NOVELTY FORMS: TWO EXAMPLES

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Editor's Note: In the last fifty years, the construction of novelty forms (solid crossword arrays with unusual outlines) has almost died out. Three examples have appeared in previous issues of Word Ways: Palmer Peterson's Hollow Diamond (May 1971) and Armless Man (Feb 1980), and Walter Shedlofsky's Windmill (Aug 1973). (The latter occasionally appears in the Enigma, the monthly publication of the National Puzzler's League.) The two Linking Word Squares forms depicted below are believed to be new. There is nothing exactly like them in puzzle literature; the closest analogues are the Cushion Square and the Hollow Diamond. Note that all squares are double, and that no words are repeated within a pattern.

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\begin{array}{cccc}
H & O & R & U \\
O & V & U & L \\
S & I & D & E \\
L & I & M & I & T & E & N & O & N \\
E & L & E & M & E & R & E & R & O & D & E \\
S & E & R & E & D & E & M & E & N & A & N & E & S \\
T & I & M & O & R \\
L & O & S & E & L & I & T & E & L & A & R \\
E & V & A & D & E & T & E & R & O & D & E \\
M & O & N & E & Y & N & O & R & A & S \\
C & A & R & O & L & E & N & T & O & S & A & G & E & S & S & O \\
A & M & I & N & O & R & S & E & N & E & T & E & R \\
R & I & V & E & D & S & H & A & R & D \\
D & A & D & A & G & E & T & A & R & E & E \\
T & E & L & A & S & S & N & E & E & R & N
\end{array}
\]
Definitions of unfamiliar words:

- *abele* - the white poplar
- *amide* - an organic compound
- *ananas* - var. of ananas, the pineapple
- *anile* - old-womanish, infirm
- *anime* - a type of resin
- *araiba* - a South American monkey
- *arête* - the crest of a mountain range, or ridge between peaks
- *asper* - a Turkish coin
- *Assam* - a state in India (Gazetteer section)
- *bolos* - plural of bolo, a single-edged knife
- *debug* - to eliminate error (Web 3)
- *Edens* - paradises (such as Eden)
- *Edile* - var. of aedile, a Roman urban official
- *eleme* - a type of fig
- *Elulis* - plural of Elul, a month of the Jewish calendar
- *Ethan* - a masculine proper name
- *Erato* - the Muse of poetry
- *Erica* - a genus of evergreen shrubs
- *eskar* - a narrow ridge or mound of sand or gravel
- *esses* - plural of the letter S
- *ester* - an organic compound
- *étage* - floor of a building (Fr.)
- *gesso* - plaster of Paris, prepared for use in painting
- *gests* - plural of gest, something done or achieved
- *Gigis* - plural of Gigi, a feminine proper name
- *hocus* - to cheat, deceive
- *horst* - a block of the earth's crust, bounded by faults
- *hoser* - or
- *Irani* - a
- *Isère* - a
- *kolas* - plural of
- *Leyte* - a
- *Loran* - a
- *losel* - a
- *malar* - plural of
- *maqui* - a
- *Medes* - plural of
- *merer* - the
- *ninnon* - a
- *Noras* - plural of
- *olent* - fra
- *Omeg* - a
- *ovolo* - a
- *raser* - one
- *redes* - the
- *reled* - past
- *renet* - var
- *rerag* - to
- *saran* - a
- *sater* - one
- *Sered* - a
- *seres* - plural
- *sheas* - plural
- *snees* - plural
- *stere* - a
- *stost* - the
- *tanas* - plural
- *targe* - to
- *Tatar* - a
- *tatas* - plural
- *telar* - plural
- *telas* - plural
- *timor* - dre
- *ulema* - a
- *Edina* - a
Horus - an Egyptian god
hoser - one who hoses (a coinage, not in Webster)
Irani - a native of Iran
Isère - a river in France (Gazetteer section)
kolas - plural of kola, a nut
lenes - plural of lenis, a soft consonant (Phonetics)
Leyte - a gulf in the Philippines (Gazetteer section)
Loran - a long-range navigational system
losel - a worthless person
malar - pertaining to the cheek
maqui - a Chilean shrub
Medes - natives of ancient Media
merer - the comparative of mere (rarely used, acc. to Webster)
ninon - a fabric, as a silk voile
Noras - plural of Nora, a feminine proper name
olent - fragrant
Onega - a Russian lake (Gazetteer section)
ovolo - a rounded, convex molding
raser - one who scrapes with a sharp object or tool
redes - (he) makes ready, puts in order
reled - past tense of relead, to lead once more
renet - var. of rennet, a substance for curdling milk
rerag - to bully once more (a coinage, not in Webster)
reran - past tense of rerun, to show again (as a motion picture)
retro - backward
Salic - pertaining to a 4th-century Frankish people
saran - a tough flexible thermoplastic (Web 3)
sater - one who sates, satisfies (a coinage, not in Webster)
Sered - a Biblical name
seres - plural of sere, a claw or talon
sheas - plural of shea, a tree
snees - dirks
stere - a cubic meter
stoss - the side of a hill first overridden by a glacier
tanas - plural of tana, a Sumatran squirrel shrew
targe - to cross-question (Scot.)
Tatar - a member of a Turkic group
tatas - plural of ta-ta, good-bye (hyphenated in Webster)
telar - pertaining to tissue
telas - plural of tela, a tissue
timor - dread (if capitalized, a Pacific island)
ulema - a body of Moslem scholars trained in religion and law
Edina - a city in Minnesota (Gazetteer section)