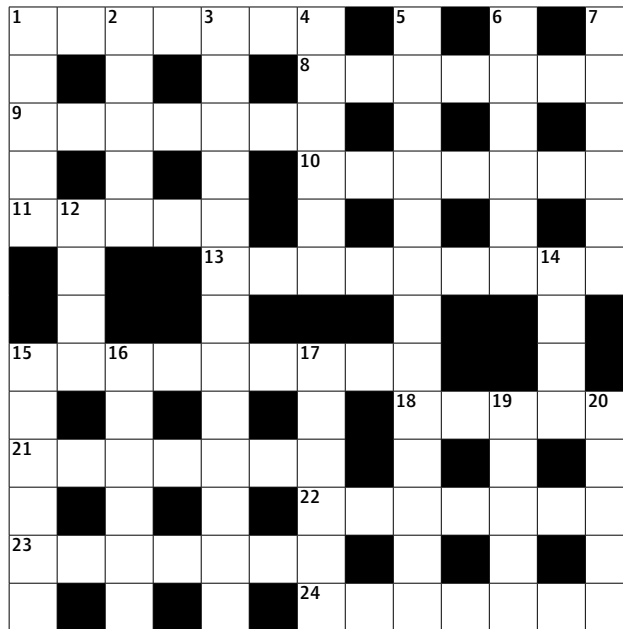


Quick crossword no 12,626



Across

- 1** Shortage of rainfall (7)
8 Assist (4,3)
9 Severe or strict in attitude (7)
10 Word having the same meaning as another (7)
11 Item of value (5)
13 Stubborn (9)
15 Storage for riders (9)
18 Humid (5)
21 Sinatra (anag) (7)
22 Means of entry (7)
23 Surround with armed forces (7)
24 Raise in value or quality (7)

- 17** Elasticised rope (6)
19 From Des Moines? (5)
20 Common herb (5)

Down

- 1** Theatrical piece (5)
2 Forces out of position (5)
3 Large portable stereo (6,7)
4 Essays on a theme (6)
5 Prolonged exchange of insults (8,5)
6 Part of the eye (6)
7 Thwart – block – my site (anag) (6)
12 Upholstered seat (4)
14 Little children (4)
15 Threadbare (6)
16 Dislike intensely (6)

Solution no 12,625

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