The recent publication of Mrs. Byrne's Dictionary (reviewed elsewhere in this issue) prompts me to ask if readers of Word Ways really know their unusual, obscure and preposterous words. Below are 21 subjects and three columns of words. For each subject, find a word from each column that goes with it. For example, under BLIND (No. 2) one should select abacinate (17), chionablepsia (5) and exoculate (1). This is abbreviated as 2: 17-5-1. That leaves 20 combinations for you to match. Score yourself 5 for each correct group. A score of 70 or less (see Answers and Solutions) suggests you had better read MBD.

1 BALDNESS abacinate eyot exoculate
2 BLIND ariolation jerrican xenoepist
3 CALL TO DOGS firkin rammish scree
4 COWARD fescennine ingle deipnosophist
5 DINING kharmsin popolo popoloeo quakerbuttock
6 DIRTY appanage cenacle ischidrosis
7 DUST STORM mijoheer jadu bonamano
8 FORTUNETELLING accubation phreatic holm
9 GALLON CONTAINERS nide shaman rab
10 GROUP OF BIRDS meacock manbote staboy
11 HOMOSEXUAL BOY accuhation phreatic kilderkin
12 HORNY barbaralalia paddling immund mungo
13 DEATH PAYMENT catamite atrichia rutlish
14 SMALL ISLAND pornerastic mungo weurgild
15 SPEECH (FOREIGN) abacinate scopelism simoom
16 STONES fud mortling wallet
17 SWEATING eric nithing sord
18 TIP hirr baksheesh calvitie
19 TITLE cairn mirza desudation
20 UNDERGROUND H2O bletonism moil

Hint: a special feature about each group of three should help you.