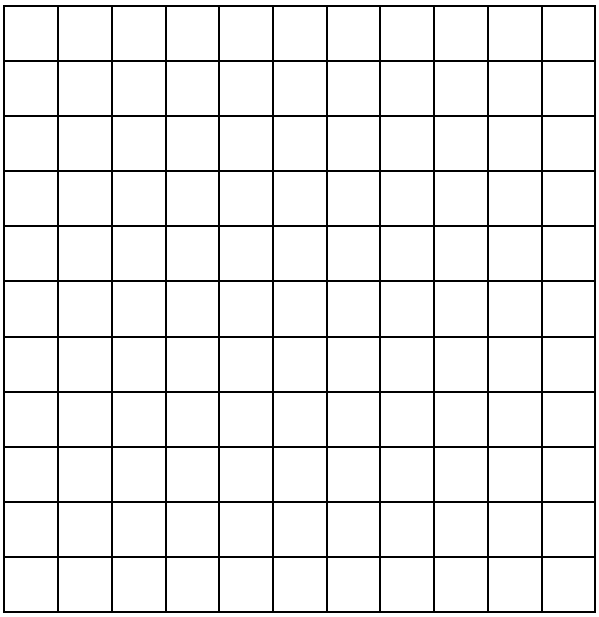
Puzzle #202 — April 2018 "Let's Play"

Instructions: Guess the words defined by the cryptic clues (answers vary in length from three to eight letters, three are capitalized, and one is foreign) then enter them in the grid one after another in the same order as their clues, starting in the upper left corner. Across words that don't end at the right continue on the next row, and down words that don't end at the bottom continue in the next column. Four across words and four down words won't fit in the grid unless one of their letters is omitted. Those eight letters, taken in order as they occur in across and down words, spell a three-word phrase related to the title and the mystery entries. Thanks to Kevin Wald for test-solving and editing this puzzle.



Across

1. *Mystery entry*
2. Today in Spain, Ned returned for girl
3. List time and error
4. Study without a tunnel
5. Okay with Gore being wrong and right
6. Marxist identity made over
7. Clip fastens in turn
8. Report arrant nonsense English
9. Ripe talk about flower part
10. Ms Bow who acted cold when meeting Ms Croft
11. A court corrected retired guardian
12. *Mystery entry*
13. Herb carried silver inside
14. Made skirt to cover counter
15. Oddly silly and foxy
16. Number that captures start of early youth
17. Channel arm
18. A river perceived by the ear
19. Struck single speck
20. Describe one in Crete being punished
21. Journey to ancient city
22. Diminish crude, crude earth
23. Old, beat, sick, and swollen
24. Strong beer has breadth
25. *Mystery entry*

Down

1. Her age will keep it a tradition
2. Don't start sulking for a walk
3. Resigned after losing one is obvious
4. Color of run ended badly
5. $1,000 held by cranky older tenant
6. Made a ruckus about loved one
7. Unfair race for a plot of land
8. A radius on each sphere
9. Henry has to be wrong to get German title
10. Faulty details I left out remained
11. Start of big jump for dog
12. Rank amateur embraces singer Paul
13. Lift weight of mongrel line
14. Father's one artistic movement
15. Featured series includes baseball team
16. Eric ended eating grain
17. Time to turn and put out
18. Remove a broken table
19. Mocking nephew in aspect
20. Porter takes you at first for Charlie the hockey player
21. Started without a bit of grain or noodle
22. Incite tense jet
23. Small, flat slab for a set of steps
24. René goes back through opening for produce
25. Money order good for dope