

## SCRABBLE PANGRAMS

DARRYL FRANCIS  
Hounslow, Middlesex, England

Using the letter-distribution of the game of Scrabble (allowing the two blank tiles to represent any desired letters), what is the smallest number of words that can be made using all the letters? This problem was posed on the Competitions page of the June 1973 Games & Puzzles Magazine; the winner, R. E. Jerome of Berkshire, England, managed to use up all 100 Scrabble tiles in only seven words. His solution:

JACK-GO-TO-BED-AT-NOON EXPERIMENTALIZES  
HONORIFICABILITUDINITY QUEEN-OF-THE-MEADOWS  
DELIVERY-VANS WARRAGALS UPSURGE (S, N blanks)

The rules of the competition stipulated that all words should appear in Chambers Twentieth Century Dictionary, the British equivalent (as far as size goes) to Webster's Seventh New Collegiate Dictionary.

If more dictionaries are allowed as sources, can this achievement be bettered? Even when Webster's Second and Third Editions and the Funk & Wagnalls New Standard Dictionary are allowed, seven words seems to be the limit, but the number of hyphenated words can be reduced to one:

ETHYLENEDIAMINETETRAACETATE REFURBISH  
DIOXYDIAMIDOARSENOBENZOL WESTWARD-LOOKING  
JUGOSLAVIC EQUIPPING FAVOUR (I, D blanks)

If Dorland's Illustrated Medical Dictionary is also allowed, a large number of solutions using only one hyphenated word appear. A typical solution is:

DIMETHYLSULFANILAMIDOISOXAZOLE PUBERTIC  
STEREOROENTGENOGRAPHY EQUIVOCATED  
OVERURBANIZATION KNIFE-JAWED WAGS (O, Z blanks)

Can a seven-word solution with no hyphens be found? Is a six-word solution possible? For those who wish to carry on further research, the distribution of Scrabble letters (in addition to the two blank tiles) is A-9, B-2, C-2, D-4, E-12, F-2, G-3, H-2, I-9, J-1, K-1, L-4, M-2, N-6, O-8, P-2, Q-1, R-6, S-4, T-6, U-4, V-2, W-2, X-1, Y-2, and Z-1.