

ANSWERS AND SOLUTIONS

Common Ground by William Webster (May 2001)

The initials of the fifty individuals are the US postal codes for the 50 states: Carol Angelus = California, Mac Aroni = Massachusetts, etc.

Two Sonnet Anagram Puzzles by Mike Keith

Ms. Lowell's poem contains exactly 140 vowels (including Y). This means that the anagram sonnet must use an average of one vowel per syllable (in fact, each syllable uses exactly one). This is well below the average, since a typical English sonnet uses about 185 vowels, or roughly 1.3 vowels per syllable.

The R.L. Stevenson letter has 280 vowels, demanding a sonnet with an average of 2.0 vowels per syllable, even farther from the norm. This does not mean that every syllable needs to have two vowels (though most do). A few three-vowel syllables were employed to sneak in a few single-vowel ones, such as the words "cash" and "part".

Since there are words with more than two vowels per syllable, as well as words with fewer than one (e.g., "mightn't"), it's not true that 1.0 and 2.0 syllables per vowel are the maximum—but they almost are.

Kickshaws by Susan Thorpe

Inmates They Are sometimes replaced with an apostrophe. It Is something we HAve got used to, have nOt we? I Will certainly accept that, so cannot you?

A Problem of Communication When it follows a verb, as here, 'away' can sometimes mean 'feel free, go to it'. Whether the child appreciated this when she was told to 'look away', or whether she wasn't the angel her parents thought her to be is another matter!

Sentenced This sentence embodies the numbers ONE, TWO through TEN, in their correct order.

Bananagrams 14 by Edmund Conti

1. wolves, vowels 2. filets, itself 3. ocean, canoe 4. worried, wordier 5. diapers, despair
6. feel, flee 7. state, taste 8. namely, laymen 9. safest, feasts 10. erasures, reassure

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Title: 16 pt Helvetica Bold
Text: 11 pt Times New Roman
Page Size: 6 inches horizontal, 8 inches vertical
Line Spacing: 6 lines per inch

Diagrams and the like should be drafted in black or India ink in a form suitable for photo-offset.

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