

SCRABBLE GRAMS

Hasbro and its 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.

2nd Letter Double

RACK 1: A, I, Y, W, S, P, H

RACK 2: A, I, T, G, C, R, T

RACK 3: O, O, U, F, D, L, R

Triple Word Score

RACK 4: E, I, U, W, R, V, P

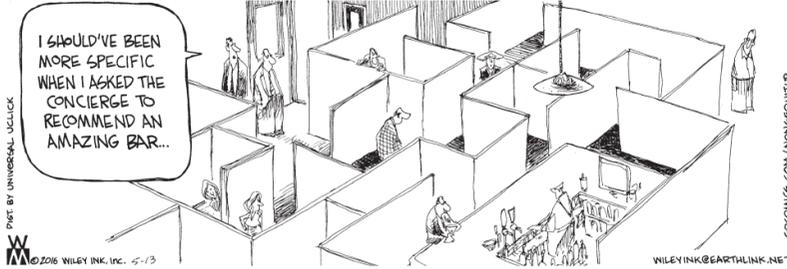
PAR SCORE 155-165
BEST SCORE 237

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.

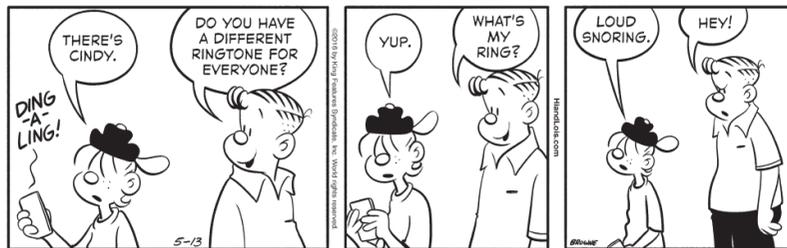
NON SEQUITUR by Wiley



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 THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

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

ODWUN

RYBUL

GEVNOR

SONEOL

Check out the new, free JUST JUMBLE app

After rolling 12 strikes in a row for a 500, he was —

Answer here: _____

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: ADDED WINCE HIDDEN IMMUNE
Answer: When the kids complained at dinner, their parents were being — "WHINED" AND DINED

Megestrol can affect testosterone level

Dear Dr. Roach: In January 2014 during my yearly physical, my doctor noted my low body weight for a male of 27 in good health. In an effort to help me gain weight, he prescribed megestrol. Three months later, I realized it was affecting my sexual performance and desire. My doctor had me discontinue its use. My research indicated that megestrol will decrease your testosterone.

He then ordered a testosterone check. Results were testosterone 306 and free testosterone 5.8, both low. He then began a testosterone shot every three weeks. I had these shots for four months, and, fearing the shots were jeopardizing my future fertility, I saw an endocrinologist. The endocrinologist advised me to stop the shots and allow my body to rebuild itself.

In follow-up tests five months later, I was at 168, and after an additional five

DR. KEITH ROACH
TO YOUR GOOD HEALTH

months, 216. I will be tested again in May. My questions are these: Do you think the megestrol decreased my testosterone? Will my testosterone slowly build into a healthy range to allow me to have children? — PG.

I am very confused and a little upset by your description of your initial treatment. Although megestrol (Megace) has been shown to be effective in weight loss due to advanced cancer, and is sometimes used in frail elderly patients with weight loss, I strongly disagree with using a powerful drug with potentially serious side effects to treat a condition with a potentially serious and what sounds like a totally unknown cause. Why do you have low body weight to begin with? Had it recently

changed? Did your initial doctor do a careful evaluation?

Megestrol is a synthetic progestin-type hormone. It does interfere with your body's ability to make its own testosterone. Unfortunately, I don't know whether your testosterone was normal to begin with. It's possible that it wasn't (and that might have to do with your initial low body weight). There isn't a clear trend with your testosterone level now, but if it continues to increase, that's a good sign.

As far as your potential for children, there's too much I don't know to be able to answer that with any degree of certainty. Your endocrinologist may choose to do a sperm count as a diagnostic test, which will give a great deal more information. Please let me know what happens.

Dear Dr. Roach: Several weeks ago, a man in his 70s wrote that he was bothered by

the need to get up to urinate two or three times a night. It had been suggested to him that he take 200 mg of ibuprofen before bed. The result was that he reduced his nocturnal urination to one trip. I tried the same with the same result, but the next day suffered my first attack of gout, experiencing painful swelling in the toes of both feet. Did the ibuprofen cause me to retain too much uric acid? — J.W.R.

I can't explain that one. Ibuprofen is a standard treatment for gout. I've never heard of it triggering a gout attack. Aspirin occasionally can trigger gout. As far as I can tell, your situation was just coincidence. However, I don't like coincidences. Sometimes, beginning treatment to lower uric acid levels in the blood (such as with the drug allopurinol) can trigger gout, but I haven't read about or seen it with ibuprofen.

Bridge
by Frank Stewart

A pinch of salt

Unlucky Louie doesn't need a recipe for disaster: He can make one out of whatever ingredients happen to be available.

When I watched today's deal in a penny game, Louie picked up the imposing South hand and foresaw a fat profit. When East preempted in diamonds, Louie contented himself with a leap to six spades.

"I'm probably missing a grand slam," Louie whispered to me, "but you know my luck. And it's Friday the 13th."

West led a low diamond, and Louie frowned when he saw dummy. He took the ace and raced off eight rounds of trumps, but West threw all his clubs, saving four hearts. Louie then took the A-K of hearts but lost the last two tricks.

spade, you respond INT and he bids two diamonds. What do you say?

ANSWER: Though it may seem counterintuitive, the correct bid is two spades. Partner has at least five spades but maybe only four diamonds, and he will often do better at the 5-2 fit. Your hand isn't strong enough for an encouraging bid of 2NT, but give partner another chance in case he has extra values and your side can make game.

West dealer
Both sides vulnerable

NORTH			
♠ 65	♥ None	♦ None	♣ None
♥ J87	♠ 1042	♠ KQJ8742	♥ A K 6
♦ J82	♦ KQ109765	♦ A 3	♦ None
♣ AK852	♣ Q107		
WEST			
♠ 1093	♥ Q953	♦ 4	♣ J9643
EAST			
♠ None	♥ 1042	♦ KQ109765	♣ Q107

MINUS SCORE

"Doesn't matter whether I hold good or bad hands," Louie grumbled. "I still end up with a minus score."

How would you play the slam?

After East discards on the first trump, Louie can take one more high trump, then exit with a low trump to West! West must lead a club or a heart, and Louie reaches dummy and claims.

DAILY QUESTION

You hold: ♠ 65 ♥ J87 ♦ J82
♣ A K 8 5 2. Your partner opens one

West	North	East	South
Pass	Pass	3♦	6♠
All Pass			

Opening lead — ♦ 4

©2016 Tribune Content Agency, LLC

The Daily Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

- ACROSS**
- U.K. channel
 - Seasoned veteran
 - Nile bird
 - Nay opposer
 - Cobbler, at times
 - Kidder's "Superman" role
 - Everywhere
 - "Das Lied von der"
 - Pico de _____ (Pyrenees' highest peak)
 - Of the subcontinent: pref.
 - Tan and Irving
 - Sun. newspaper section, once
 - Esq. affixer
 - TV brand
 - Short hole
 - Part of m.p.g.
 - Upgrade the circuitry
 - Ibn _____ of Saudi Arabia
 - Scottish negative
 - Murkinness
 - Constitution writers
 - Old USSR space station
 - George Beverly or John
 - Speaks pompously
 - NCAA grouping
 - Roof layer
 - Govt. med. grp.
 - Law enforcement support grp.
 - Peachy follower?

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14				15							16	
17			18								19	
20					21						22	
23				24						25		
26			27							28	29	30
31						32						
33	34	35				36						37
38						39		40			41	
42				43				44			45	
46								47			48	
49	50							51			52	53
54											54	55
56	57					58	59				60	
61						62					63	
64						65					66	
67						68					69	

Visit: ADailyCrossword.com

5/13

- 56 Helmut's three
58 Post-grad degs.
60 Best
- 61 Tabula _____
62 Automaker
64 Bus. ltr. abbr.
65 Wrinkle
66 Go, in Glasgow
67 Top of the line
68 More serene
69 Shape of a pothook
- DOWN**
- To the most extreme degree
 - Cousin of bingo
 - Insertion indicator
 - Cry of despair
 - Zeppelin
 - Joyce of "Three's Company"
 - Column bases
 - Comic Foxx
 - Cookie sandwich
 - Of an abdominal pain
 - Attractive object
 - 500-mile event
 - Bishops' dioceses
 - Like a hereditary condition
 - Franklin with soul
 - Challenge twice
 - Grain bristle
 - Brit. flyboys
 - Icy satellite of Jupiter
 - Rhine feeder
 - Not as much as "Arrivederci"
 - Heroic in scope
 - Battle funds
 - Beatles song, "Blues"
 - Cost above cost
 - Garb
 - '80s scandal
 - Cheerful
 - French floor
 - Best and Ferber
 - "The Highwayman" poet
 - Dreary
 - Flat charge
 - 1300 in Roman numerals
 - Theda of the silents
 - Tenth of an ephah
 - Sugary suffix

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved

G	E	L	S	T	O	M	A	T	A	F	I	B
A	T	E	P	A	L	A	D	I	N	A	D	E
T	H	I	S	A	N	D	T	H	A	T	N	E
E	I	G	E	R	H	O	R	A	C	A	T	
S	C	H	L	E	P	P	C	A	R	L	L	E
A	N	T	S	E	A	R	S	S	C	H	M	O
S	O	H	O	S	L	A	T	E	S	E	A	R
S	N	A	G	S	M	I	A	T	A	T	I	E
A	R	S	E	N	A	L	R	I	T	U	A	L
R	O	T	B	R	E	D	A	I	S	L	E	
U	G	H	I	N	O	R	D	E	R	T	H	A
B	E	A	R	E	N	A	U	L	T	E	M	U
A	R	T	D	R	A	B	B	L	E	S	A	P

© 2015 Crosswords WRW All rights reserved

Scrabble Solution

PAR SCORE 155-165
BEST SCORE 237

RACK 4 = 95
RACK 3 = 61
RACK 2 = 9
RACK 1 = 72

SOLUTION: SCRAMBLE GRAMS

BEETLE BAILEY by Mort Walker



SNUFFY SMITH by Fred Lasswell



Conceptis Sudoku

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

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

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

Difficulty Level ★★★