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An English Institution

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He's a cross
word man

Cryptic
Often obscure

He probes
hidden meanings
on the page

He's a word man
a national enquirer
looking for clues

Conjuring
with dictionaries
Solutions seldom
elude
him

Words sometimes fail me . . . not the word man

He's quite quiet
in his quest for
control

Precise definitions
please him

Don't interrupt
his ritual
dissection

Forty down
Symbol of nations' mood
that gives one firm footing (9)

One across
Knowledgeable man
takes a front position
in street (six letters)

Ten down
Form of set
on which you can get
nothing? (6)

101 down
Society's best part?
That's very funny! (6)

75 across
Not a particular
individual (7)

Seven down
Amongst tottering peers
always keep trying (9)

Three down
But it does not produce
a cube-root (5-4)

Four across
Control before
division (7)

Eleven across
English in newspapers
shows passion (5)