

ANSWERS AND SOLUTIONS

CRYPTO CROSSWORD Boris Randolph

Horticultural brainbuster: Have you a green thumb for words? There are flowers and other plants all around the border of this puzzle, with some inside.

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

ETYMOLOGY RIDDLES Barbara Hunt Lazerson

- They both "ripen" early.
Etymology: Precocious is from Latin *praecox*, 'ripening before its time'; and apricot is from Latin (*prunum*)*praecoquum*, "early ripening (plum)". Both of these are in turn derived from Latin *praecoquere*, "to cook or ripen before": *prae-* "before" + *coquere* "to ripen, cook". Latin *coquere* can be traced back to the Indo-European root **pekw-*, "to cook, ripen".
Cognates: cook, cuisine, kiln, kitchen, biscuit, concoct, peptic
- They are both stiff.
Etymology: Both starch and stork are derived from the Indo-European root **ster-* meaning "stiff". A collar is made stiff by adding starch or "stiffening" to it; the stork was probably named after the stiff movements that it makes.
Cognates: stare, stark, stern, stereotype, stereophonic, cholesterol, starve
- They are all "great"!
Etymology: The Indo-European root **meg-* has produced a plethora of words. Seven of the words in the riddle are from Latin. Omega is from Greek *o mega*, meaning "large o". Maharajah is derived from Sanskrit *maha*, "great".
Cognates: mickle, magnanimous, magnitude, majesty, maxim, maximum, majuscule

4. When they travel on foot.

Etymology: Both pioneer and pedestrian are derived from the Indo-European root *ped- "foot". Originally the Old French word pionier meant "a foot soldier sent out to clear the way".

Cognates: fetter, pedigree, sesquipedalian, trivet, impeach, impeccable, pejoration, impair

5. They are both "heavy," man, "heavy"!

Etymology: Both gravid and guru are derived from the Indo-European root *gwer- "heavy". A pregnant woman is heavy in the physical sense; a guru is heavy in a non-physical sense.

Cognates: gravity, grieve, aggravate, brigade, blitzkrieg, quern

6. Our linguistic forefathers thought that both were milky.

Etymology: Galaxy comes from Greek gala, "milk"; and lettuce comes from Latin lac, "milk". Both are in turn derived from the Indo-European root *melg- "to rub off; to milk".

Cognates: emulsion, milk, lactate

KICKSHAWS Will Shortz

Three Questions: 1) All letters in the words are symmetrical around a vertical axis; write the words vertically, hold a mirror at their side, and their reflection will appear the same as the printing on the page 2) HIAWATHA 3) MOUTH-TO-MOUTH

Lipograms: 1) Crimson, canary, and shamrock 2) Jimmy and Fritz 3) A good British crossword (others have suggested "conubial bliss") 4) Fifth digit, twixt D and F

Curious Puzzle: The shutters were divided vertically just to the left of the I in the top line; cover up the left side of the legend and read the message I SHALL DANCE DAILY AND UTTER LOUD SCREAMS IN THIS WINDOW LISTEN AFTER 8 P. M.

And Literally So: c) Sun (Galileo'S UNiverse) d) Transit (trains + T) e) Imam (I'm + a + M) f) Prague (a purge) g) Nero (insaNE ROman) h) Train (two meanings) i) China (cha + in) j) Mirage (image + r) k) Doldrums (do + ld + rums) l) Breasts (bra sets)

Pig Latin Refresher Course: a) winnow, Inouye b) phallus, Alice Faye (both courtesy of Doug Heller)

NICKNAMES IN THESE UNITED STATES L. R. N. Ashley

1. Robert Morris 2. Theodore Roosevelt 3. Martin Van Buren (perhaps one ought to say, the first US president born in the United States) 4. Andrew Jackson 5. Franklin Delano Roosevelt (FDR) 6. George Armstrong Custer, whom the Indians called "Yellow Hair" 7. A naval battle on the Delaware River in January 1778 8. John Barry 9. "Ike" Eisenhower's first cabinet was so described -- the plumber was Martin Durkin, who didn't last long 10. Jonathan Trumbull --

for awhile "Brother Jonathan" was interchangeable with "Yankee" to describe a subject of Uncle Sam 11. Henry Rowe Schoolcraft
 12. James Naismith is supposed to have invented the game in Springfield (Mass.) in 1892, but did not design it for players seven feet tall
 13. General Nathanael Green of the Revolutionary "Continental" Army
 14. Texas has been under the flags of Spain, France, Mexico, The Republic of Texas, The Confederate States of America, and The United States; The Texas Republic's flag was "The Lone Star" and the Confederacy's "The Stars and Bars" 15. That of President Lyndon Baines Johnson
 16. Virginia was the Mother of Presidents Washington, Jefferson, Madison, Monroe, Harrison, Tyler, Taylor, and Wilson
 17. Lucy, Mrs. Rutherford B. Hayes, insisted on serving lemonade in place of wine in the Executive Mansion (commonly called the White House)
 18. Slum dwellers in the Depression of the 1930s called their living quarters Hooverville 19. Jimmy (James Earl) Carter
 20. Theodore Roosevelt 21. Lincoln, "Honest Abe" 22. Andrew Jackson
 23. Joshua A. Norton of San Francisco called himself "Norton I" and was humored by the citizens of the Golden Gate 24. Maverick
 25. John Tyler 26. Alben Barkley, vice-president under Harry S Truman
 27. King George's War (the US had also a King Philip's War and many others)
 28. The Mugwumps (from an Indian word, it is said, for chief)
 29. Tammany Hall, a term eventually synonymous with dishonest politics
 30. When the lights went out, Captain Wadsworth snatched up the charter, ran from the room, and hid the paper in a nearby tree, Charter Oak
 31. When the lights went out (the minority was trying to stop the meeting), the Democrats at the national convention in New York (1835) lit matches to provide light
 32. The Know-Nothing Party
 33. John Eliot of Massachusetts Colony
 34. Oklahoma, the name indicating haste to get there
 35. The Straight-Outs
 36. Zachary Taylor
 37. John Fitzgerald Kennedy (JFK)
 38. Thomas Jefferson, Monticello being the name of his Virginia estate
 39. Franklin Delano Roosevelt
 40. Vermont

LOGOLOGICAL CROSSWORDS Ralph G. Beaman

The two words are the all-vowel EUOUAE and the all-consonant CRWTHS.