

Puzzler

CODE WORDS

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1 FIRST WORDS



Do you recognise these opening words: 'In that pleasant district of Merry England which is watered by the river Don, there extended in ancient times a large forest, covering the greater part of the beautiful hills and valleys which lie between Sheffield and Doncaster'? The lower grid reveals the title of the novel from which these come.

	15	11	2	26	22	22		10	2	20	18	1	17	
7		21		17		2	26	1		10		16		1
12	7	2	3	14	11	7		8		24	26	12	14	17
20		7		3		18		26		5		1		23
24	26	17	6	1		1	5	1	13		20	24	24	5
		14				17		15		20			20	
26	17	11	7	2	4		15	3	20	24	19	20	2	3
	1			7			1			15			23	
19	14	17	13	12	14	12	1		24	7	6	25	20	9
	6			1		2		6				7		
3	21	20	3		15	7	5	20		15	21	5	24	5
26		9		9		23		24		4		2		7
15	20	10	2	1		14		20	9	26	15	14	17	6
4		1		1		15	14	16		24		13		20
	6	2	7	3	3	7		5	1	24	24	1	13	

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

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
		T										
14	S		17	18	19	A	21	22	23	24	25	26

14	23	20	17	21	7	1
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The first word reading down the twelfth column developed following the use of an abbreviation for the Latin word 'quando' (when) used in the 16th and 17th centuries in stage plays and scripts.

5		5		13		24		22	9	11	3	17	22	22
3	5	3	12	11	14	5	5		25		17		21	
17		14		2		8		19	3	25	22	6	3	22
8	5	5		2	5	14	11		25				18	
25		15		11			3	11	6	6	25	16	11	8
19	1	17	11	6	26	22	2		25		26		6	
14		19		14			22		14		8	5	7	5
	18		14	10	15	5		16	10	2	22		22	
2	11	23	22		5		4			22		20		11
	25		2		13		11	1	17	11	8	17	6	7
15	2	25	4	6	22	19	19			19		2		25
	P	R	I											
	8				2		18	25	19	19		8	5	14
4	25	26	2	25	20	20		3		25		5		11
	6		11		17		26	5	17	7	18	6	17	14
2	22	3	10	3	8	22		6		6		7		22

A B C D E F G H I / J K L M N O P / Q R / S T U V W X Y Z

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	R											
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	P										I	



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3 CODEWORD



The second word reading across the top row is a late Old English word possibly deriving from the Old Norse word for 'harbour'.

22	24	3	12	8	22	10	7	24		3	10	26	24	6
24		11		10		15		17		11		20		24
3	10	18	13	20	15	3		23	10	6	10	1	24	10
24		14		15		11		11		13		7		7
10	22	20	10		23	22	20	15	21		2	11	6	24
7		6		22		24		25		20		22		6
	20	16	14	11	11			22	24	15	7	12	14	24
10				18		1		24		15				8
19	22	10	26	10	8	11			5	25	20	7	15	
15		1		6		6		19		24		22		5
11	6	1	24		11	4	4	24	22		7	11	4	25
22		22		9		24		3		23		8		20
19	11	25	5	25	24	7		10	19	10	6	8	11	6
24		10		22		7		14		20		24		1
8	11	14	14	12		20	6	4	24	22	24	6	1	24

A
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13	26

4 CRYPTOGRAM

Can you work out this quotation by author Nina Bawden?

See the next page for how to solve cryptograms. One letter is included to get you started.

Y	C	S	Y	M	C		O	E	S		I	S	X	,	D		L	C	R	I		U	C	C	N		D	S		N	C								
		O																																					
N	B	U	D	C	L	P	S	J	U		P		I	S	X	,	D		T	X	S	O		E	S	O		D	E	C	B								
									.																														
D	E	P	X	T		S	L		M	C	R	L	X		R	Z	S	J	D		S	D	E	C	L		Y	C	S	Y	M	C							
X	S	F	C	M	U		R	L	C		R		F	C	L	B		P	N	Y	S	L	D	R	X	D		Y	R	L	D		S	K					
S	J	L				C	I	J	G	R	D	P	S	X																									
															.																								

The word reading down the sixth column dates from the 1690s and comes from a Late Latin word meaning 'flat cake'.

23		15		16		9		3	24	3	6	17	18	18
21	23	16	19	3	13	23	6		7		7		11	
13		12		22		3		7	6	17	16	7	25	18
9	23	13		1	3	16	22		2				17	
3		5		17			25	6	25	18	23	8	9	17
14	7	7	5	20	7	16	15		1		17		24	
12		6		23			17		23		7	24	4	17
	18		8	12	5	17		14	9	23	6		12	
4	25	16	9		7		16			13		18		13
	16		25		16		23	8	18	5	16	25	18	17
7	10	17	16	18	5	17	13			3		8		16
	17				3		5	23	16	5		18	23	13
17	12	17	8	23	9	9		10		25		7		9
	7		23		9		16	7	23	22	18	3	22	17
22	16	23	12	21	23	6		20		17		9		26

A
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V
W
X
Y
Z

1	14
2	15
3	16
4	17
5	18
6	19
7	20
8	21
9	22
10	23
11	24
12	25
13	26

CRYPTOGRAM SOLVING TIPS

1 Apostrophes are helpful. If one comes before the last letter of a word, that letter is probably an **S** or a **T**.

2 Single-letter words will be an **I** or an **A**. Watch out for recurring three-letter words – they could be **AND** or **THE** (and if you find a four-letter word starting with the same three letters, you've probably got a **YOU/YOUR** or **THE/THEY** combination).

3 Double letters are a good indication – at the end of a word, for instance, they are probably a pair of **Ss**, with an **E** preceding. And at the end of a three-letter word, you've probably got an **ALL** or **TOO**.

4 A word of 5 or more letters with **G** as the final letter probably ends **ING**; an **I** as the third-to-last letter could indicate an **ING** ending or an ending of **TION**. **H** is almost invariably preceded by **C**, **S**, **T** or **W**.

5 Don't make the mistake of assuming that the most frequently repeated letter must be an **E**. This would probably be true of a long passage, but it's quite possible to have a single sentence without any **Es** in it at all.

6 Practice is everything with code-breaking. The more cryptograms you solve, the more adept you will become at recognising significant patterns to help you crack the code.

H A C

6 CODEWORD

19	11	6	18		11	20	13	6		1	11	15
3		26		13		11		19		2		5
12	11	13	7	5	3	22		11	13	5	19	15
11		3		7		2		11		17		7
22	11	17	4	15		8	11	20	20	2	5	4
15				3		15				5		18
	8	1	2	22	22		14	13	17	4	15	
6		16				3		20				25
3	21	3	9	2	5	4		6	21	15	3	7
1		19		17		16		16		10		11
18	11	24	15	22		3	10	11	19	3	17	11
15		15		15		6		8		17		17
7	2	17		7	11	8	15		6	15	23	18

A	1	14
B	2	15
C	3	16
D	4	17
E	5	18
F	6	19
G	7	20
H	8	21
I	9	22
J	10	23
K	11	24
L	12	25
M	13	26
N		
O		
P		
Q		
R		
S		
T		
U		
V		
W		
X		
Y		
Z		

Two small codewords.
Not so easy!

7 CODEWORD

O W L

	2	13	19	7	21		14	5	22	12	24	
20		19		21				19		8		18
8	9	10	19	5	5		15	13	8	17	21	9
17		9		4				18		8		19
7	10	21	13	22	2		3	21	5	5	19	25
3		10		2	6	19	19	12		12		9
					10		8					
2		10		11	8	22	10	18		2		2
13	6	21	10	8	14		2	5	19	8	1	6
19		12		21				15		14		15
25	6	22	9	9	3		21	23	8	16	21	16
5		9		13				19		8		3
	17	15	12	6	2		22	9	26	21	10	

A	1	14
B	2	15
C	3	16
D	4	17
E	5	18
F	6	19
G	7	20
H	8	21
I	9	22
J	10	23
K	11	24
L	12	25
M	13	26
N		
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P		
Q		
R		
S		
T		
U		
V		
W		
X		
Y		
Z		

	13		6	21	8	11	15		9		5		12	
5	24	2	26				4	17	7	11	4	12	24	17
	18		13	24	3	24	11		13		12		8	
19	26	14	8		24		7	3	24	13	6	8	12	19
	4		19	8	25	4		4			21		21	
	13		7			2	24	24	17		4	19	24	5
13	24	19	13	8	6	24		20	4	17	24		11	
7		7		26		13			3		1	26	11	11
8		5		2	7	19	24	23	8	17		2		7
13	7	14	7	19		4		4		13	7	17		19
	26		13		17	8	10	24		7		26		26
12	19	8	23	11	24			13	24	23	13	24	12	12
	20		21		19	8	11	6			7		19	
1	4	2	8	11	24			24	2	16	7	22	24	17
	19		2		13	4	2	17			15		20	

The first word reading down the fourth column dates from the mid-14th century and comes from the Latin for 'overseer, guardian'; it was originally used in reference to a person caring for people in an institution.

~~A~~ ~~B~~ ~~C~~ ~~D~~ ~~E~~ ~~F~~ ~~G~~ ~~H~~ ~~I~~ ~~J~~ ~~K~~ ~~L~~ ~~M~~ ~~N~~ ~~O~~ ~~P~~ ~~Q~~ ~~R~~ ~~S~~ ~~T~~ ~~U~~ ~~V~~ ~~W~~ ~~X~~ ~~Y~~ ~~Z~~

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	N						A			L		
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

A	C	H	I	L
M	N	O	S	T

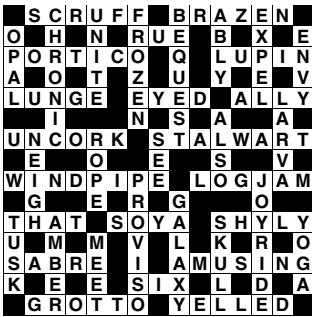
8	1	4	7	6
1		5		9
10	3	1	2	4
S				
5		10		7
2	5	4	7	6

1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10
				S

— 9 SHORT CODE

In this puzzle there are only 10 letters to decode, but just one letter as a start.

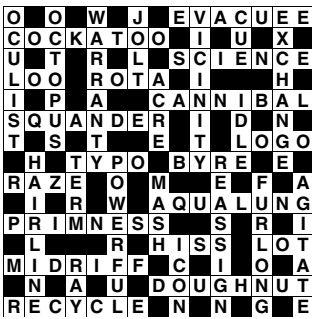
1 FIRST WORDS



ERTKYGOQMBPCPD
ISXNZWAHFV LJJU

Ivanhoe (Sir Walter Scott)

2 CODEWORD



QRCMONGLVYAKW
TPBUHSFXEZJID

3 CODEWORD



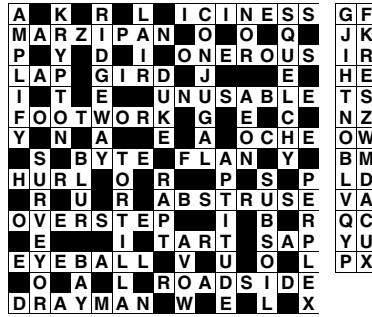
CL
ZS
HG
FX
QW
NB
TI
DM
JR
AP
OE
YU
KV

4 CRYPTOGRAM

'People who don't read seem to me mysterious. I don't know how they think or learn about other people. Novels are a very important part of our education.'

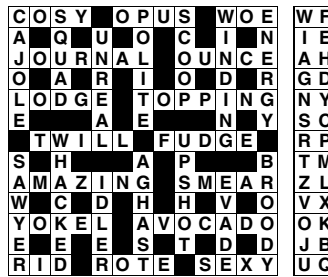
Nina Bawden

5 CODEWORD



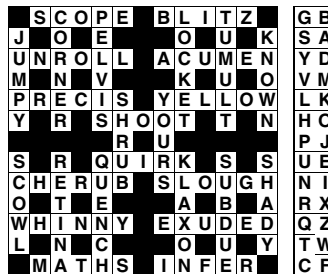
GF
JK
IR
HE
TS
NZ
OW
BM
LD
VA
QC
YU
PX

6 CODEWORD



WF
IE
AH
GD
NY
SC
RP
TM
ZL
VX
OK
JB
UQ

7 CODEWORD



GB
SA
YD
VM
LK
HO
PJ
UE
NI
RX
QZ
TW
CF

8 CODEWORD



FNVIMCOAGZLSR
BKJDQ TWHY PEXU

9 SHORT CODE

