             |             |
|-------------|-------------|
| THE HOT TIP | SHE HAD ACE |
| TOE HIT TAP | SUE HID AXE |
| TIE HAT TOP | SEE HUD AGE |

Here *the third of the 3 letters in each word is changed* to make another phrase.

|             |             |
|-------------|-------------|
| LEN HIT BIN | REG HAS RIB |
| LET HIM BID | REP HAD RIG |
| LEO HID BIB | RED HAT RIM |

## ESQUIRE Articles by Martin Gardner

From the Collection of Jeremiah Farrell  
Indianapolis, Indiana

**Mar. 1948 "The Loves of Lady Coldpence" p. 40**

**Also: p. 71 "The Art of Coffeehouse Bridge."**

**p.10 Another approach to Jan. 1948 triangle construction**

**May, 1948 "Dr Clodhopper's Footsies" p. 155**

**Sept. 1949 "Love and Tiddlywinks" p. 76 "I had forgotten what 'Tiddlywinks' meant."  
(It meant "making love".)**

**Also: p. 120 "These are my Mental Setting-up Exercises: David Shulman**

**p. 22 (9th, "Yarn" pictures ) Bio**

**Feb. 1950 "One More Martini" p. 83**

**Feb. 1952 "Miss Medford's Moon...Adventure in 2215 p. 34**

**Condition: Sept. 1949 is missing its back cover and a coupon has been clipped.**

**Otherwise, all are VG. All are signed by Martin Gardner.**

The list misses the twelfth short story "Old Man Gloom" which appears in the November, 1950 issue of *Esquire*.

It may be difficult to find nice copies of these old magazines, but, as usual, Gardner has supplied us with reprints of most of the stories; his *No Sided-Professor*, 1987, Prometheus Books, contains ten of them. It omits the February 1952 story altogether and about "Flo's Freudian Slip," October, 1947, Gardner says "Esquire cut and rewrote the story, but when I read my original text it was even worse, so I tore it up."

Some asides gleaned from the Prometheus book. About October, 1946: "[this] was the first story for which I got paid." January, 1947: "Forgive the crude pun." [on the name Slapenarski] January, 1948: In the book the title is "Nora Says Check". May, 1948: In the book the title is "At the Feet of Karl Klodhopper". September, 1949: "... this disgusting yarn. . ."

## MORE ETYMOLOGICAL CURIOSITIES

ANIL

Perth, Australia

### • SEXTUPLY WEIRD

**whetstone** Wets t' hone.

This <sup>1</sup>homophonic <sup>2</sup>anagram <sup>3</sup>definition is already highly unusual but goes on to become a perhaps unique curiosity in its <sup>4</sup>etymology, a <sup>5</sup>paradox. Neither **stone** nor **whet** is related to **hone**, yet **hone** as a noun *means* whetstone and comes from a word that *means* stone (OE *han*) and from an earlier word that *means* whetstone (Skt. *sana*)! **Stone** instead traces back to I-E *stai-*, *sti-*, **whet** is from OE/Germanic words meaning sharp(en), and **wet** has the same origin as water, but here it usually means wet with oil. <sup>6</sup>In addition, the anagram is a near charade, simply moving one letter (h).

### • SAME BUT DIFFERENT

**Defer** and **deter** are unrelated yet have the same definition, **put off**, in two different senses.



### • QUADRUPLE PUN?

**Websters weave webs, weft/woof interwoven.**

This nearly tautological definition of webster is composed only of related words, not surprisingly. What's surprising is the quadruple pun. Webster is an old word for **weaver**, interpretable as: 1) human weaver; 2) spider; 3) surfer, web surfer, webmaster; 4) Noah Webster's alphabetical web.

### • QUADRUPLE COINCIDENTAL SIMILARITIES

The word **bound** has four similar meanings from four unrelated origins.

- 1) obliged, fastened <past tense of bind <band (fasten).
- 2) boundary <OF *bonde*, *borne*, bone.
- 3) intending, toward <OIce *buinn*, *bun* (get ready, dwell).
- 4) leap <F. *bondir*, rebound, spring, make a resounding noise; related to bomb.

The meanings overlap heavily, all implying limitation, edge or aim/move toward. 1-2 are actually opposites of 3-4, stationary vs. moving. Compare **rack** in the Aug.'18 Mean Sidewalks.

### • 2 TRIPLE COINCIDENTAL SIMILARITIES

1) three unrelated but related-looking word groups all meaning divide/divided/division:

**separate** <pare.

**sept 1, septate, septum** <L. *saeptus*, enclose.

**sept 2** (tribe division) <sect/ion.



2) **found** is 3 homographic cognates, all ≈ bring into being or awareness.)

- a) find, past tense <OE *finden*, come upon.
- b) base, establish <bottom, lay foundation.
- c) mold, cast (metal, in a foundry) <mix, melt together.



• MORE SINGLE COINCIDENTAL (etymologically unrelated) SELF-SIMILARITIES

**briar** plants: 1) thorny bush; 2) also **brier**, heath plant > brier pipe.

**keel** marine vessels: 1) spine of a ship, a ship (poetic); 2) a type of boat, a barge.

**meal** food: 1) ground grain; 2) a repast <measure.

**muse** thought-producers: n.) goddess, poetic inspiration; vb) ponder, entertain (an idea), amuse.

**policy** plans, practices: 1) government program, plan of action; 2) insurance contract

**tarry** delay(er)s: 1) delay; 2) like tar (a delayer).

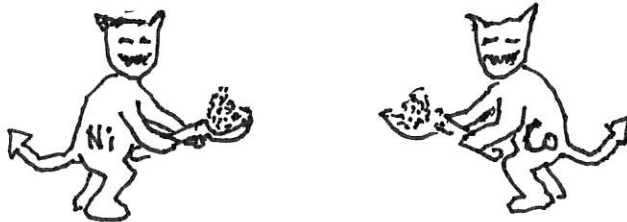
And a coincidental self antonym:

**yard** size opposites: 1) something large (lawn or garden) vs. 2) something small (3 ft. length).

(Yard 2 once meant penis! What?? Of an elephant or whale?)

• EVIL METALS

Tho not related, **cobalt** and **nickel** were both named after demons by superstitious miners. Nickel first meant demon or the Devil, Old **Nick**. Cobalt is from **kobold**, a goblin or demon.



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Authors are encouraged to send computer-ready articles in Microsoft Word with the following specifications:

Title: 14 pt Times New Roman BOLD  
Text: 12 pt Times New Roman  
Page Size: 7 inches horizontal, 9 inches vertical

Diagrams and the like should be drafted in black or India ink in a form suitable for photo-offset.

In non-fiction articles, the responsibility for the accuracy of any statement rests primarily with the author. The general scope of any investigation should be defined: for example, a statement that words have been taken from the *Merriam-Webster Collegiate Dictionary* or the *Merriam-Webster Unabridged Dictionary, Third Edition.*, or place names taken from the *Times Index-Gazetteer of the World*. If a word or name comes from an unusual source, this should be identified. Footnotes in general should be avoided; references can be given either in the text or at the end of the article.

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