

You Can Take My Word For It
Another Sixty Adventures in Logology For The Connoisseur

Steven Kahan
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A *Word Ways* book review by Karen Farrell, Indianapolis, Indiana

In this “fourth foray into the fertile frontier of wordplay” Kahan “presents 60 word puzzles designed to challenge even the expert wordsmith.” Many are new, while others have been published in *Word Ways*. He dedicates this book to Noah Webster, “without whom this collection would not be possible”. Kahan is a longtime contributor to the *Journal of Recreational Mathematics* and edits the Alphametrics column.

A sample follows in **WORD QUESTIONNAIRE – 3**

What follows is a ten question quiz whose twenty-five answers come from four branches of logology: syllabification, letter patterns, spelling, and vocabulary. Score 4 points for each correct response.

1. Find a nine-letter word which becomes a different nine-letter word when “T” replaces “C”.
2. What flower becomes a chemical element when the letter “M” is inserted into its name?
3. DREAM is a verb whose past tense can be formed either by adding “ED” or “T” t its end.
Find a verb whose past tense can *only* be formed by adding “T” at its end.
4. UNDERSTUDY is a word which contains the ascending alphabetic quartet ‘RSTU’.
Find another word which contains an ascending alphabetic quartet
5. HAPPENCHANCE is a twelve-letter word consisting of six distinct letters, each of which appears exactly twice. Find another twelve-letter word with the same property.
6. SEQUOIA is a seven-letter word which displays four different vowels without any interruptive consonants. Find a seven-letter word which displays all *five* vowels without any interruptive consonants.
7. NICE is a word which changes its pronunciation when its first letter is capitalized. Find four other words with the same property.
8. OVERSIGHT is a word that has two nearly contradictory meanings (failure to notice/careful scrutiny by an authority.) Find another such word.
9. Find the most populated city in the United States whose name (a) does not contain the letter “E”; (b) ends with the letter “A”; (c) is Spanish; (d) is or contains a presidential surname; (e) is the name of an animal.
10. Find nine one-syllable words which rhyme with ZOO such that no two start with the same letter and no two “OO” sounds are spelled in the same manner.

To order please contact Steve Kahan at skalpha1@aol.com or in writing to 78-51 220th St., Hollis Hills, New York 11364. Copies are \$15 each plus \$1.95 shipping and handling with discounts available for orders of 3 or more.