

Snowflake

EVERY TIME I START A NEW PUZZLE, I tell myself to avoid intricate diagrams, because fitting the words in requires so much time. And with a lot of overlapping, it's hard to avoid crossword-ese. The problem is, I'm fascinated by the intricate diagrams. So, here comes another.

The uphill clues go uphill, the downhill clues go downhill, and the straight-down clues go straight down. Start the answers in the numbered triangles, and use every triangle.

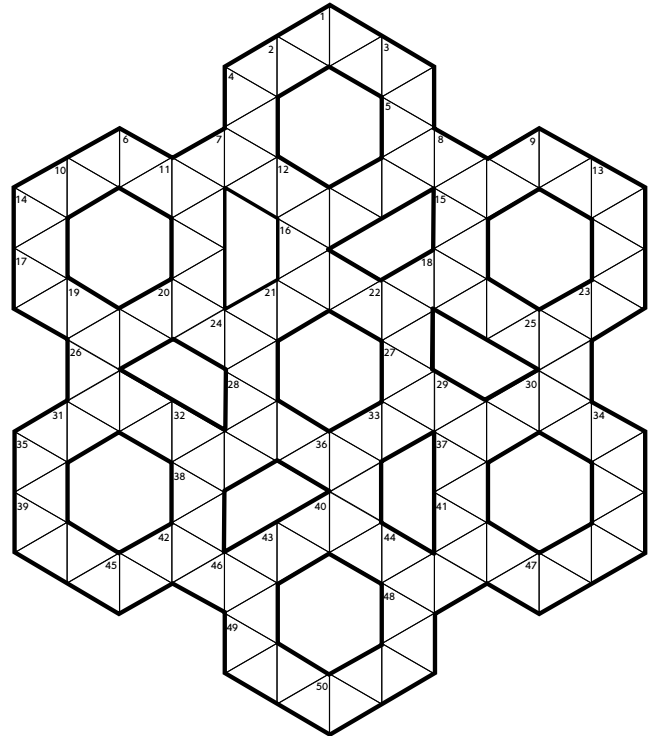
There are 13 proper nouns. Most of them are common names, but No. 21 and No. 44 are fairly obscure. There are a few two-word answers, one of which is in Latin, all common enough. There is one slang term, also common. Everything else is playable in Scrabble.

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.

Uphill Clues

4. Attract pleasure seeker orally? Shocking
11. Citified headgear cropped
14. High capital note to follow, so Dad, the first of zillions (two words)
15. Forty days of every year, start of one slow movement
16. Enemy forces calling for places to sleep
22. Lose by a hair or Pimlico's first tie?
24. No—over Otto, just a bit (two words)
25. New Ra? In a turnaround, this character was played by Liv Tyler
26. Heartless one at Minn. Wild (two words)
35. Confused? Pull up a seat (two words)
36. Monitor disturbing snores
37. Yay! He's renewed an expression associated with Willie Mays (two words)
38. Kroc and Koch beamed
45. This, that, and the other sheet flung around
46. Organ solo in Oct. act a disaster
47. Dick finished early at Sea World attraction
48. She helped Jason beat edema
50. A New York airport experience ending in seaweed



Downhill Clues

1. That is Latin for variable tides (two words)
5. Jimmy or Ashley found in Interpol's enquiry
6. Blue as your descant
7. College degrees help operatic villains frequently
9. Offer an encomium to a saint
16. Big to-do involving Los Angeles basketball team?
17. Little Miss Sunshine award winner observed in the middle of parking
18. Number one profession, actually—right? For long? Law?
20. Mouse alternative or domain
26. Bust a small amount of hope, this may support a service (two words)
27. "Higher grades in ESL!" shouted voracious one?
28. Read "C" aloud for "colorful" body of water (two words)
30. Leander's lady died for biblical king
39. 20th of several canines
40. Donate indiscriminately and set one's house in order
41. Control fissile shale

42. Order an end to nonsense poets
49. Major employer of actuaries in Southeast, lady

Straight-Down Clues

2. Luna's transfiguration of bones
3. Bishop's scarf swiped
7. Nan following Bren for justice, leaning to the left
8. Elite animation unit turning around *Inside Edition*
10. Change in the air at place of worship
12. Soot covering Hathaway's head? Very sexy! (two words)
13. Gray rock tones
18. Cottonwoods like moss when pruned
19. Raptors forged checks
21. Tory Spelling pines for the U. S. Open
23. Archer beheading wild robins—y'ever eat robin?
29. Fought with Sal's Red organization
31. British gallery displaying satisfactory discretion
32. Hardest to find? Creative raters
32. At one—debauchery? Cool, man (hyphenated)
34. Garfield's best friend, er, barking to great disdain
43. Good and bad partners announced for Woods
44. Cathartic enema at home for Hercules' lion

Solutions may be e-mailed to Thomas.Toce@ey.com. In order to make the solver list, your solutions must be received by March 31, 2010.

Previous Issue's Puzzle—Golf

- a. TRADE—"Ed" and "Art" reversed ("in the shtetl"); TIRADE—"a tired" anagram
- b. PREY—homophone of PRAY ("Say a Hail Mary"); PRETTY—PETTY ("niggling") around R ("republican")
- c. EXIT—EX ("first wife") + IT; EXISTS—"sexist" anagram
- d. ROPE—last letters ("the stragglers") in "your portfolio, champ: celebrate"; ROE—abbrev. of "return on equity"
- e. MEN—TORMENT – TORT ("harmless"); MEAN—double definition
- f. DRUG—first letters ("primarily") of "doing Rudy's unusually good"; DUG—front half of DUGOUT
- g. BALE—"able" anagram; BAFFLE—double definition
- h. OREO—BORNEO—BN ("Barnes & Noble"); RE—homophone of RAY ("a drop of golden sun")
- i. ZORRO—contained in "razor robbery"; ZOO—Right end ("Eastern") of KALAMAZOO (Michigan city)
- j. TIT—double definition; I—double definition
- k. HASP—HAS ("laughs") + S ("the third of September"); ASP—"spa" anagram
- l. JOY—JO ("little woman") + Y ("Why, they say"); JOEY—double definition

Hole	Par	Cryptic Golfer	Extra Letter
1	TRADE	TIRADE	I
2	PREY	PRETTY	T
3	EXIT	EXISTS	S
4	ROPE	ROE	P
5	MEN	MEAN	A
6	DRUG	DUG	R
7	BALE	BAFFLE	F
8	OREO	RE	O
9	ZORRO	ZOO	R
10	TIT	I	T
11	HASP	ASP	H
12	JOY	JOEY	E
13	RAVE	CRAVE	C
14	OWED	WED	O
15	ROTE	ROUTE	U
16	EOS	ERRORS	R
17	SASSY	AY	S
18	QUITE	QUIT	E

The 18-letter message about the rule of 72:

IT'S PAR FOR THE COURSE

- m. RAVE—R ("River") + AVE ("Avenue"); CRAVE—"Chavez Ravine"—"have zin"
- n. OWED—"we do" anagram; WED—double definition
- o. ROTE—"tore" anagram; ROUTE—"outer" anagram
- p. EOS—Right end ("rightly") of "Galileo's"; ERRORS—TERRORS – T ("fears starting late")
- q. SASSY—"say" containing SS ("shortstop"); AY—"I" homophone
- r. QUITE—"quiet" anagram; QUIT—"quintile" – NILE ("Africa's big waterway")

Solvers

Steve Alpert, Dean Apps, Damian Birnstihl, Jack Brauner, Jan Brown, Andrew Buckley, Bob Camp, Bob Campbell, Lois Cappellano, Todd Dashoff, Gregory Dreher, Robert Fink, Bruce Fuller, Tim Fitzgibbons, Elliott Goldstick, George Green, Rich Harder, Pete Hepokoski, Paul Ivanovskis, Brian Klimek, Eric Klis, Paul Kolell, Louis Lana, Philip Lew, Lee Michelson, Jon Michelson, Brett Miller, Jim Muza, Anil Narale, David Olsho, David and Corinne Promislow, Francis de Regnaucourt, Jay Rippes, Debbie Rosenberg, Lou Scarim, Andrew Shwan, Mark Schulte, Bill Scott, Bob Share, Jonah Smith, Ethan Stroh, Zig Swistunowicz, Tim Swankey, Tony Torelli, Betsy Uzell, Josh Wallace, Arlene Woodruff, Frank Zaret □

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