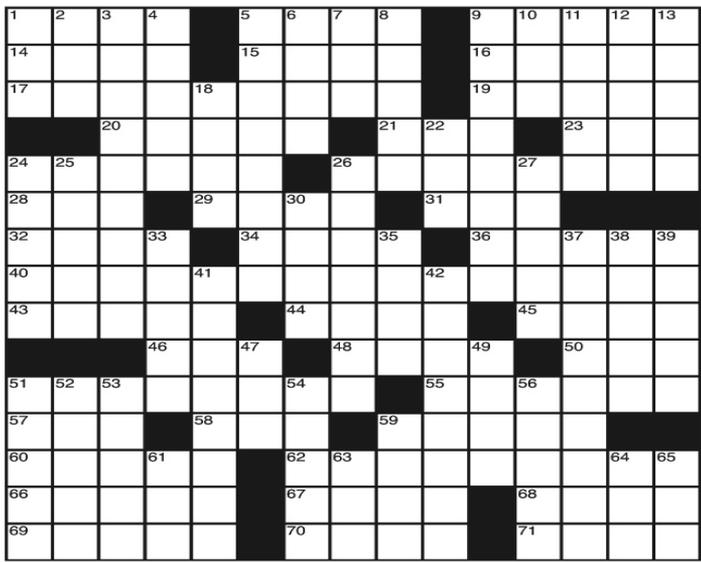


The New York Times crossword



- ACROSS**
- 1 Andean land
 - 5 Race for hot rods
 - 9 Open, as a pill bottle
 - 14 Photoshop option
 - 15 Actress Skye
 - 16 Indra Gandhi's family name
 - 17 Bid adieu, informally
 - 19 Live
 - 20 Family beginnings
 - 21 Boise-to-Phoenix dir.
 - 23 Thanksgiving invitee, commonly: Abbr.
 - 24 Is on the hunt
 - 26 Failure by a narrow margin
 - 28 Captain's record
 - 29 Gorilla famously taught to use sign language
 - 31 "Brain" of a computer,
- DOWN**
- 1 Mac alternatives
 - 2 Never-ratified women-related measure, for short
 - 3 King of the Cowboys
 - 4 Violinist's stroke
 - 5 Coca-Cola Zero, e.g.
 - 6 Rips off
 - 7 "___ better?"
 - 8 Fliers in V's
 - 9 Like a good golf score
 - 10 Novel
 - 11 Dear, in 12-Down
 - 12 Van Gogh locale
 - 13 Attracts
 - 18 Fatty part of an egg
 - 22 ___ fly (certain baseball hit, for short)
 - 24 Answer, in
 - 32 Topographic map notation: Abbr.
 - 34 Lavish affection (on)
 - 36 Beasts of burden
 - 40 Like Oprah Winfrey and Michael Jordan
 - 43 Villa ___
 - 44 Take ___ of (sample)
 - 45 Where a pear's seeds are
 - 46 Spot for a shot
 - 48 Not a major haircut
 - 50 Flamenco cry
 - 51 It's often ordered à la mode
 - 55 Meddle (with)
 - 57 'Do that one would rarely wear a hat with
 - 58 Online portal since Windows 95 was launched
 - 59 Book of divine guidance
 - 60 Argot
 - 62 Singer of the lyric formed by the ends of the answers to the four italicized clues
 - 66 Building wing, e.g.
 - 67 French brainchild
 - 68 It may be off the wall
 - 69 Irritable
 - 70 Fruity drinks
 - 71 Card game popular in Germany
 - 25 Husband of Pocahontas
 - 26 Characteristic of bland food and bad dressers
 - 27 Swing or rock
 - 30 Coffee cultivated on Mauna Loa
 - 33 Life-or-death
 - 35 Mideast noble
 - 37 Cleavage-revealing dress feature
 - 38 Hall-of-Famer Combs who played with Gehrig and Ruth
 - 39 Malfoy's look, in the Harry Potter books
 - 41 The Changing of the Guard, e.g.
 - 42 Abstracts
 - 47 Brit. legislators
 - 49 Painter Chagall
 - 51 Chopin's "Polonaise in ___ Major, Op. 53"
 - 52 Group of lions
 - 53 Places for ornamental fish
 - 54 Neighbor of Bhutan
 - 56 No enrollees at Smith College
 - 59 Joint for a beggar?
 - 61 Caught
 - 63 Bizarre
 - 64 "I caught you!"
 - 65 Word after waste and want

Yesterday's solution



comics

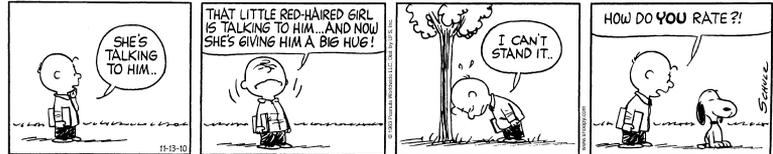
Dilbert



F-minus



Peanuts



Drabble



horoscope

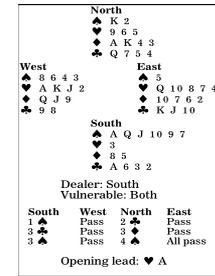
- Capricorn** (DEC. 22-JAN. 19)
Determine in advance how much you can afford to spend on nonessentials, and then stick to it. If you go out shopping and are unstructured, you are likely to be excessively extravagant.
- Aquarius** (JAN. 20-FEB. 19)
The major thing that can defeat you is your inclination to oversell. Once your prospect starts nodding in consent, turn off your pitch and close the sale.
- Pisces** (FEB. 20-MARCH 20)
One of the smartest things you could do is to adjust your agenda to suit others. Once you have people comfortably working at your side, everything will go smoothly for you.
- Aries** (MARCH 21-APRIL 19)
It's likely to be one of those days when your temper is on edge, making you a bit grumpy and cantankerous. If you don't want people to keep you at arm's length, lighten up.
- Taurus** (APRIL 20-MAY 20)
Avoid a tendency to behave in a pushy manner in order to show others just how tough you are. Unfortunately, the only thing this kind of behavior will do for you is make you unpopular.
- Gemini** (MAY 21-JUNE 20)
Even though you enjoy a good debate from time to time, nothing will be gained from arguing with someone whose philosophical outlook is diametrically opposed to yours.
- Cancer** (JUNE 21-JULY 22)
Back off rather than project yourself into a complicated matter of another's that doesn't concern you. All you would be doing is asking for trouble where none now exists.
- Leo** (JULY 23-AUG. 22)
Don't allow a disagreement between you and your mate to arise when out in public. If the matter is disturbing, wait until you can discuss it with him/her in the privacy of your own home.
- Virgo** (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22)
The only work you can expect to get done today is that which you do yourself. Depending upon others to automatically take care of something you think needs tending is folly.
- Libra** (SEPT. 23-OCT. 23)
Avoid taking any kind of risk on something that requires you to bank on another who is a known bungler. This person's batting average isn't likely to change, and the odds are you'll lose.
- Scorpio** (OCT. 24-NOV. 22)
Start rehashing old issues and watch how quickly the domestic tranquility within your household disappears. Instead, spend your energy finding ways to heal past wounds.
- Sagittarius** (NOV. 23-DEC. 21)
Pleas for assistance are likely to be ignored if you demand that others drop what they're doing and do your bidding instead of asking nicely for help. Be considerate.

bridge

Arthur C. Clarke's first law is: "When a distinguished but elderly scientist states that something is possible, he is almost certainly right. When he states that something is impossible, he is very probably wrong."

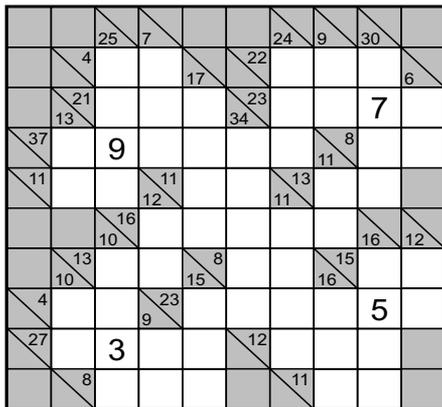
When a good player goes down in a contract and states that it was possible to make it, he is almost certainly right. When he states it was impossible, he is probably right, but could be wrong.

South was in four spades. West led the heart ace and continued with the king. Declarer ruffed and drew two rounds of trumps, getting the bad news. Then he cashed the club ace and played a second club to dummy's queen. East, though, won with his king and led another heart. South was doomed. After ruffing, if he drew trumps before playing a third club, East would cash a couple of hearts. And if declarer immediately played another club, East would win and tap declarer again with a heart, leaving West with one more trump than South.



Declarer said four spades was unmakeable. Was he right? South might have rebid two spades, but he did have four-card club support. In the end, though, North-South arrived at the right spot. Declarer was wrong. He could have drawn four rounds of trumps, which would have squeezed East. However, even better, South should have played two rounds of clubs immediately. East would have won and led a heart, but declarer would have ruffed and played a third club. If East persevered with another heart, South would have ruffed it with dummy's spade king, drawn trumps, and claimed.

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 1-9 into the white cells to total the clue associated with it. However no digit can be duplicated in an entry.

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

Yesterday's solution

language tips

BETTER CHINESE

防暴 (fáng bào)
Anti-riot
例: 政府强调要不断提高防范、处置恐怖袭击事件的能力和水平, 扎扎实实做好奥运安保、反恐防暴工作。
(zhèng fǔ qiáng diào yào bù duàn tí gāo fáng fàn, chǔ zhì kǒng bù xí jī shì jiàn de néng lì hé shuǐ píng, zhā zhā shí shí zuò hào ào yùn ān bǎo, fǎn kǒng fáng bào gōng zuò.)
The government emphasized gradual improvement of abilities and skills guarding against and handling terrorists' attacks, and to provide excellent safety services and riot control for the Olympics.

强强联合 (qiáng qiáng lián hé)
Make joint effort through integration of excellent enterprises
例: 两个集团都是本行业的领军企业, 强强联合之后, 无疑会大大提升竞争力。
(liǎng gè jí tuán dōu shì běn háng yè de lǐng jūn qǐ yè, qiáng qiáng lián hé zhī hòu, wú yí huì dà dà tí shēng jìng zhēng lì.)
Both groups are leading enterprises of their industries. After making a joint effort they will no doubt greatly increase their competitive strength.

寸头 (cùn tóu)
Crew cut
例: 他在新片中一改往日的造型, 将长发改为寸头, 令人眼前一亮。
(tā zài xīn piān zhōng yì gǎi wǎng rì de zào xíng, jiāng cháng fà gǎi wéi cùn tóu, lìng rén yǎn qián yí liàng.)
He changed his former hairstyle for the new movie with a cool crew cut, making everyone look at him with new eyes.

扎啤 (zhā pī)
Draught beer
例: 他渴极了, 一下喝了两杯扎啤。
(tā kě jí le, yí xià hē le liǎng bēi zhā pī.)
He was so thirsty that he drank two mugs of draught beer.

— China Daily with contributions from New Slang of China, New World Press

BETTER ENGLISH

经济适用房 affordable grave

一提起“经济适用房”, 大家都知道, 但是你听说过“经济适用房”吗? 是的, 现在墓穴也有经济适用型的。日前, 记者从宁波北仑区民政局了解到, 为了解决北仑区困难户和低收入家庭殡葬难的问题, 将在宁波率先推出最高价为4800元和7800元两种“经济适用房”, 每座墓占地1平方米。

Affordable burials指的是“经济适用的殡葬”, 而宁波北仑区对殡葬难的解决办法就是推出affordable grave(经济适用房)。

For example: Low-income earners in Beilun, Ningbo, will get affordable burials amid complaints of soaring funeral costs.

宁波北仑区为解决殡葬高消费问题, 将面向低收入者推出“经济适用房墓地”。

和affordable housing(经济适用房)一样, 经济适用房是面向那些low-income families(低收入家庭)的。

经济适用房的出现是政府针对我国殡葬行业的高费用采取的相应政策措施。目前, 一个cinerary casket(骨灰盒)的价格甚至会超过电视机, cremation(火化)和墓地的费用也高得惊人。整个funeral and burial(殡葬)过程所需的费用可能会让一些家庭难以承受。

— To learn more hot words, please log on to <http://language.chinadaily.com.cn>

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