

## REMOVING A PAIR OF NON-DOUBLED LIKE LETTERS

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In a Kickshaws item entitled *The Disappearing Doubles* (Word Ways November 2009 p 281), I removed A to Z pairs of doubled letters from a word to form a new word. eg. BONNY – NN = BOY. Here, I again remove 2 like letters from a word to form another word, the difference being that the 2 like letters are separated in the word and not do not appear as a doubled pair. The 2 separated like letters can appear anywhere in the word: beginning / middle / end.

DIANA = DIN

BARBIES = ARIES

CRACKER = RAKER

WINDED = WINE

ELOPES = LOPS

FIREFLY = IRELY  
(girl's first name)

GRUDGE = RUDE

SHEATHED = SEATED

DIARIES = DARES

JIMJAMS = IMAMS  
(jitters)

SKUNK = SUN

LILT = IT

MADAM = ADA

NEURON = EURO

OVERGOES = VERGES

PROPPED = ROPED

QAVAQ = AVA  
(in Iran)

FARMER = FAME

SIDLES = IDLE

STINT = SIN

USUALLY = SALLY

VALVE = ALE

WHEW = HE

XANNAX (a former US corporation in Santa Barbara) = ANNA

YEARLY = EARL

ZEREZ = ERE  
(Zerez sack is a white wine)