

ANSWERS AND SOLUTIONS

THE STATES WE'RE IN Richard Lederer

1. NH, NJ, NM, NY, NC, ND, RI, SC, SD, WV 2. MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT 3. NC, ND, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NV, NY 4. AL, AK, AR, CA, FL, GA, IN, IA, LA, MN, MT, NE, NV, NC, ND, OK, PA, SC, SD, VA, WV 5. OH 6. IN (Spanish for "land of the Indians") 7. WA 8. GA (for King George II of England), LA (for King Louis XIV of France), MD (for Queen Henrietta Maria), the wife of King Charles I of England), PA ("Penn's Woods" for William Penn) and VA and WV (for Queen Elizabeth I, Virgin Queen of England) are the most obvious, but one can add CA (for Calafia, the queen of an imaginary island in a 16th-century Spanish book), DE (for the first governor of Virginia colony, Lord De La Warr), NM (Mexico commemorates the Aztec war god Mexitil) and NY (for the Duke of York, of England) 9. Exactly half: AK (Aleutian), AL (Creek), AR (Sioux), AZ (Papago), CT (Algonquin), HI (Polynesian), IA (Ouaouiatonon), ID (Shoshone), IL (Illini), KS (Sioux), KY (Cherokee), MA (Algonquin), MI (Chippewa), MN (Sioux), MO (Fox), MS (Ojibway), ND (Sioux), NE (Oto), OH (Iroquois), OK (Choctaw), SD (Sioux), TN (Cherokee), TX (Tejas), UT (Ute), WI (Algonquin), WY (Delaware) 10. MS, TN 11. HI, TN 12. AL, AZ, CO, DE, ID, OR, NV, NM (in separate words), TX, UT 13. MA, NC, NC, with 13 letters 14. IA, OH 15. HI, LA 16. AL, LA; MN, NM 17. DE, HI, MN, NM, UT, WV 18. Q 19. MS (ississi) 20. A and a (MO, MS, OH)

THE PEOPLE IN SLANGUAGE Leonard R. N. Ashley

1. No, thanks (to a sexual offer). Supposedly Napoleon to his empress.
2. I'm walking out of here. Walker is actually a surname from textile manufacturing, along with Fuller and Tucker.
3. I'm just out of jail. Captain Bates was a nineteenth-century prison warden in the United Kingdom.
4. You go first. From the excessively-polite characters in Frederick Burr Opper's (d.1937) comic strip "Alphonse and Gaston". The United Kingdom also has "after you, Claude", etc., from the radio show "It's That Man Again".
5. Everything's OK. May be from **bob**, meaning "safe" in United Kingdom slang.
6. Simply **sure**, elaborated, from the Twenties United States vaudeville team of Gallagher & Sheen. "Absolutely, Mr. Gallagher." "Positively, Mr. Sheen."
7. United Kingdom sailor's slang for **never**. In full, "When Paddy Doyle gets paid for his boots."
8. You're not alone (like the stranded hero of Defoe's **Robinson Crusoe**).

9. You've done something egregious (Ned Kelly was a famous criminal in nineteenth-century Australia).
10. I don't get the joke; I don't think that's funny. Joe Miller was a famous British jokester on whom a book of hoary jokes was fathered.
11. He crashed (Sir Isaac Newton being associated with the force of gravity). The RCAF also said "he bought the farm".
12. Very odd (not necessarily as in the United States term "queer as a three-dollar bill"). Some Englishman named Richard had an unusual (very long) hatband.
13. To have it "made". Errol Flynn, the movie actor, was famous for "making it" with both sexes. It now has non-sexual connotations as well.
14. Don't be a fool, like some unidentified Judy Fitzsimmons.
15. No one could miss that. Blind Freddie seems to have been an Australian character in Sydney in the early part of this century.
16. Ignore criticism. Eighteenth-century actor David Garrick is said to have written good reviews of his own performances.
17. Everything's fine. Sir Garnet Woolsey (later Viscount Woolsey) was an admirable soldier of the last century.
18. I wish I could give you good luck. William Kemp was a comedian in Shakespeare's company who once danced, on a bet, for three days from London to Norwich.
19. Dressed to the nines, in full fig. Mrs. Vincent Astor was a New York socialite.
20. He is confused (perhaps about his sex role). The British also have "Alice or Agnes", etc.
21. Let 'er rip! Originally, an instruction to a rodeo rider.
22. He drinks, you know; he's a lush. Alderman Lushington is a fictitious hard-drinking Englishman.
23. Dr. Livingstone disappeared in Africa. Henry Stanley found him and is supposed to have greeted him this formally. Now the expression is a jocular "hello".
24. General Douglas MacArthur was driven out of the Philippines by the Japanese, and made a vow to return. He eventually did so--twice, in case the cameras didn't get it the first time. The phrase is jokingly "I'll be back".
25. No bloody good, from the Yorkshire expression "It's too short for Richard, too long for Dick", meaning **useless**.
26. I'm not made of money, so stop making such demands! John D. Rockefeller was a famous millionaire.
27. That's old news. There was a time (in 1714) when the death of Queen Anne was fresh news.
28. Murphy's Law is that anything that can go wrong, will.
29. Now things are getting interesting. Nobody knows who M'Ginty was, but whatever happened to his goat was exciting.
30. The Great Detective, Sherlock Holmes, always said this to his astonished sidekick, Dr. Watson, in Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's stories. Now, it's simply "Simple!"
31. Perform some amazing stunt. Steve Brody said he jumped off the Brooklyn Bridge and survived.

32. Drug him. Some Irish bartender named Mickey Finn appears to have slipped chloral into the drinks of unsuspecting customers who were then robbed, shanghaied, etc.
33. I want to be alone. The Swedish actress Greta Garbo is supposed often to have expressed this desire. The phrase is usually spoken in some kind of Swedish accent.
34. On an old television series the film actress Loretta Young, the hostess of "The Loretta Young Show", made her entrance with a pirouette in order to show off her long skirt. Now it means simply to try to attract great attention.
35. An Englishman's way of saying "Don't expect too much of me" or "I'm not up to the task you want to give me". Samson was, of course, the strongman hero of the Bible. The surname Simpson is just chosen for alliteration.

EGDOPEGDOH John Ferguson

The category rules are (1) conventional groups of three, (2) "as a" similes, (3) apostrophized people, (4) phrases pertaining to countries, and (5) animals. There are only 19 animals, so the phrase must be horse OPERA. The latter word is placed between GOULASH and SKIP in the reverse-alphabetized list.

Wynken BLYNKEN & Nod, wrinkled as a PRUNE, wine WOMEN & song, Whistler's MOTHER, Welsh RAREBIT, Webster's DICTIONARY, Turkish BATH, Tom DICK & Harry, tiger LILY, Swiss CHEESE

Swedish NIGHTINGALE, stubborn as a MULE, stop LOOK & listen, Spanish MAIN, solid as a ROCK, snap CRACKLE pop, sly as a FOX, skunk CABBAGE, Siamese TWINS, shake RATTLE & roll

Seward's FOLLY, Russian ROULETTE, Roget's THESAURUS, red WHITE & blue, ready WILLING & able, rather, rabbit PUNCH, quick as a FLASH, proud as a PEACOCK, poor as a CHURCHMOUSE

pony EXPRESS, pigEON, Peter PAUL & Mary, Pandora's BOX, oxFORD, nutty as a FRUITCAKE, Noah's ARK, neat as a PIN, monkeySHINE, Martha's VINEYARD

mad as a HORNET, love HONOR & obey, lock STOCK & barrel, light as a FEATHER, knife FORK & spoon, kitty LITTER, kangaroo COURT, Jehovah's WITNESSES, Japanese BEETLES, Jamaican RUM

Irish SWEEPSTAKES, Indian GIVER, Hungarian GOULASH, hop SKIP & jump, hook LINE & sinker, hogWASH, health EDUCATION & welfare, happy as a LARK, Hamlet's SOLILOQUY, Halley's COMET

Gulliver's TRAVELS, Grecian URN, Grant's TOMB, gold FRANKINCENSE & myrrh, goatHERD, German MEASLES, fresh as a DAISY, French FRIES, fox TROT, fit as a FIDDLE

Finian's RAINBOW, faith HOPE & charity, Dutch TREAT, dogMA, deerFLY, dead as a DOORNAIL, Dante's INFERNO, Danish PASTRY, cute as a BUTTON, crazy as a LOON

cowCATCHER, cool as a CUCUMBER, Cook's TOUR, Chinese CHECKERS, Charlie's AUNT, catWALK, Canadian BACON, busy as a BEE, bull-

ION, blind as a BAT

bewitched BOTHERED & bewildered, bell BOOK & candle, bear HUG, Bartlett's QUOTATIONS, bacon LETTUCE & tomato, Australian CRAWL, Aladdin's LAMP, Aesop's FABLES, Adam's APPLE

KICKSHAWS David Morice

Daedalus's Poetry Maze The solution path is 1-6-42-15-4-11-47-22-21-23-29-50-17-19-53-55-59-33-43-28-7-34-49-30-58-60-63-27-37-39-18-64. The alternative path is 8-3-44-13-9-2-24-45-14-16-52-31-56-54-10-12-35-57-41-26-5-36-51-32-38-40-61-25-46-48-62-20.

The King's Riddle My answers: "my dog and my doe" suggests that Doe is the dog's name; and "I told you already" suggests that already should be taken literally as a name instead of an adverb. The student's answer: "Buck." He'd reasoned that "my dog and my doe" suggests "my Buck and my doe." Of course!

Fish Story She misread the sack marked GAR BAG E and tossed it in the dumpster.

Today's Menu: Sad "Yum" Note 1 Cauliflower au gratin 2 Poached salmon steak 3 Broccoli flan 4 Prunes and custard 5 Lancashire hotpot 6 Eggs Florentine 7 Marmalade puddings 8 Sardines on toast 9 Fruit salad with ice cream 10 Bon appetit!

A BOOK OF WORD RECORDS

Word Ways readers may be interested in purchasing for \$12.95 a photocopy of **Our Fabulous Language: The Alphabet Dictionary**, an unpublished manuscript of 224 pages by Murray Geller (PO Box 671, La Canada CA 91012). Using 258,000 words extracted (by hand!) from the third edition of the unabridged Merriam-Webster (1961) and Webster's New Twentieth Century Dictionary of the English Language (1956), he has created an anagram dictionary and from this extracted multitudinous word records in the spirit of Chris Cole's "Word Records From Webster's Third" (May 1990). This labor of love deserves a place on the bookshelf of the serious logologist.