## Cryptic Puzle

TOM TOCE

## Web Designs

## THE OUTER BLUE HEXAGON RING holds five six-letter words

 starting at small triangles 1 through 5 . The middle yellow hexagon ring holds three six-letter words starting at 6,7 , and 8 . The inner green hexagon holds one six-letter word starting at 9. All the six-letter words read clockwise, with no scrambling. The sides of the large hexagon also form the bases of six equilateral triangles. Nine-letter words can be made from the entries in the small triangles of each large triangle. These nine letters are not ordered and must be rearranged.For Excruciating Level solvers, the clues are presented below and you must determine which lead to nine-letter words and which lead to six-letter words.

For Extremely Difficult Level solvers, the hints in the blue box below identify the nine-letter words.

For Very Hard Level solvers, the hints in the yellow box below identifiy which hexagon ring the six-letter answers are entered into.

For Still Pretty Darn Hard Level solvers, the hints in the green box below reveal the starting position of each sixletter answer.

When you send me your solution, tell me at which level you should be listed.

All 26 letters in the alphabet are used. There are no proper nouns or foreign words. Everything is playable in Scrabble. There are two unusual words, one at clue e and one at clue o. Ignore punctuation, which is designed to confuse.

Thanks to Eric Klis, Bob Fink, and Jerry Miccolis for test-solving and editorial suggestions.

## Clues

a. Roaring at a sibling's prejudices
b. Zap biting bugs at christening
c. Imaginatively risqué country gent
d. Skier's smash-mouth
e. Discounting the odds? If we are, I'd try savagery
f. Wrapped companion edition
g. Creating havoc by trying different dishes after the opening
h. Observed scattered dewiness around Thursday
i. Problems appearing as general manager rages
j. Computer controls Mark's thrills initially
k. Tuned up car for a funeral procession-with red exterior?

1. One of the little women she had teased
m. Expect Gaga to object
n. Conditioned to relieve FX spread
o. Variety, especially, and lightness, to some extent, can be an uplifting process

TOM TOCE is a senior manager for actuarial services with Ernst \& Young in New York and is a member of the Jeopardy Hall of Fame.







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## Previous Issue's Puzzle-Three-Wheeler

## Clockwise Clues

1. TERMINAL-anagram of "tramline"
2. LINCOLNS-L ("left") + COL ("Colonel") inside INNS ("hotels")
3. TOBOGGAN-anagram of "Go to bang"
4. REASON-anagram of "Señora"
5. WAREHOUSE-WARE
(homophone of "where") + HO ("a prostitute") + USE ("to do drugs")
6. JAM-reversal of MAJ. ("diminished Ionian mode")
7. NINE-homophone of NEIN ("Germans? No" = Germans' no)
8. STEEP-double definition
9. $\mathrm{BOD}-\mathrm{BO}+\mathrm{D}$ ("Diddley's first")
10. BILATERAL-BILL surrounding A + T ("one-time") + ERA ("term")
11. IAGO-I ("Italy") + AGO ("in the past") \& literally
12. AVOW-Hidden in "AVocation's workflow"
13. HIPPO—double definition
14. TZAR-ZA ("pizza") inside TR ("right, but the wrong way")
15. IGOR-(R)IGOR ("Strictness, after a fashion")
16. BANANA-BAN ("Forbid") + AN + A ("apple at the start")
17. TIC-homophone of TICK ("the sound of a time bomb")
18. ARC-anagram of "car"
19. ANT-anagram of "tan"

## Counterclockwise clues

20. ANTARCTICA-anagram of "cataract in"
21. $\mathrm{NAB}-\mathrm{NAB}(\mathrm{OK}+\mathrm{OV})$ ("all right, and everything else gets censored")
22. ANGORA-anagram of "or a nag"
23. RIOT-anagram of "Trio"
24. ZIPPO-double definition
25. WHOA-WHO ("which person, not any particular") + A ("one")
26. VIAGRA-VI ("six") + AGRA ("City of Taj")
27. LATE-LAT(T)E ("Starbucks order missing one teaspoon")

## Solutions may be emailed to

thomas.toce@ey.com.
In order to make the solver list, your solutions must be received by Sept. 30, 2015.

28. BILBO-BIO around LB ("Pound")
29. DEEPEST-reversal of PEED ("Urinated") + EST ("time for New Yorkers")
30. NINJA-N ("born") + IN + JA (PAN) ("Japan without censure")
31. MUSEE-MU ("Mean") + SEE ("to visit")
32. HOW-anagram of "Who"
33. ARSON-anagram of "sonar"
34. REAGAN - anagram of "Age ran"
35. BOG-reversal of GOB ("Sailor")
36. STOOOL-anagram of "Tools"
37. NIN-IN rotated ("In more ways than one") and Anaïs Nin
38. CALL-C ("the third of December ")

+ ALL ("everyone")

39. MINTER-anagram of "term in"

## Solvers using no hints:

Michael and Jina Accardo, Bob Campbell, Lois Cappellano, Chris Carlson, Michael Dolan, Greg Dreher, Deb Edwards, Bob Fink, Laura Forbes, Phil Gollance, Paul Haley, Pete Hepokoski, J \& J Holloman, Ruth Howald, Ruth Johnson, Eric Klis, Ken

Kudrak, Adrienne Lewis, Jerry Miccolis, Lee Michelson, Jim Muza, David $\mathcal{G}$ Corinne Promislow, Craig Schmid, Andrew Shewan, Sally Jane Smith, Dave Wallman

Solvers using hints (or not saying):
Steve Alpert, Anthony Amodeo, Dean Apps, Chanel Au, Karl Baker, Glenn Bier, Geoff Clarke, Christian Coleianne, Jonathan Currier, Todd Dashoff, Charlie DeWeese, Mick Diede, Ellen Diedrichsen, Deborah Dubois, Mathew Eberhardt, Joseph Feinberg, Bruce Fuller, Walter Haner, Jason Helbraun, John Herder, Wade Hess, Catharine Hornby, James Jones, Paul Kolell, James Lamenzo, George Levine, Jeanette Manning, Liam McFarlane, Jon Michelson, Becky Moody, David Olsho, Alan Putney, Ram Raman, Danny Rhodes, Jay Ripps, Susan B. Schaefer, Bill Scott, Karen Skoglund, Sanjit's Starlets, Doug Szper, T.O.C.E. (The Thousand Oaks Cryptic Enthusiasts: Sean Donohoe, Josh DenHartog, and Christine Liu), David Treble, Jon Turnes, Frank Zaret

