ANSWERS AND SOLUTIONS

BLUNT INSTRUMENT CAPER Walter Shedlofsky

Howard Bauer, chemist, was the one most likely to own a blunt instrument. The blunt instrument used to commit the crime, MICROSCOPE, is a rearrangement of the letters CRIME SCOOP (the first letters of each line) and COMIC PROSE (the sixteenth letters of each line). It can be read off from a diagonal acrostic consisting of the 6th letter of the first line, the 7th letter of the second line, ..., the 15th letter of the tenth line.

CREATIVE CHRONOGRAMS Paul Hellweg

1. MDCVII = 1607 (founding of Jamestown) 2. MCMIII = 1903 (first airplane flight) 3. MCMX = 1910 (appearance of Halley's Comet) 4. MCMLIII = 1953 (Hillary climbs Everest)

HE'S LIKE A LAMP, I SWEAR! M. X. Houdini


TWELFTH ONE THE SAME ONE PLEASE SHAKESPEARE

WORDS THAT...

Labour's Lost) 61. Nestor (Troilus and Cressida) 62. Oliver (As You Like It) 63. Olivia (What You Will) 64. Othello (Othello) 65. Owen (King Henry IV, Part I) 66. Page (All’s Well That Ends Well) 67. Paris (Romeo and Juliet) 68. Peter (King Henry VI, Part II) 69. Peto (King Henry IV, Part II) 70. Romeo (Romeo and Juliet) 71. Salerio (The Merchant of Venice) 72. Satan (The Comedy of Errors) 73. Shallow (Merry Wives of Windsor) 74. Sir (Twelfth Night) 75. Snout (A Midsummer Night’s Dream) 76. Snug (A Midsummer Night’s Dream) 77. Son (Macbeth) 78. Stanley (King Henry VI, Part III) 79. Strato (Julius Caesar) 80. Talbot (King Henry VI, Part I) 81. Tamora (Titus Andronicus) 82. Tib (All’s Well That Ends Well) 83. Timon (Timon of Athens) 84. Titania (A Midsummer Night’s Dream) 85. Tom (A Midsummer Night’s Dream) 86. Tranio (The Taming of the Shrew) 87. Tressel (King Richard III) 88. Tubal (The Merchant of Venice) 89. Tyriel (King Richard III) 90. Ulysses (Troilus and Cressida) 91. Varro (Julius Caesar) 92. Vaux (King Henry VIII) 93. Velutus (Coriolanus) 94. Walter (King Henry VI, Part II) 95. Wolsey (King Henry VIII)

TWELFTH NIGHT and WHAT YOU WILL are two different names for the same one play. This explains why there are 38 different play titles when Shakespeare only wrote 37 plays.

WORDS THAT DIDN'T MAKE IT Frank A. Magary

1. ordinate, sident 2. domitable, somnia 3. cognito, appointed 4. consolate, imical 5. parate, posable 6. sipid, fidel 7. nocent, astrous 8. overling, pudent 9. ane, fant 10. famy, parage 11. ept, eased 12. ert, ruly 13. kempt, gust 14. robe, card 15. Inimical was originally in-amical (related to amicable) but the vowels often change under stress 7. Nocent is listed in the dictionary as rare, and not meaning 'guilty' 8. Astrous is the most interesting if you like astrology. Dis aster meant originally 'a baleful aspect of a planet or star', so astrous should mean that the heavenly bodies are in the right place 9. Fans, pres. part. of Latin verb fari to speak 10. Parage is related to peerage. Disparage meant to lower someone in rank by words or actions 11. Inept was originally in-apt, the a changing to e

WE FEW? Chaim Fleischman

AN AMAZINGLY APPEALING ADDICTION  Richard Lederer

13. cat  14. caper  15. duck (or drunk)  16. doornail  17. fiction
23. fancy free  24. heels  25. heels  26. heels  27. hay
28. hike  29. jawed  30. court  31. cousins  32. caboodle  33. kin
34. meat  35. never  36. pound foolish  37. peev  38. poke  39. pan
40. picture  41. riches  42. sound  43. sorry  44. shrift  45. silk
46. thieves  47. thin  48. tide  49. tribulations  50. wane

KICKSHAWS  Louis Phillips

What's the Question?  1. what do you spank the sun with?  2. why couldn't anyone hear the bee take pollen from the flower?  3. can you name Superman's younger brother?  4. is Finger a king or duke or what?  5. what did Priscilla whisper to John Alden when John suggested they bundle?  6. what do you open a chess-player's locker with?  7. on what charge was a young man brought to court for going to bed with a pheasant?  8. in plotting the assassination of Abraham Lincoln, what is one think Mary Surratt did not do?  9. what does a judge in a spitting contest do?  10. what was the headline in the Missionary News about missionary work in Texas universities?

Loony Logos  1. ace in the hole  2. hunchback  3. rivals in love
4. vanishing cream  5. smallpox infection  6. archaic  7. deep in the heart of Texas  8. dramatic turnabout  9. credibility gap
10. crackdown on crime  11. thermal underwear  12. a close shave  13. lots of fun

How Observant Are You?  The first letter of the alphabet occurs at the first position in the first word, the second letter of the alphabet occurs at the second position in the second word, and so on. There appears to be no Websterian word with J in the tenth position, but Dorland's yields cholangiojejunostomy. Further words in the series are stickleback, hierarchical, parallelogram, sesquipedalian, pronunciation, acquaintance, ship...

NICKNAMES OF THE UNITED STATES  Leonard R. N. Ashley