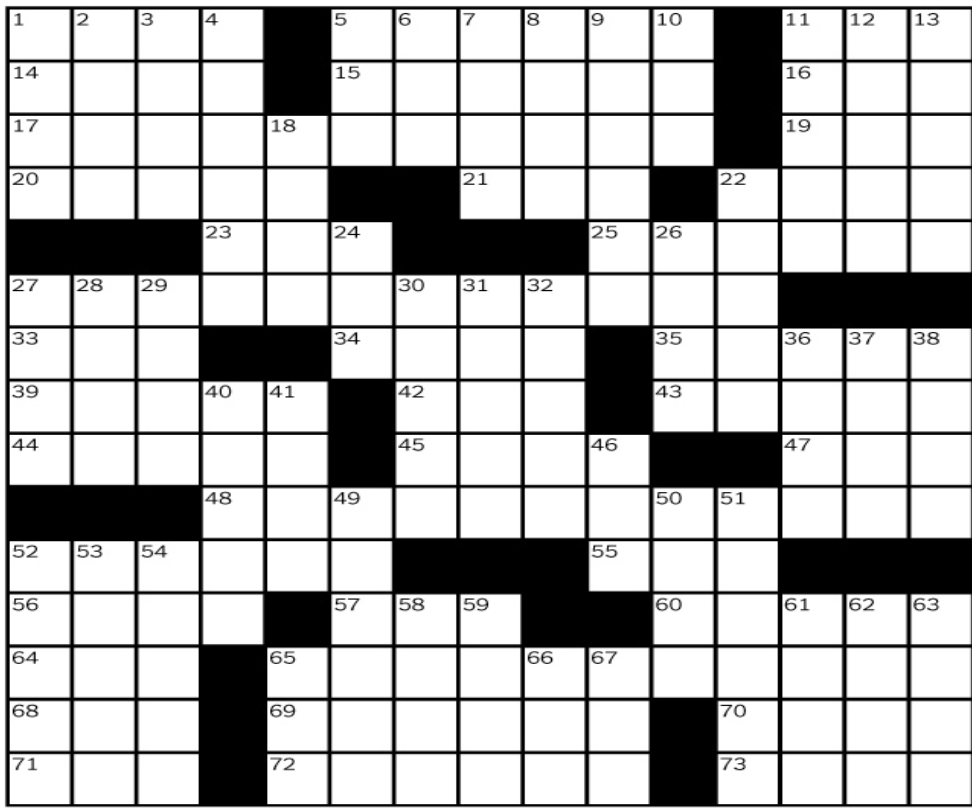
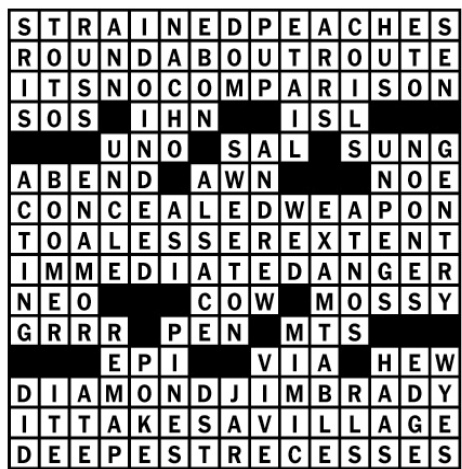


The New York Times crossword

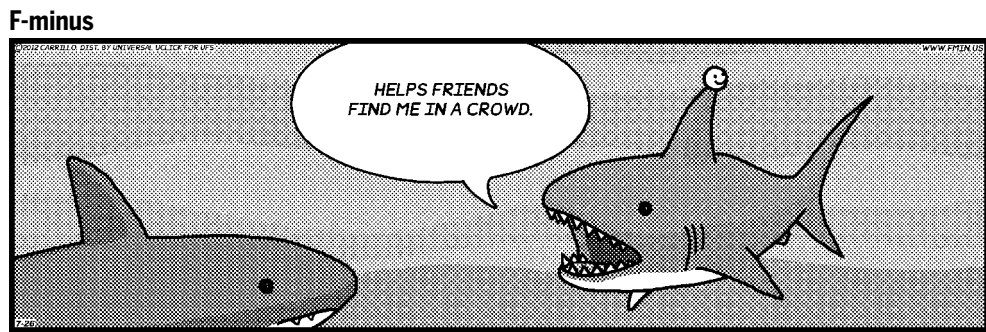
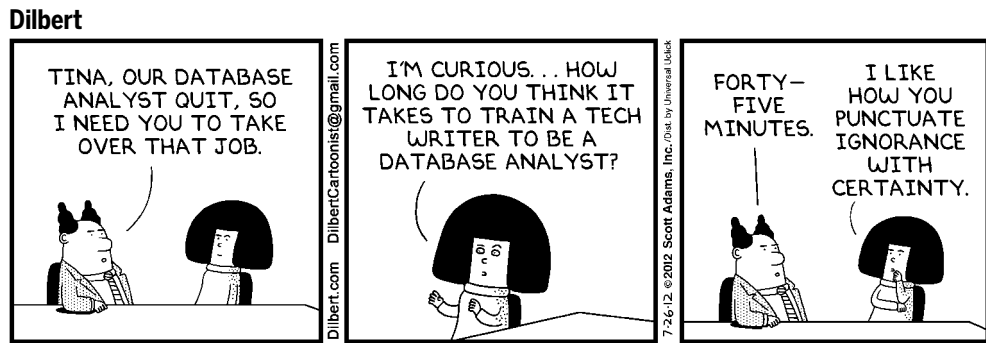


- Across**
- 1 Stick in one's \_\_\_
  - 5 Czech capital
  - 11 Banned organic compound, for short
  - 14 TV's warrior princess
  - 15 Compassionate
  - 16 Kind of baseball or battery
  - 17 A classic beauty who is not all there
  - 19 Satellite-based navigation aid, in brief
  - 20 That is, in Latin
  - 21 Plains tribe
  - 22 Wrap worn in India
  - 23 Broadcast
  - 25 Mini-hospital
  - 27 Booster of the Apollo space program
  - 33 Frigid
  - 34 Younger brother of Cain and Abel
  - 35 Lowest point
  - 39 Country on the south side of Mount Everest
  - 42 Chinese philosopher \_\_\_-tzu
  - 43 Lopez with the 1963 hit "If I Had a Hammer"
  - 44 Spanish artist El \_\_\_
  - 45 Colored part of the eye
  - 47 Lead-in to maniac or surfing
  - 48 1960s-'70s Ford Company model
  - 52 Microscopic blob
  - 55 West Coast travel hub, informally
- Down**
- 1 116, in ancient Rome
  - 2 Clarinet or sax
  - 3 Actress Hathaway
  - 4 Wisconsin city
  - 5 What an M.A. might go on to earn
  - 6 Regret
  - 7 Bullets, informally
  - 8 Walk or trot
  - 9 Open with a key
  - 10 Fairness-in-hiring inits.
  - 11 Polytheistic
  - 12 Blue Grotto's island
  - 13 Fundamental
  - 18 Use a swizzle stick
  - 22 Indian instrument
  - 24 E.R. workers
  - 26 Period after Shrove Tuesday
  - 27 Be in a 32-Down, e.g.
  - 28 Taiwan-based computer giant
  - 29 Genre
  - 30 Archaeologist's find
  - 31 Japanese port
  - 32 Group in church robes
  - 36 "Carpe \_\_\_"
  - 37 Playwright William
  - 38 Hilarious one
  - 40 High points
  - 41 Richard \_\_\_, Clarence Darrow defendant
  - 46 Word part: Abbr.
  - 49 Wreak havoc on
  - 50 Battle of Normandy city
  - 51 Rust and lime
  - 52 Diminish
  - 53 See 68-Across
  - 54 \_\_\_ the Grouch
  - 58 Modern Persia
  - 59 Italian wine city
  - 61 Egyptian pyramid city
  - 62 Wife of Zeus
  - 63 Old Russian despot
  - 65 "What, me worry?" magazine
  - 66 So-so grade
  - 67 Donkey

Yesterday's solution



comics



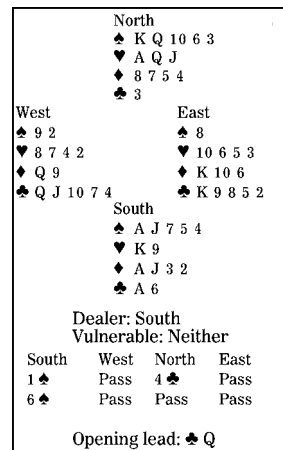
horoscope

- Capricorn** (DEC. 22-JAN. 19)  
Be sure to render full service for what you are being paid to do. If your performance fails to meet expectations, it could damage your reputation.
- Aquarius** (JAN. 20-FEB. 19)  
When risky involvements are at stake, follow your instincts and don't go against your prudent judgment. If your inner voice warns you about taking a chance, heed it.
- Pisces** (FEB. 20-MARCH 20)  
If you do something kind for another, do it without making the recipient feel as if he or she is now obligated to you in some manner. That would negate whatever nice thing you've just done.
- Aries** (MARCH 21-APRIL 19)  
Don't hesitate to revive some of your long-standing plans if they didn't produce as hoped. Some kind of minor change might turn out to be just what the doctor ordered.
- Taurus** (APRIL 20-MAY 20)  
Spend any small surplus you might have on something you consider to be worthwhile, instead of frittering it away. At least you'll have something to show for it.
- Gemini** (MAY 21-JUNE 20)  
If you feel what is being asked of you is unjust, don't make any concessions, even if you're under pressure. Make sure to take a firm position and stand up for what you believe.
- Cancer** (JUNE 21-JULY 22)  
Even though they might not be as substantial as you'd hoped, be appreciative of any gains that come your way. Anything is better than coming up empty-handed.
- Leo** (JULY 23-AUG. 22)  
There is a possibility that certain key elements might not be as advantageous as you first thought, so be smart and carefully screen all proposals that are presented to you.
- Virgo** (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22)  
Although your perceptions and insights are quite sharp, the methods you use to implement them might be impractical. Try to execute your ideas as cleverly as they deserve.
- Libra** (SEPT. 23-OCT. 23)  
You might know what you want, but if you are clueless about how to transmit your ideas, you won't get anywhere. Try to do your best to lucidly communicate your brainstorm.
- Scorpio** (OCT. 24-NOV. 22)  
The possibilities for achieving success look quite encouraging, but only if you do not involve yourself with persons who have no real interests in your aims. Stick with supporters only.
- Sagittarius** (NOV. 23-DEC. 21)  
Honor all the commitments you've made, even if you have second thoughts. Though other alternatives may look promising, keeping your word will count the most.

bridge

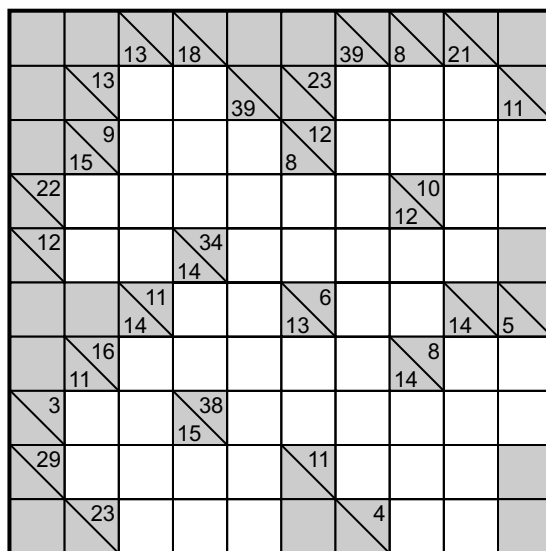
Friedrich Nietzsche said, "It is good to express a thing twice, right at the outset, so as to give it a right foot and a left. Truth can surely stand on one leg, but with two it will be able to walk and get around."

When you are teaching, it is good to repeat the key points because many students do not learn well by listening. In a newspaper column, once ought to be sufficient for two reasons: Most people learn much better by reading, and it can easily be reread. In this deal, though, the problem is to avoid two diamond losers. How should South play in six spades after West leads the club queen? North's four-club response was a splinter bid, showing four or more spades, the values for at least game, and a singleton (or void) in clubs. South bid what he thought he could make. The right approach is to eliminate hearts and clubs, then to play the ace and another diamond, hoping an opponent has king- or queen-doubleton. Then he will be employed, forced to concede a ruff-and-sluff. But just in case East has the doubleton, South should cash his diamond ace early; maybe it won't occur to East to throw his honor under the ace. Later, the endplay will be more obvious. Here is South's best line: Win with the club ace, cash the diamond ace, ruff the second club on the board, draw trumps, and run the hearts, discarding a diamond from hand. Then play another diamond. As you can see, after West wins with his queen and returns a heart or a club, declarer ruffs on the board and sluffs his last diamond.



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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.

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

Yesterday's solution

language tips

BETTER CHINESE

问候语 (wèn hòu yǔ)  
Greetings

老外比尔退休后来中国学汉语，第一课学会了问候语。刚出教室，在电梯里遇到了一位小姐，比尔殷勤地问了一句：“你好吗”，小姐给了他一个白眼。(lǎo wài bǐ ěr tuì xiū hòu lái zhōng guó xué hàn yǔ, dì yī kè xué huì le wèn hòu yǔ。gāng chū jiào shì, zài diàn tī lǐ yù dào le yī wèi xiǎo jī, bǐ ěr yīn qīn dì wèn le yī jù: "nǐ hǎo ma", xiǎo jī gǎi le yī gè bái yǎn。)

Bill came to China to learn Chinese after he retired. He learned greetings in the first lesson, and tried to use them when he met the young lady in the lift just after the class. Bill said to her with eager attentiveness, "ni ma hao?" The young lady gave him a supercilious look.

比尔不死心，想了想又问了一句“你好吗”，小姐又瞪了他一眼。出了电梯后，比尔终于想通了，在大街上追上小姐，大声叫道：“(妈)妈，你好！”(bǐ ěr bú sǐ xīn, xiǎo jī xiǎng le xiǎng yòu wèn le yī jù "hǎo nǐ ma", xiǎo jī yòu dèng le tā yī yǎn。chū le diàn tī hòu, bǐ ěr zhōng yú xiǎng tōng le, zài dà jiē shàng zhuī shàng xiǎo jī, dà shēng jiào dào: "(mā) mā, nǐ hǎo!")

Bill didn't give up, so after thinking for a while, he asked again, "hao ni ma?" She gave him a glare; Bill finally got it after they got out of the lift, so he caught up with the young lady and spoke loudly, "ma, ni hao!" (Mom, how do you do!)?

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

BETTER ENGLISH

今天你加班吗?

- Are you working overtime today?  
今天你加班吗?
- We get time off in lieu as payment for working overtime.  
我们加班没有加班费，可以以休假代替。
- I need to finish this project I've been working on. So I guess I am going to work through the night.  
我得把手头上这个项目做完，我想我得熬夜了。
- We all need some down time.  
我们都需要时间放松放松。
- You know how you have to "defragment" your computer? Well, sometimes our brains need some defragmenting, too!  
你知道我们需要定期清理电脑吗? 有时候，人脑也需要清理清理。
- I want the boss to notice my devotion! The economy is not great these days and I don't want to get laid off!  
我希望老板能注意到我很敬业，现在经济形势不好，我可不想被解雇。
- Nothing annoys me more than having to stay late and work overtime without pay.  
我最烦的就是加班，而且是没有加班费的加班!
- All week, I'd planned to leave office early to go to the ball game. But the boss just threw a monkey wrench into my plans: he asked me to stay late to finish up a special report for him.  
整整一星期我都在打算要早点儿下班去看那场球赛。但是我那老板却把我的全盘计划都打翻了——他要我加班为他写完一份特别报告。
- If you add up all the vacation time and comp hours, I have a lot of time.  
如果把我的假期和加班换来的补偿时间加起来的话，我有很多时间可以休息呢!

—To learn more expressions, please log on to <http://language.chinadaily.com.cn>. Follow us on Sina Weibo at <http://weibo.com/languageips>.

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