

SCRABBLE GRAMS

Historic and it's logo. SCRABBLE: the associated logo, the design of the distinctive SCRABBLE brand game board, and the distinctive letter tile designs are trademarks of Hasbro in the United States and Canada © 2016 Hasbro. All rights reserved. Distributed by Tribune Content Agency, LLC.

RACK 1: A, O, O, N, P, R, S, I

RACK 2: E, I, N, D, C, R, N, I (1st Letter Triple)

RACK 3: E, I, O, G, V, R, B, S (Double Word Score)

RACK 4: A, E, I, M, R, S, H, A

PAR SCORE 145-155
BEST SCORE 212

FOUR RACK TOTAL
TIME LIMIT: 20 MIN

DIRECTIONS: Make a 2- to 7-letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word, using scoring directions at right. Finally, 7-letter words get 50-point bonus. "Blanks" used as any letter have no point value. All the words are in the Official SCRABBLE Players Dictionary, 5th Edition.

Answer below

For more information on tournaments and clubs, email NASPA - North American SCRABBLE Players Association info@scrabbleplayers.org. Visit our website - www.scrabbleplayers.org. For puzzle inquiries contact scrgrams@gmail.com.

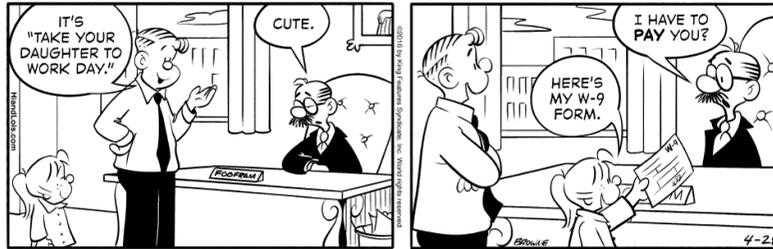
NON SEQUITUR by Wiley



BLONDIE by Dean Young and John Marshall



HI & LOIS by Chance Browne



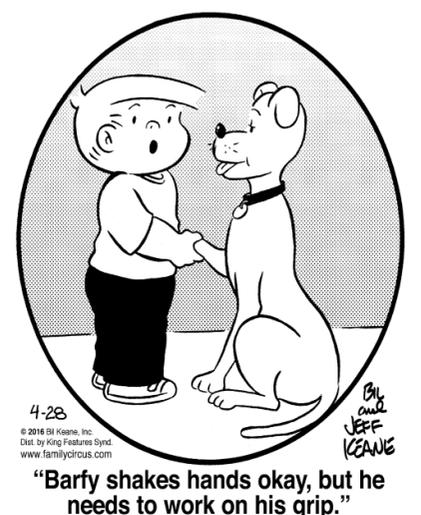
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE by Chris Browne



DENNIS THE MENACE by Hank Ketcham



THE FAMILY CIRCUS by Bill Keane



JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

XOYPE

DAYLM

GAUTOE

NARPYT

Check out the new, free JUST JUMBLE app

How did you get ready so quickly? I was too excited to sleep.

TO START HIS NEW JOB AT THE NUCLEAR POWER PLANT, HE NEEDED TO

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: BRIBE MINCE HECTIC PURSER
Answer: Two, three, five and seven will always be — IN THEIR PRIME

Creutzfeldt-Jakob is a sporadic disease

Dear Dr. Roach: My 58-year-old daughter has Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease. She started to have memory problems in April 2015. I know this disease is rare, and I can't find out much about it. We know she doesn't have long to live, because she can't feed or take care of herself. Needless to say, I am heartbroken. Is this something her children should worry about? — B.R.

I am very sorry to hear it. Of all the many diseases, physicians fear the degenerative neurological diseases the most. Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease comes in several forms; 90 percent of the time, it is sporadic Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease, caused by a genetic mutation that causes accumulation of a prion protein in the brain. This prion is infectious. In the past, improper sterilization and transplants led to transmission of the disease.

DR. KEITH ROACH TO YOUR GOOD HEALTH

Transmission of prion protein seems to be the cause of variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease, of which there are about 225 reported cases in the world's literature, and probably related to bovine spongiform encephalopathy, so-called mad cow disease. It is believed that no cases of variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob have been acquired in the U.S.

There is a familial type of Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease, reported most commonly in Libya, Chile and Hungary. It is caused by a different gene mutation, and is distinguished molecularly. There is usually a family history.

Sporadic Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease shows rapidly progressive neurologic damage, including memory, behavior and abnormal movements. There is no effective treat-

ment, and death usually occurs within a year of symptom onset. More information is available at www.ninds.nih.gov/index.htm.

Dear Dr. Roach: I am trying to reduce or eliminate my use of Nexium, which I have been taking for about 10 years. I have prescription-strength 40 mg, and I have purchased over-the-counter 20-mg capsules. My intent is to take 40 mg one day and 20 mg the next and so on for a while, then go to all 20 mg every day, then take the 20 mg every other day. Depending on how I react, I will stop taking it altogether. My doctor is in support of me trying to reduce or stop taking this medication.

My question is: The drug sheets issued with the 40-mg capsule say to take the medicine and wait 60 minutes with no food. The OTC information leaflet that is included with the capsules say to take

the medicine first thing in the morning, and does not indicate any need to wait before eating. Why is there a difference in these two instructions on taking Nexium? I need to know if I can just take the capsules when I get up in the morning before I eat my breakfast and not worry about waiting an hour to eat, which I find hard to do. — B.G.

Tapering down the dose when trying to stop a proton pump inhibitor like esomeprazole (Nexium) is an excellent idea, as there can be worsening of symptoms if suddenly stopped. Your plan for tapering is just what I tell my patients.

Food slows and reduces the absorption of Nexium by about 50 percent. This may not be enough to make a difference in symptoms, but you should be aware of it as you are tapering off the medication.

Cy the Cynic entered the club quite pale. "Are you okay?" I asked. "I'm allergic to exercise," Cy said. "I tried to jog, and I had a reaction. I was short of breath, sweating profusely and my heart was pounding. Very dangerous."

When Cy is declarer, he won't exercise restraint. At four hearts, Cy took the ace of clubs and plunged ahead by leading a spade from dummy, ducking East's jack. Cy won the trump return, lost another spade to East's ten, won the next trump and ruffed a spade with dummy's last trump.

SPADE LOSER

The Cynic then ruffed a club, drew trumps and tried a diamond to dummy's jack. East won, and when diamonds broke 4-2, Cy's last spade was a loser. Down one.

Cy must be allergic to planning. He does best to ruff a club in his hand at Trick Two and go to the A-K of diamonds to ruff two more clubs with high trumps. Cy then concedes a diamond. He wins East's trump return in dummy and ruffs the last diamond, and dummy still has two high trumps for 10 tricks.

DAILY QUESTION

You hold: ♠ K 7 6 3 ♥ A K Q 9 7 ♦ 6 3 2 ♣ 5. Your partner opens one

spade. The next player passes. What do you say?

ANSWER: An expert panel might choose various actions. A "splinter" jump to four clubs to show a spade fit and club shortness is possible. So is a direct forcing spade raise such as a conventional 2NT bid, though that action would imply balanced pattern. I would try a response of two hearts, planning to raise the spades vigorously later.

South dealer
Both sides vulnerable

NORTH		EAST
♠ 5 2		♠ J 10
♥ J 10 8		♥ 6 4 3
♦ A K J 5		♦ Q 10 9 7
♣ A 8 4 3		♣ 10 9 6 2
	SOUTH	
	♠ K 7 6 3	
	♥ A K Q 9 7	
	♦ 6 3 2	
	♣ 5	

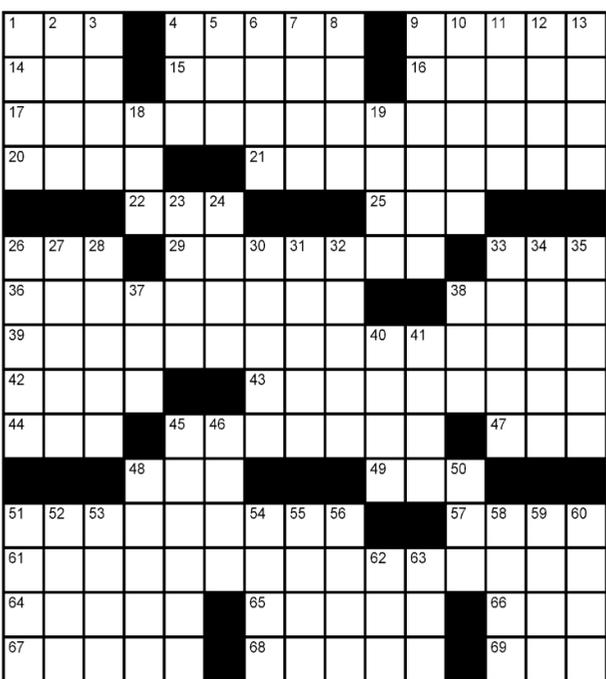
South 1 ♥ West 1 ♠ North 2 ♦ East Pass
2 ♥ Pass 4 ♥ All Pass

Opening lead — ♣ K
©2016 Tribune Content Agency, LLC

The Daily Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

ACROSS

- Uh-huh!
- Had title to
- Swimming stroke
- Opening Day pitcher
- Operate a loom
- Catch a film again
- Connie Francis hit
- "Damn Yankees" siren
- Rival pontiffs
- Internet
- Upscale '60s Ford
- Engage in litigation
- Duty-free
- West of Hollywood
- Let loose
- Poke fun
- Land of the lost
- Western tribe
- Numerical datum
- Apiece
- Golden oldie
- Congee
- Theater sign letters
- Contrain milieu
- Winter sport
- Tanguay and Gabor
- Christopher Reeve film
- Carrying a weapon
- Tropical creeper
- Oath
- Calendar elements
- Nettlesome
- Foolish individual



Visit: ADailyCrossword.com

DOWN

- Sailing vessel with two masts

- Nymph in love with Narcissus
- Banana strip
- Be beholding to
- Soggy
- Okinawa port
- ___ as we speak
- Obligation
- Burial chambers
- Make fairway repairs
- Urgent letters?
- Existed
- Majors and Marvin
- Lacking experience
- Portraitist's materials & others
- Army post
- Offer a recap
- Come together
- Church leader
- Bantu language
- Some jabs
- Buchanan and Ferber
- Convenes
- Eaglet's abode
- Construct
- Sullivan and Koch
- Intermediate learning inst.
- Name on an elevator
- Candle part
- Assembled masses
- Nessie's home
- Like some nighties
- Up to the present
- How 'bout that!
- Fruit center
- Samm's or Calve
- Common seaweed
- Border lake
- Consenting votes
- Long live!
- Old Testament book
- Puts in a hem
- Squirt from a squid
- Vote option

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved

Y	O	U	A	R	E	C	O	S	S	R	T	A	
E	L	S	T	O	N	A	K	A	T	O	E	S	
N	E	S	T	E	D	L	A	H	D	I	D	A	H
S	O	R	A	O	N	L	Y	L	O	N	E	L	Y
			C	E	N	T			R	K	O		
A	L	P	H	A	S	P	A	S	M	O	D	I	C
B	O	R	E	U	P	A	D	A	S	R	S	O	
O	P	E	D	I	F	Y	O	U	S	I	L	O	
R	E	S	C	L	A	N	D	E	N	V	E	R	
T	R	I	P	L	E	S	E	C	M	E	E	T	S
			D	I	E		I	D	E	E			
A	R	E	N	T	H	E	R	E	Z	E	B	U	
M	A	N	N	E	R	E	D	C	A	I	M	A	
E	T	T	A	I	C	H	A	N	E	M	I	A	
R	A	S	E	O	K	S	F	O	R	Y	O	U	

Scrabble Solution

PAR SCORE 145-155
BEST SCORE 212

RACK 4 = 76
RACK 3 = 76
RACK 2 = 15
RACK 1 = 59

SOLUTION: SCRAMBLE GRAMS

BEETLE BAILEY by Mort Walker



SNUFFY SMITH by Fred Lasswell



Conceptis Sudoku

	9						6	
			7		8			
3			5		1			8
	4	8					7	5
		7	2				4	1
6			2		9			1
			1		7			
2								3

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved

8	9	3	4	2	1	6	7	5
2	6	7	5	8	9	4	1	3
4	5	1	3	6	7	9	2	8
3	7	8	9	4	5	2	6	1
6	4	5	2	1	8	3	9	7
1	2	9	6	7	3	5	8	4
5	8	2	1	3	6	7	4	9
7	3	4	8	9	2	1	5	6
9	1	6	7	5	4	8	3	2