

Quantitative Methods in Social Research

by
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A certain social event (variously described as a “party” or “funeral”) promises to be both Wild and Legendary, and that means just one thing: A chance to do some solid number crunching. Specifically, our research team has obtained data on two groups of guests:

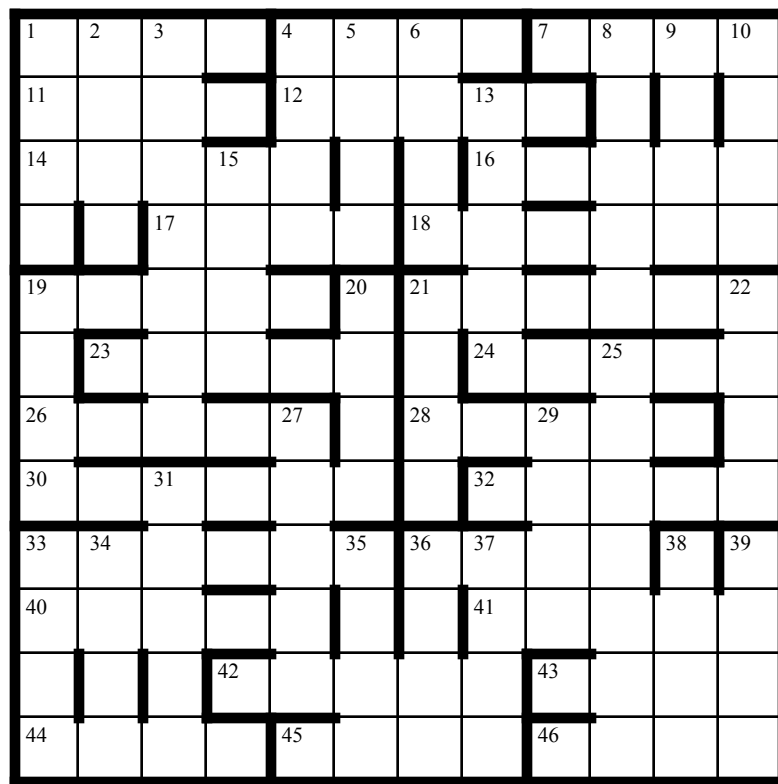
Group W: The gridlike party decoration/gravestone (or PDG) to the right, when filled, will have some number of **squares** containing a certain letter. For each such square, in one “special” clue whose answer intersects it, the wordplay yields a letter string in which that letter is replaced by a *pair* of letters; write the pair’s first letter below the column the square is in, and the pair’s second letter to the right of the row the square is in. All these letters will tell you what Group W is (which relates to the set of squares in some way).

Group L: The PDG also contains four hidden **terms**, all running in the same direction, from one edge of the PDG to another. Each of these terms relates in a different way to some subset of Group L. To identify the subset for some term, find each clue whose answer intersects the term, and where the square they intersect at is the *n*th from the *end of the answer*, take the letter that is *n*th from the *end of the clue*; then read these letters in clue order.

The quantities associated with these “squares” and “terms” should add up correctly. Also, (a) four clues have multiple valid answers (one clue has three, and three have two each), and (b) some clue answers must be entered with the first letter *outside* the PDG (some (b) clues are also (a) clues, or “special” clues as per Group W). Try each answer to the three-answer (a) clue, in alphabetical order, and read the external letters the (b)-and-also-(a) clues yield in each case; these three letter-sequences, together, will give another quantitative method, beyond mere addition, which would be overkill here.

ACROSS

1. Booze- and grass-filled spot
4. Skin care product from LA inside of caravel’s head
7. Metal ezine *Missing Outliers*, at the forefront in communication
11. Headless ales and lagers are initially creepy (*var.*)
12. Author Judy’s meterless music with 12-bar sequences of chords
14. Beheaded guard writing in a log
16. Stuffed dates getting cooked
17. Use a whetstone endlessly, dear
18. “They have -CO-O- groups,” swimming star Williams has said
19. Nash, who wrote verse that was humorous poem about giraffe’s first and last piece of marzipan
21. Word before “Melodies” or “Olde England” or “Minute Lake Surrounding Rabbi” (*var.*)
23. Partly classify yogurt beverage
24. The book between Micah and Habakkuk is remarkably human
26. Tree nymph’s inactive after taking spinning tops from archduke
28. Vehicle containing reflective soldier’s stogie or cheroot
30. Poet Heaney misdescribed seas? Um . . .
32. Crooner Bing ignores real star of *I Spy* and *Ghost Dad*
33. Believe current leaders of Ptolemais must obtain Circe’s coat
36. Can start to approach people in Mexico
40. Sir Thomas, in *A Man for All Seasons*, describes Aristotle’s primary prosodic units
41. Fellow’s acquiring 20% of celebrity’s department store
42. Two-time runner-up to Ike, Al & Ida is loony
43. Ancient site leaves empty addresses in web browsers (*abbr.*)
44. Remain in the final position
45. Bond married captivating character from Leningrad
46. Noah who was on *ER* and *Moby Dick*, say, making Ace hot



Acknowledgements: The external letters from *one-answer* (b) clues acknowledge both our research team and someone else (neutral with regard to the two groups) who was a huge help. Also, if both these acknowledgements are extended homophonically, you will get one final, traditional form of acknowledgement (also indicated by our advanced quantitative method, and properly positioned with respect to the PDG) for all those “squares” and “terms” inscribed above.

DOWN

1. Touch flesh in your ears
2. Tiny Mary Jane hugs vacuous noodle
3. Ray hated weird festival encouraging people to, say, recycle their rubbish (*2 wds.*)
4. Steal metal singer Rihanna’s first name
5. Comedian Hardy, who appeared in films and follies unclad
6. Result in crowlike utterances being pronounced
8. Heart of mis-reconstructed tern put beneath cold earth
9. Below one end of Upsala, MN’s neighbor, they’re finally right in color
10. Oodles of small guys exhibiting a bit of obnoxiousness
13. English lawman Eliot flipped over a city near Oberhausen
15. Something like caviar ultimately costs bucks, maybe
19. Probability of old dates beginning to shrivel
20. Half-soiled page originally showed remarks from a chihuahua
21. Bovine comment incorporates Zulu dialect’s penultimate prefix meaning “fungus-related”
22. TV award from 2100 occupying middle of desk
25. Weeps with laughter *before* Cary’s befuddled (*3 wds.*)
27. Was deceiving, like a document after someone Xeroxes it
29. Leave oolong or Darjeeling for a painter from Spain
31. Land units disrupted races
33. Quintet of quondam bilinguals with a word to precede “nitrite”
34. Soda company north of the Pelican State
35. Hat and cravat worn by (ultimately) yokel
36. Lunch perhaps is ground grain
37. Surrounded by americium and 1 Down
38. Pt. of a wd. Oscar extracted from “liquid Lysol” (*abbr.*)
39. To be in Rome with racer Owens after Jay leaves