

ANSWERS AND SOLUTIONS

Obama And McCain Cross Words

A. Ross Eckler

LEMUR
UNCLE
PACES
OBAMA
ILIAL
DENSE

Simon Says

Simon Nightingale

Happy Christmas and peace on earth to you all Simon and Bridget Nightingale.

What's In? – A Name – Part III

Steve Kahan

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. <u>C</u> ARLO <u>a</u> d | 21. <u>B</u> ASIL <u>i</u> ca |
| 2. <u>S</u> ERGE <u>a</u> nt | 22. <u>i</u> ne <u>B</u> RIAN <u>t</u> |
| 3. <u>c</u> a <u>L</u> AMAR <u>i</u> | 23. <u>l</u> i <u>B</u> RETT <u>o</u> |
| 4. <u>ch</u> ALICE | 24. <u>F</u> RANK <u>l</u> y |
| 5. <u>ch</u> ar <u>D</u> ONNA <u>y</u> | 25. <u>G</u> ERRY <u>m</u> ander |
| 6. <u>M</u> ARIA <u>ch</u> i | 26. <u>m</u> AGNES <u>i</u> um |
| 7. <u>con</u> VINCE | 27. <u>M</u> ARION <u>e</u> tte |
| 8. <u>c</u> ELLIS <u>t</u> | 28. <u>E</u> THAN <u>o</u> l |
| 9. <u>de</u> CLAR <u>A</u> tion | 29. <u>par</u> SIMON <u>y</u> |
| 10. <u>dis</u> GRACE | 30. <u>preg</u> NANCY |
| 11. <u>dis</u> ROBIN <u>g</u> | 31. <u>M</u> ARTY <u>r</u> dom |
| 12. <u>B</u> ELLA <u>d</u> onna | 32. <u>res</u> CIND <u>I</u> ng |
| 13. <u>S</u> TEVE <u>d</u> ore | 33. <u>s</u> PEAR <u>L</u> ike |
| 14. <u>exc</u> ELLE <u>N</u> ce | 34. <u>s</u> ANIT <u>A</u> ry |
| 15. <u>free</u> LANCE <u>r</u> | 35. <u>V</u> IOLA <u>t</u> e |
| 16. <u>g</u> RANDI <u>o</u> se | 36. <u>C</u> HRISt <u>e</u> n |
| 17. <u>CL</u> IFF <u>h</u> anger | 37. <u>univer</u> SALLY |
| 18. <u>hema</u> TOMAS | 38. <u>v</u> ILENE <u>s</u> s |
| 19. <u>he</u> ARTIE <u>r</u> | 39. <u>w</u> HOLLY <u>o</u> r <u>w</u> ANTON |
| 20. <u>hyst</u> ERICAL | 40. <u>S</u> ASHA <u>y</u> ed |

Even More Consecutive Palindromic Triads

Steve Kahan

1. a neMOMETEr
2. asTUTENEss
3. basILISKS
4. CICADAe
5. enteRPRISIng
6. exEGESIS
7. frACASES
8. EVENINg
9. gatEKEEPEr
10. IMITATion
11. OVOVIViparous
12. jardINIERE
13. lyrICISTS
14. micrOCOSMS
15. militIAMAN
16. NONEXEmpt
17. noNENTITy
18. parmIGIANA
19. poRTRAYAL
20. PortUGUESE
21. GIGOLOs
22. seAFARER
23. tRIREME
24. terRORIZIng
25. IRISHStew

Three Puzzle Games on Pelargoniums

Jeremiah and Karen Farrell

Puzzle 1:

OUR	LIP	SAN	GEM
PES	MOA	RIG	NUL
NIM	GUS	OLE	RAP
LAG	ERN	UMP	IOS

Puzzle 2

OUR	UMP	NUL	GUS
IOS	LIP	NIM	RIG
OLE	PES	ERN	GEM
MOA	RAP	SAN	LAG

Puzzle 3

OUR	UMP	MOA	RAP
GUS	NUL	LAG	SAN
RIG	NIM	GEM	ERN
IOS	LIP	OLE	PES

Puzzlemints

Anil

1. nerve (nerves) 2. six (IX) 3. seven (even) 4. 21 (It's a list of those integers spelled with an odd number of letters.) 5. a frequent and insincere promise giver 6. the UN-building 7. condor
8. No, according to most dictionaries, and Scrabble, even "agreer" isn't a word. These august authorities are, shall we say, dis-agreers. But I'm a dis-agreeee. H. W. Fowler in the equally august *Modern English Usage* (Oxford 1926) states that "the agent termination *-er* can be added to any English verb." Sadly, *-ee* is not listed there at all. Shucks, the whole point of the question was an excuse to use four e's in a row. But even there I should perhaps settle for threee, modelling on "agreed" rather than "agreedee". Agreee?
9. Rhyme endings, with approximate word counts: *-ation* 1100, *-ate* 975, *-ism* 845* (*Who said Ismism is dead?*), *-ize* (including *-ys/-ies*) 775, *-ay* (long a) 615, *-ility* 440, *-on* (as in con) 415, *-ow* (as in low) 400, *-ee* 390 [but not *-er!*], *-ar(r)y* 385. / * For almost every *-ism* I'd expect an *-ist*, yet surprisingly *-ist* didn't come close to making the list, at a mere 52 rhymes. M-W obviously has no truck with communists or Methodists, thus indicating the arbitrariness of these answers. Another example that M-W failed to list is the large numbers of *-ess* endings whose ultimate syllables have primary or secondary accents, both *-less* and *-ness*. They list 120 *-ess* rhymes but include no *-ness* and only 3 *-less* (*un-*, *none-* and *nevertheless*). Add this *carelessness* to the deficiency of *-ist* endings and the Merriam-Webster Essential Rhyming Dictionary's definitiveness is looking shaky. Can you think of other major suffixes that have been slighted? There are only 23 listings for *-able*, for example, but most of the *-ables* I could think of have antepenultimate accents, which *disenables* them.
10. The 6 (with a common-letter A-neighbor each): Burundi (Tanzania), Republic of the Congo (Dem. Rep. of the Congo), Lesotho (South Africa), Niger (Mali), Seychelles (Madagascar), Turkey (Iraq). The other 25: Belgium (France), Belize [Brit. Honduras] (Guatemala), Benin [Dahomey] (Nigeria), Brunei (Malaysia), Chile (Argentina), Comoros (Madagascar), Côte D'Ivoire [Ivory Coast] (Liberia), Cyprus (Syria), Czech Rep. (Slovak Rep.), Djibouti (Ethiopia), Egypt (Libya), Fiji (Solomon Is.), Greece (Bulgaria), Hong Kong (China), Liechtenstein (Austria), Luxembourg (Germany), Mexico (USA), Morocco (Algeria), Peru (Brazil), Philippines (Taiwan), Puerto Rico (Dominican Rep.), Sweden (Norway), Togo (Ghana), United Kingdom (Ireland), Yemen (Oman).
11. Surprisingly, only 4-7 pairs of truly contiguous nations lack a common letter in their map names: Chad-Niger, Egypt-Sudan, Peru-Colombia, Yemen-Saudi Arabia, ± Togo-Benin [but not Dahomey], Albania-Greece [but not Hellas/Ellas/Hellenic Rep.] and Ghana-Cote d'Ivoire [but not Ivory Coast]. However 10 more ill-letterate pairs are neighbors directly across an expanse of water: Cyprus-Lebanon, Djibouti-Yemen, Latvia-Sweden, Morocco-Spain, 2 for Tanzania—with Comoros and Seychelles, and a whopping 5 for Fiji—with Vanuatu, Tuvalu, Samoa, Nauru and Tonga. Combining the two lists, Yemen also has two. But *not a single pair* of neighboring countries anywhere lack a common letter in their official names, largely because so many are named Republic of.
12. This was a trick question. There are 19 states sharing one or more letters with all the others, 20 if you count Washington DC. Fifteen (AZ, CA, IN, LA, ME, MI, MN, NH, NC, PA, RI, SC, VA, WA, WV) contain the letters A, N and I (occurring in 36, 33, and 28 states respectively), at least one of which letters occurs in every state. Three of the other four (GA, MT, SD) contain an O, occurring in 27 states, plus A. MA needs six letters to connect to all: A, S (in 21 states), E (20), T (15), H (14) or M (13).
13. The most out of touch state is OH, which nonetheless misses only twelve. Ten others miss more than three: AL, KY and UT miss 9, MS 8, TN 7, AK and OR 6, NJ 5, HI and ID 4.
14. Yes. The unconnected neighbours are: AL-TN, KY-OH and UT-WY. Add UT-NM if they be taken as contiguous at a mathematical point. One might arguably count OR-AK and OR-HI, although both Alaska and Hawaii are nearer to another state than to Oregon.
15. Alaska 16. Florida, Idaho, Iowa, Maine, New York, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Wyoming. 17. Switzerland 18. Slovak Republic; Mozambique (+ Belorussia before it became Belarus). 19. There is none.

All the Perfumes of Arabia**Leonard R. N. Ashley**

1. cipher, 2. Mosque, 3. *al-kohl*=alcohol, 4. azimuth, 5. zareeba, 6. artichoke, 7. algebra, 8. admiral, 9. alfalfa, 10. alkali, 11. sequin, 12. elixir, 13. camphor, 14. alembic, 15. bedouin, 16. average, 17. caliber, 18. caliph, 19. talisman, 20. alcalde, 21. albacore, 22. ream (as of paper), 23. alcove, 24. sofa, 25. art of the lack Land (Egypt) for transmuting metals=alchemy.

Punk Whiz 5**Anil**

- | | |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. clockwise | 19. far-fetched |
| 2. wishing well | 20. anti-aircraft |
| 3. dialectional materialism | 21. get down! |
| 4. daughter cells | 22. heterophony |
| 5. free country | 23. heart of stone |
| 6. (a) curry flavor (b) favor | 24. play the fool |
| 7. enlightenment | 25. gutsy or gusty |
| 8. get it together | 26. symatics |
| 9. bar maids | 27. middle of the road |
| 10. baby | 28. bermuda shorts |
| 11. can do | 29. light year |
| 12. pass the buck | 30. population bomb |
| 13. protestation (Protest Station) | 31. have no beef with |
| 14. given the sack | 32. keep the home fires burning. |
| 15. endomorphic rock | 33. Jerry-built |
| 16. blood shed | 34. up in arms |
| 17. toilet toilette | 35. wait and see. |
| 18. privy | 36. inconceivable |

Bionyms**John Holgate**

APPLE SAUCE – Michael Wilding (a wilding is either a wild apple or an outrageous rampage usually involving sexual attacks)

THE BURIED DAY – Cecil Day Lewis

COURTING TRIUMPH – Virginia Wade

THE GOOD THE BAD AND THE BUBBLY – George Best

JACK OF ALL TRADES – Jack Warner

LIFE IS TOO SHORT – Mickey Rooney

MORE OR LESS – Kenneth More

ODD MAN OUT – Ronald Biggs

ON THE OTHER HAND – Fay Wray

STRAIGHT SHOOTING – Robert Stack

TAKE IT LIKE A MAN – Boy George

TALL DARK AND GRUESOME – Christopher Lee

A YOUNG MAN'S PASSAGE – Julian Clary

Back Cover**Oscar Thumpindle**

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9		10	11	12	
B	R	A	V	O		A	M	O	S		L	Y	S	
13						14			15		16			
R	O	M	E	R		P	A	G	E	T	I	V	E	
17						18					19			
O	M	B	R	E		E	L	L	I	E	T	O	N	
20					21					22				
C	A	R	Y	M	A	R	C	A	N	D	H	A	N	S
23					24					25				
C	I	O			S	T	O	L	E		I	N	N	O
26				27						28				
O	N	S		S	H	U	L	A		M	E	Y	E	R
29				30					31					
L	E	I		W	O	R	M		A	A	R			
32			33					34			35	36	37	
I	S	A	D	O	R	E	A	N	D	D	O	R	I	S
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41	42	43				44					45			
D	U	A	N	E		C	D	R	O	M	I	D	A	
46					47						48			
E	R	I	N		C	A	P	R	I		N	I	M	
49				50						51	52			
M	A	R	Y	R	O	S	E	A	N	D	A	D	A	M
53				54						55				
O	N	O		F	E	I	N	T		I	R	E	N	E
56				57						58				
T	I	U		D	U	N	N	E		A	N	E	A	R
59				60						61				
E	A	T		R	O	Y	S			M	O	R	N	S