PUT IN A GOOD WORD FOR ME

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This is the first of a pair of articles which invites the reader to use his deductive abilities on lists of words. His task is first to find a common property that the 24 words in a list share, and second to insert the word at the head of this list (given in capital letters) into its proper place within the list.

The construction of such lists can be habit-forming. Frustrated by his difficulty with one list, a friend gave us a list of common words which were, in fact, names of towns sorted by state. We would never have solved it had the word to be inserted not been the uncommon SAGAMORE. We counterattacked with the same list, rearranged by increasing zip code.

We hope the examples given here will not be quite that difficult; however, answers can be found in Answers and Solutions at the end of the issue.

1. DELIGHT
crawl
endive
bacon
checkers
heel
uncle
toffee
kiss
measles
goulash
mist
hand
rum
standoff
lamb
mahogany
joke
roulette
plaid
twins
fly
nightingale
watch
rabbit

2. FIDDLE
bat
bee
whistle
bell
cucumber
cat
post
bone
pancake
daisy
crutch
fly
kite
feather
pin
ghost
picture
beet
dog
rail
whip
board
mule
drum

3. ROOST
heart
ball
barrel
crop
press
mountain
land
law
party
game
action
pudding
mill
neck
line
times
lip
day
moment
imagination
pen
trade
wrist

7. KNIFE
great
hun
kid
bald
mena
confer
red
horse
navig
terrin
divin
obscu
magn
magi
herm
elder
bruce
rivet
sail
man
toiler
conqu
weep
weep
weep
greek

4. TRUE

torpe
duck
strain
create
sole
chim
cigan
bed
flu
artif
broil
air
slug
hemp
jack
mule
gray
lawn
rock
ceme
sling
rifle
saus
coco

5. PUT

oat
goat
bore
aci
sheep
tom
cat
lamb
ratt
run
bust
star
ache
con
immi
will
per
ven

6. PUTT

torpe
duck
strai
create
sole
chim
chim
cigan
bed
flu
artif
broil
air
slug
hemp
jack
mule
gray
lawn
rock
ceme
sling
rifle
saus
conco
4. TRUNK 5. SPOT 6. ROUGH

torpedo duck strangler cream sole china cigar bed flu artichoke broil air slugger hemp jack mule gray lawyer rock cement sing rifle sausage concerto

wing carpet prow Cob house eye ball ground roof floor wall hog range trail cake town back coals draw rocks brakes wrist gas brain

hole woods hand basket manger ocean pie pan ointment door till ring sand wall moon bank haystack neck sky arm grass mud hole wilderness

7. KNIFE 8. LETTUCE 9. BOX

great hun kid bald menace confessor red horse navigator terrible divine obscure magnificent magician hermit elder bruce riveter sailor man toiler conquerer weeper greek

vegetable book bothered drink hope frankincense education wide line skip stock rank present shillings body aim willing white rattle crackle look dark place women

apple lamp commentaries ghost aunt needle tour elements tomb travels comet soliloquy code choice ladder vineyard revenge ark razor peak thesaurus folly rebellion mother