

I Never Do Anything Twice . . .

THE SUDOKU FROM TWO ISSUES AGO proved enormously popular. Any normal person would repeat that format exactly. But that contradicts the credo I try to live by, as expressed in the verse below. So what to do?

*Once, yes, once for a lark.
Twice, though, loses the spark.
One must never deny it,
But after you try it
You vary the diet . . .
You've my highest regard,
And I know that it's hard,
Still, no matter the vice,
I never do anything twice.*

Trying to have it both ways, I am repeating the Sudoku idea, with some new twists. This time, I am not providing the letters that will fit, Sudoku-style, into the diagram. You must ascertain them from the clues. One hint, though: Look for the anagram clues. They especially will help you determine the eight letters.

Eight letters? Yes, because this Sudoku also uses blackouts—the nine characters will be three vowels, four consonants and one blackout. The completed diagram will meet Sudoku requirements: The nine characters will each appear once in every row, once in every column and once in every 3 × 3 square.

The cryptic clue answers will fit into the diagram, Boggle style. That is, each word occurs over adjacent squares, moving up, down, left, right or diagonally. Note that there are 72 letters called for by the 17 clues, and they will fit into the diagram in a one-to-one correspondence. This fact can help a lot in deciphering some of the clues: Each letter in the diagram is used only once. Starting and ending points are provided (and shaded

in the diagram, as additional guidance). I have also started you out by placing three of the nine blackouts.

A correct solution will include the answers to the 17 clues, a properly completed Sudoku diagram and the eight-letter last name of the author of the verse, who also happens to be a seminal figure in American cryptic puzzle circles.

Most of the answers are common words. All but one is playable in Scrabble, and that one is a common prefix. Another is somewhat unusual but mildly suggestive, so I thought it would be perfect for a bunch of actuaries. There are no proper nouns. You can't play proper nouns in Scrabble, so I'm being redundant here. But better that than deficient!

The clues are all cryptic clues. This means that one end is a fairly straightforward definition of the answer, while the other is an alternative, often mechanical, way of getting to the same word. The mechanical means I may use include puns, homophones, anagrams, constructions and double definitions. (For a further explanation of cryptic clues, e-mail me at Thomas.Toce@ey.com.) Ignore punctuation, which is intended to mislead.

Thanks to Eric Klis, for test-solving and editorial suggestions.

Solutions may be e-mailed to the author at Thomas.Toce@ey.com. In order to make the solver list, your solutions must be received by Sept. 30, 2009.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
a									
b									
c									
d									
e									
f									
g									
h									
i									

Author of the verse:
_ _ _ _ _

The Clues

- a3..a1 Ways domes cracked (5)
- a6..b7 It makes sense? Ridiculous! For starters, no one negotiates (3)
- b3..c4 Horrid hockey star ejected and put away (3)
- b5..a5 He's wacky, that transvestite! (3)
- b9..c9 Ten cents for poor Demi (4)
- c1..e3 Kind of film appearing in thin dielectric (5)
- c5..c8 Frenetic dancing in Missouri? Shut your mouth! (4)
- d2..c2 Whispering, "Attila, dear" (3)



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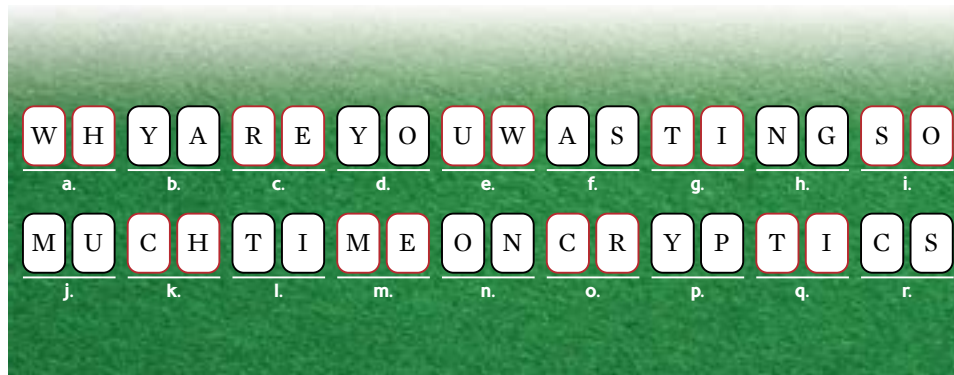
- d5..f5 Evildoer experiencing
recidivism: no med (5)
d9..d8 Protuberance first thing every
wk. (4)
e7..e6 This tee-off belonging to him
(3)



- f6..f2 The don is multifarious,
embracing girls (and boys)
gone wild (8)
g9..f7 Per the BBC: Hyde Park in
darkness (4)
i1..g2 Shmo runs resistance units (4)
i3..h3 Ned performing abysmally
where Daniel shone (3)
i4..h9 Mish mash by Mies wobbles (8)
i9..g7 Sotheby's bid by partner of
Wynken and Blynken (3)



Previous Issue's Puzzle—"If You're So Smart"



- a. THAWS—"what's" anagram
b. NASTY—NAST ("old political
cartoonist") + Y ("Yes")
c. ENTER—double definition
d. STONY—"Tony's" anagram
e. UNSEW—hidden in "Howe's
number" and reversed ("using the
mirror")
f. SATAN—"Santa" anagram
g. TAINT—double definition
h. GENTS—AGENTS ("Insurance
reps") - A ("losing their leader")
i. STONE—double definition
j. UNMET—UN ("a Spanish") + MET
("ballplayer in Queens")
k. NATCH—"chant" anagram
l. STEIN—EIN ("a German") and
ST("saint") switched ("Quite the
other way around")
m. STEAM—"meats" anagram
n. NONET—double definition ("zero
earnings" = NO NET)
o. ACRES—"scare" anagram
p. PESTY—"types" anagram
q. ANTIS—"saint" anagram
r. SCANT—SC ("Palmetto State") +
ANT ("insect")

HOLE CARDS

- a. THAWS HW ---- → WH
b. NASTY AY ---- → YA
c. ENTER ER ---- → RE
d. STONY OY ---- → YO
e. UNSEW UW ---- → UW
f. SATAN SA ---- → AS

- g. TAINT TI ---- → TI
h. GENTS GN ---- → NG
i. STONE SO ---- → SO
j. UNMET UM ---- → MU
k. NATCH CH ---- → CH
l. STEIN TI ---- → TI
m. STEAM EM ---- → ME
n. NONET NO ---- → ON
o. ACRES CR ---- → CR
p. PESTY PY ---- → YP
q. ANTIS TI ---- → TI
r. SCANT SC ---- → CS

Solvers

Dean Apps, Karl Baker, Steven Barclay,
Andrew Buckley, Bob Camp, Bob
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Edgar Goral, George Green, Rich Harder,
Jason Helbraun, Pete Hepokoski, Ruth
Howald, Paul Ivanovskis, Dennis
Jacobs, Brian Klimek, Eric Klis, Louis
Lana, Philip Lew, Denis Loring, Lee
Michelson, Brett Miller, Jim Muza, Anil
Narale, Ray Niswander, Alan Putney,
Debbie Rosenberg, Lou Scarim, Stuart
Schulman, Bill Scott, Bob Share, Warren
Silberstein, Glen Stark, Tim Swankey,
Betsy Uzzell, Arlene Woodruff, Arthur
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