LETTER PERFECT

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Many logologists have noted that most of the letters in our alphabet sound like English words. To take four examples, CUE and QUEUE sound like the letter Q, ARE sounds like R, EWE, YOU and YEW sound like the letter U, and WHY sounds like Y.

Each definition below yields a word that sounds just like a letter. The letters form a hidden two-word message. If you have done your work well, you'll reap a rich reward, which you can find in Answers and Solutions, along with the answers to the other queries in this article.

- 1. a honey of an insect
- 2. vision organ
- 3. a divine exclamation
- 4. blue and white bird
- 5. indefinite article
- 6. large body of water
- 7. girl's name
- 8. green vegetable
- 9. to be in debt
- 10. beverage

Each definition below yields a word that sounds just like the plural of a letter.

- 11. to grab
- 12. to make fun of
- 13. possessing wisdom
- 14. comfort
- 15. to employ

Now try your ear at forming letter-words - words that sound like strings of letters. For example, bright small eyes are beady (BD) and shabby run-down things are seedy (CD).

Each definition below yields a letter-word. The number of letters sounded in each word is given by the parenthesized number.

- 16. nothing inside (2)
- 17. not difficult (2)
- 18. wall-clinging plant (2)
- 19. a composition (2)
- 20. jealousy (2)
- 21. slipper in winter (2)
- 22. to rot (2)
- 23. too much (2)

- 24. shrewd (2)
- 25. an amusement-park doll (2)
- 26. a foe (3)
- 27. title of a high official (4)
- 28. underwater polyp that resembles a flower (1 4)
- 29. convenience (5)

Finally, each clue below yields a name consisting entirely of letter sounds. The number of letters sounded in each name in represented by the parenthesized number.

- 30. he struck out (2)
- 31. she's a contented cow (2)
- 32. he led Shaw's band (2)
- 33. she started a string of secretarial schools (2)
- 34. his franchises specialize in roast beef (2)
- 35. he writes almanacs of word play (2)
- 36. he courted an Irish rose (2)
- 37. he's a Garfield dog (2)
- 38. she was an Amherst poet (3)