

## ANSWERS AND SOLUTIONS

### MAMA, ME SHEMIGHVINIANEBIA by Harry Partridge

Common Adjectives 1e, 2a, 3d, 4c, 5f, 6b

Times 1b, 2c, 3e, 4f, 5d, 6a

Names of Immediate Kin 1d, 2a, 3e, 4f, 5c, 6b

Simple Verbs 1e, 2d, 3b, 4f, 5a, 6c

Long Words 1b, 2f, 3a, 4e, 5d, 6c

Words Certainly and Possibly Related to English Words 1c, 2f, 3a, 4e, 5b, 6d

The infamous speaker is Joseph Stalin, born Djughashvili, Dzhughashvili, or Jugashvili, i.e., son of Juga (a family name; Stalin's patronymic was Vissarionovich).

The language is Georgian, spoken in the country of Georgia in the Caucasus, for centuries an independent kingdom, taken over by Russia at the turn of the nineteenth century, and independent again briefly from May 26, 1918 till February 11, 1921 when it was forced to become the Georgian SSR of the USSR.

### AUTHOR! AUTHOR! AUTHOR! by Richard Lederer

1. Edgar Poe 2. Katherine Porter 3. Edwin Robinson 4. Thomas Macaulay 5. Elizabeth Browning 6. Harriet Stowe 7. George Shaw 8. Clare Luce 9. William Yeats 10. Percy Shelley 11. William Williams 12. Joel Harris 13. Clement Moore 14. Arthur Doyle 15. John Ransome 16. Henry Thoreau 17. William Howells 18. James Cooper 19. Dante Rossetti 20. John Whittier 21. Laura Wilder 22. Marjorie Rawlings 23. Paul Dunbar 24. Ernest Thayer 25. Edgar Masters 26. Robert Stevenson 27. William Thackeray 28. Gerard Hopkins 29. Louisa Alcott 30. John Synge 31. Zora Hurston 32. Sarah Jewett 33. Finlay Dunne 34. Edgar Burroughs 35. James Lowell 36. Edna Millay 37. Walter Landor 38. Samuel Coleridge 39. Stephen Benet 40. Henry Longfellow 41. Ralph Emerson 42. Julia Howe 43. Oliver Holmes 44. James Riley 45. Arthur Pinero

### KICKSHAWS by David Morice

**Time Travel Lovers** Joe is Bill's father and son, and Bill is Joe's father and son. Furthermore, Joe is his own grandfather, and Bill is his own grandfather. It's relativity!

**Country Talk** "Oh, man, can you lick ten stein? Molly, can he sweeten malt dives? You going to sing or pour malt, a can of the grease? Send a gal, then mark Sue, Dan," our gent in a chily bar bade us. Gab on! I'll jeer you, I'll ban you. Did you make a sale on tobacco? Cut our fee, gee, louse. He gypped Britt, and I ran. I rack you! Wait! "More rock, oh! Pal, a stein our way. Yeah, men! Serious pain is real." Nay, pal's got land, saw

the air, a bee, a pole, and can you see air alone? Vic tore you, tans a knee, a toe. Go! Half gone is tan. Fran's going to rush you.

**Foreign Correspondence** The first sentence is composed of the names of Hebrew letters, and the second, Arabic - according to Elsevier's University Desk Encyclopedia.

**Greco-American Graffiti** Fraternity boys are called frat rats, as many people know. Sorority girls, however, suffer the more derogatory term sore whores, from the first two syllables of soror-ity. I've only heard that term used by female non-sorority students.

**Mixellaneous Quiz** 1. The Jefferson nickel, because of the word MONTICELLO, has fifteen words; all the others have 14. 2. Saturn, Uranus, and Venus are the hot planets, since each contains the word SUN hidden among its letters; Saturn is the hottest, with both SUN and STAR. 3. Megadecaphobia = MEGA (big) + DECA (ten) + PHOBIA (fear), means "fear of the Big Ten." 4. SIN (Voice 1 robbed a bank), SIN (Voice 2 robbed a bank), and NATTY (Voice 2 was well-dressed). Thus, CINCINNATI was the scene of the robbery, but the bigger crime was the triple-pun answer.

**Mystery Monickers** a-1, b-3, c-1, d-2, e-1, f-3, g-3, h-1, i-1, j-2, k-1, l-2, m-3, n-2, o-2, p-1, q-3, r-2, s-3, t-3, u-1, v-2, w-1, x-2, y-3, z-1

**Priming the Alphabet** (1) The vowels in English have odd-numbered positional values, A=1, E=5, I=9, O=15, U=21, Y=25. The six vowel-less alphabets are formed from even-numbered series (Prime-Plus-Odd) which would never produce an odd number to convert to a vowel no matter how far the prime progression was extended. (2) The thirteen odd-numbered series (Prime and all Prime-Plus-Even) produce vowels because vowels occupy odd-numbered positions. Seven of the even-numbered series (Prime-Plus-Odd) have a vowel, but only in the first position, because the first prime number is 2. Adding certain odd numbers (3, 7, 13, 19, 23, 25) to 2 produces the initial vowels. (3) Fourteen letters. Although only 13 appear in the first 26 primes, the 27th prime (103) converts to a 14th letter. After that, the 13 different letters produced from the 2nd to the 27th prime repeat randomly ad infinitum, and the letter from the first prime is never seen again.

**Panning for Bigrams - Can You Do It?** Since bigrams are two-letter pairs, there are 26 x 26 of them, or 676, with a total of 1352 letters. By overlapping every single bigram, the lowest panbigrammatic paragraph would have 677 letters (676 plus 1, because the first and last letters cannot overlap with each other to form one of the bigrams. (Examples of such "paragraphs" for two-, three- and four-letter alphabets are AABBA, AABCCACBBA, and DBAABCDDBA-CBBDCCAD.)

**BRIT WIT: A SLANG QUIZ** by Leonard R. N. Ashley

1. tailor's term for a badly-made buttonhole 2. it's snowing 3. convoluted mess of highway interchanges 4. lock someone out 5.

day off from work (when a wife says "Honey, do this" and "Honey, do that" around the house) 6. coastal captain allegedly navigating by sound of local dogs barking ashore 7. flight of English to Eire in late 1940s to avoid heavy taxation 8. tobacco made from butts picked up in the street 9. very skinny 10. open lorry 11. crazy (from disinfectant Harpic's advertisement that it can "clean round the bend") 12. get her pregnant 13. treacle on rice pudding 14. sports car that can "pick up bits of fluff (that is, girls)" 15. Victorian fiction about women who went sexually astray 16. I don't care if I go blind (from masturbating) 17. demure 18. odd-looking person (compared to a piece of meat shown in a butcher's window) 19. the answer is not affirmative (or bad news) 20. thief of silver plate 21. kiss my behind 22. very campy (effeminate) 23. pert answer to "Do you have the time?" 24. mythical birds more responsible for babies than storks are 25. bribery ("crossing the palm with silver")

#### CROSS OF UNDERSTANDING by Walter Shedlofsky

The dictionary contains a peculiar irony. Not only is "confessor" (middle acrostic of cross) defined as "one who confesses," but also "a priest who hears confessions".

Statement of Ownership, Management and Circulation (Act of August 12, 1970; Section 3685, Title 39, United States Code)

Title of Publication: Word Ways, the Journal of Recreational Linguistics. Frequency of issue: quarterly. Location of Office of Publication: Spring Valley Road, Morristown, New Jersey 07960. Location of Business Offices of the Publishers: Spring Valley Road, Morristown, New Jersey 07960. Name and Address of Publisher, Editor, Managing Editor and Owner: A. Ross Eckler, Spring Valley Road, Morristown, New Jersey 07960. Known Bondholders, Mortgagees and other Security Holders: None.

Extent and Nature of Circulation (first number gives average number of copies each issue during preceding 12 months, second number gives actual number of copies of single issue published nearest to filing date): Total no. copies printed (537;500). Paid circulation - mail subscriptions (422;404); total paid circulation (422;404); complimentary and other free copies (5;5); total distribution (427;409); office use, left over, unaccounted (110;91); total (537;500).

I certify that the statements made by me above are correct and complete /s/ Faith W. Eckler, Bus. Mgr., October 11, 1987

Publication Number 998640