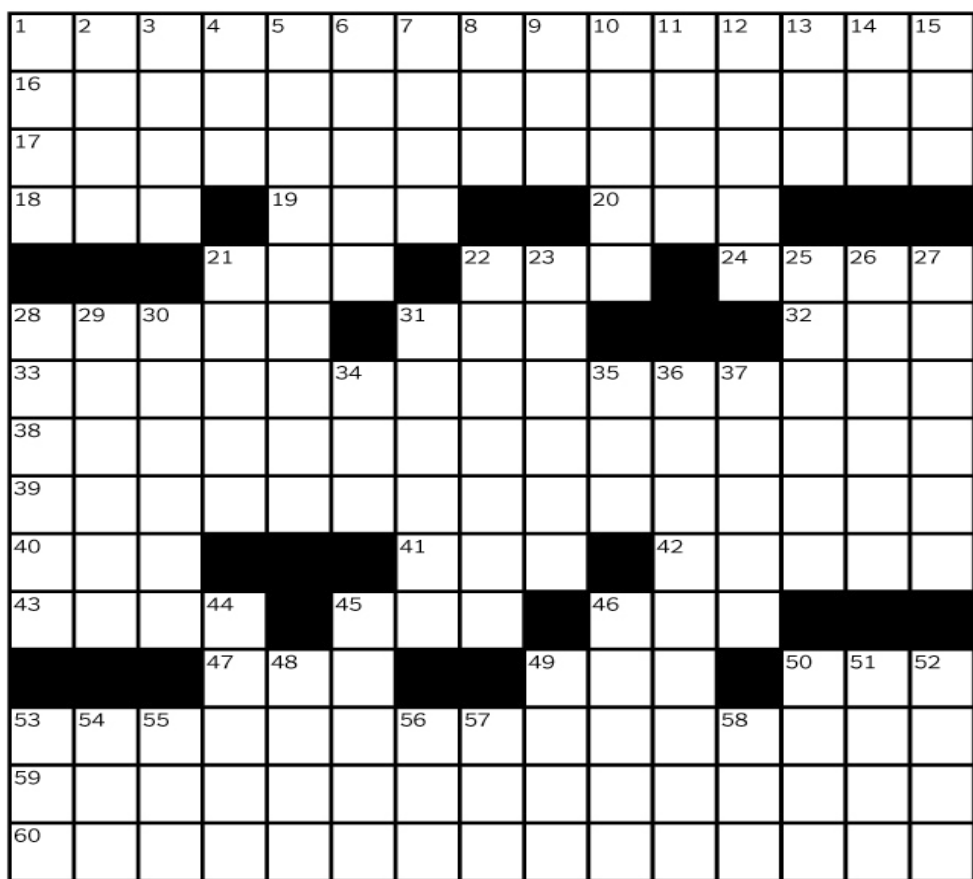
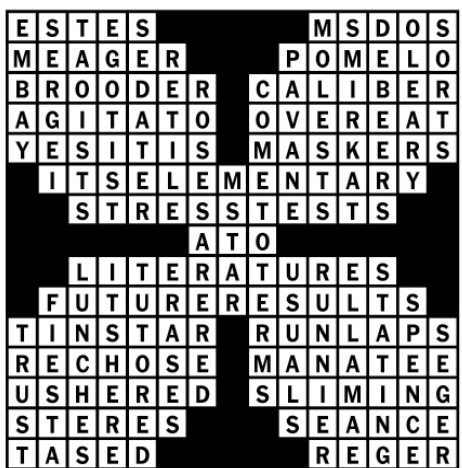


The New York Times crossword

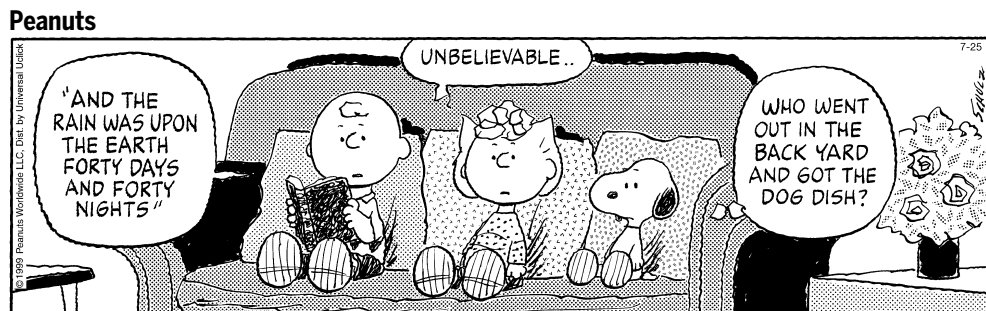
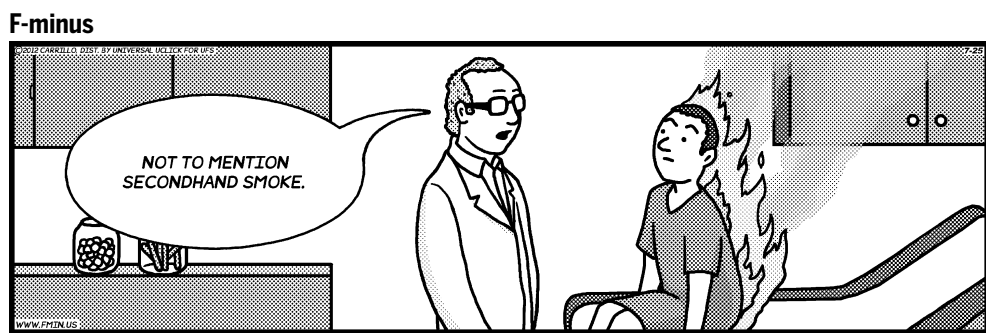
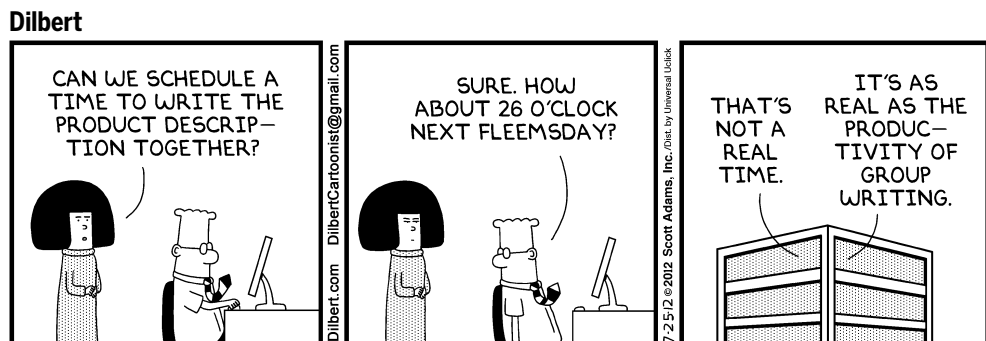


- Across
1 Dessert for an infant
16 A straight shot it's not
17 "Bi-i-g difference!"
18 Plea before going under
19 Him, in Hamburg
20 Certain chain unit: Abbr.
21 What's next to nothing in Nogales?
22 Paradise in literature
24 Produced some pitches
28 "Guten ____" (German greeting)
31 Beard growing out of an ear
32 San Francisco's ____ Valley
33 It may be pulled out while holding something up
38 Not so significantly
39 Cause for urgent action
40 Gothic leader?
41 Push around
42 Very conservative
43 [Don't touch my food!]
45 One chained to a desk, say
46 Certain chain units: Abbr.
47 Prefix with central
49 Going through
50 Fell
53 Tycoon who
25 Lets off the hook?
26 Unclaimed
27 Upper crust
28 Trouper's skill
29 New arrival of the 1950s?
30 More than fascinate
31 It shares a border with Switzerland
34 "____ said..."
35 Not single
36 Fixture in a doctor's office
37 Periodic law figs.
44 Change the borders of, say
45 Some pitch producers
46 Look a lot like
48 Dawdle
49 "____ l'amour"
50 2009 Wimbledon semifinalist Tommy
51 Best by a bit
52 Some branched pipes
53 Served the purpose
54 Urban trailer?
55 Went from soup to nuts, say
56 Syst. first implemented during W.W. I
57 Faze
58 Inits. of Ben Gunn's creator

Yesterday's solution



comics

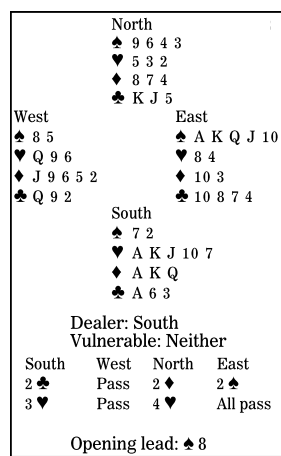


horoscope

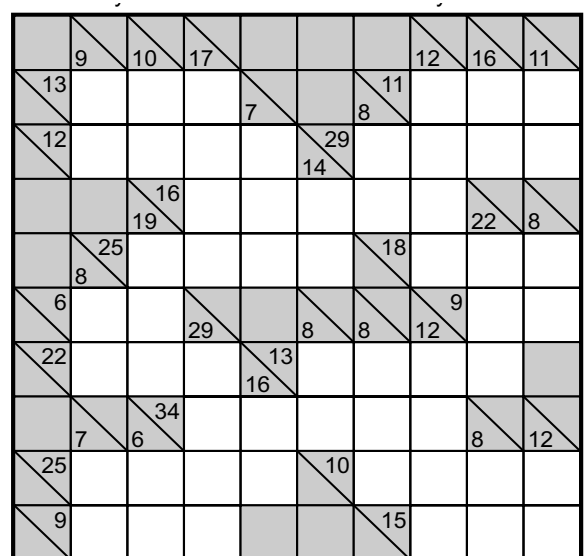
- Capricorn (DEC. 22-JAN. 19)
Aquarius (JAN. 20-FEB. 19)
Pisces (FEB. 20-MARCH 20)
Aries (MARCH 21-APRIL 19)
Taurus (APRIL 20-MAY 20)
Gemini (MAY 21-JUNE 20)
Cancer (JUNE 21-JULY 22)
Leo (JULY 23-AUG. 22)
Virgo (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22)
Libra (SEPT. 23-OCT. 23)
Scorpio (OCT. 24-NOV. 22)
Sagittarius (NOV. 23-DEC. 21)

bridge

Ivana Trump said, "Fiction writing is great. You can make up almost anything." Today's deal is made up and focuses on the trump suit. What should happen in four hearts after West leads the spade eight? South's opening bid is governed by his range for two no-trump. If it promises a good 20 to 22 points, his hand is a tad strong, but it is a bigger tad shy of a two-club opening and a two-no-trump rebid. If South uses the modern 20 or 21 points, he should upgrade to two clubs, planning to rebid two no-trump. But when East overcalls in spades, South must show his five-card heart suit instead. East takes the first two tricks in spades, then leads a third round, which South ruffs with his heart jack (or 10). Now comes the key moment of the deal. West must discard smoothly. Then declarer, assuming that East has the heart queen, will cash the heart ace, play a club to dummy's king, and return a heart to his 10 (or jack). But West will win the trick and exit with a heart or a diamond. Later, he will take the setting trick with his club queen. Note that if West overruffs at trick three, declarer will be forced to rely on the club finesse and take 10 tricks via four hearts, three diamonds and three clubs. Yes, South might take the club finesse anyway, but if it loses, a fourth round of spades will be fatal. Unless you have something important to do, it is rarely right to overruff with an honor that can score a trick later in the play.



kakuro



A Kakuro consists of a playing area of filled and empty cells similar to a crossword puzzle. Some black cells contain a diagonal slash from top left to bottom right with numbers in them, called "the clues". A number in the top right corner relates to an "across" clue and one in the bottom left a "down" clue. The object of a Kakuro is to insert digits from one to nine into the white cells to total the clue associated with it. However no digit can be duplicated in an entry.

language tips

BETTER CHINESE

男人必备 (nán rén bì bèi)
What a man must be
首先你要帅。你要是不帅, 那么你要有钱。你要是没钱, 那么你要高。你要是不高, 那么你要会说话。你要是不会说话, 那么你要幽默。你要是不会幽默, 那么你要懂得幽默。

First of all, you must look handsome. If you are not handsome, you must be rich. If you are not rich, you must be tall. If you are not tall, you must be a good conversation partner. If you are not a good conversation partner, you must be humorous. If you are not humorous, you must understand humor.

你要是连幽默都不懂, 那么你就得体贴一点。你要是不会体贴, 那么你就温柔一点。你要是连温柔都不会, 那么你就酷一点。你要是酷不起来, 那么你就得装得老实一点。你要是看起来就不老实, 那么……你就靠“运气”吧!

If you don't understand humor, you must be caring. If you are not caring, you must be tender. If you are not even tender, you must be cool. If you are not able to be cool, you must pretend to be honest. If you don't look honest, then ... you need to be lucky.

— From Chinese Humorous Stories, by Liang Yanmin. Beijing Language and Culture University Press.

BETTER ENGLISH

“便民拖鞋”现身北京地铁

北京地铁一些客流高峰站为乘客准备了便民拖鞋, 以方便坐地铁被挤丢鞋的乘客。不过这些借出去的便民拖鞋有些从未被归还, 地铁工作人员近日发出倡议, 希望这些拖鞋能“有去有回”, 以帮助更多乘客。

Replacement slipper就是便民拖鞋, 也叫backup slippers.

In addition to the replacement slippers, the station has also prepared hundreds of raincoats and medical kits for emergencies, such as mint cream and water for sunstroke victims and brown sugar and candies for people exhibiting symptoms of hypoglycemia.

除了“便民拖鞋”, 该地铁站还准备了几百件雨衣、以及医药箱等以备不时之需。医药箱中有供中暑乘客使用的薄荷油和水、也有为低血糖乘客准备的红糖和糖果等。

Replacement在这儿的意思是“代用品、替代物”, 等同于substitute. 北京地铁在每个transfer station (换乘车站)都准备了五双以上便民拖鞋, 以方便在rush hour (高峰期)被挤掉鞋的乘客替换。

乘地铁挤掉鞋除了因为heavy traffic flow (客流量大), 还因为夏天人们都喜欢穿容易掉的flip-flop (人字拖)等。鞋类统称footwear, 夏天常见的凉鞋种类有flat sandal (平底凉鞋), thong sandal (夹趾凉鞋), wedge sandal (坡跟凉鞋), peep-toe sandal (鱼嘴凉鞋)等。今年夏天很流行platform sandal (厚底凉鞋)和gladiator sandal (罗马鞋)等。

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Advertisement for Chaoyang Theatre, featuring acrobatics and macrocosm performances, with showtimes and contact information.