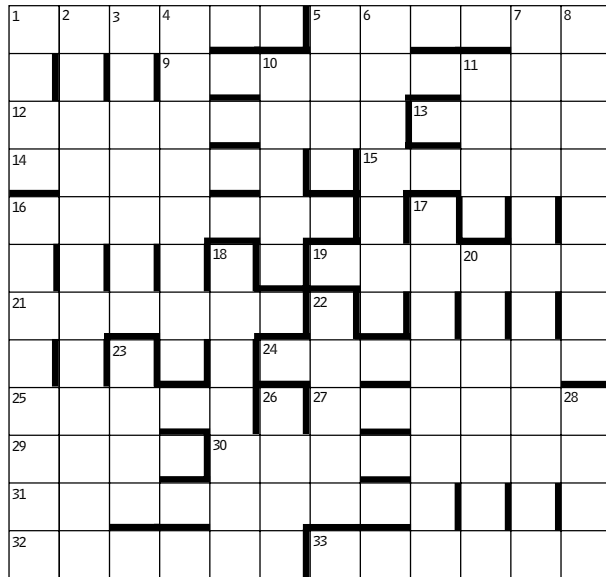


# AZED No. 2,164 'Playfair'



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

O R A N G In a Playfair word square the codeword (in which no letter recurs)  
 E S T I C is followed by the remaining letters of the alphabet. I do double  
 K B D F H duty for I and J (see left). To encode a word it must first be split  
 L M P Q U into pairs of letters, e.g. CRIT IC AL. Each pair is then seen as  
 V W X Y Z forming the diagonally opposite corners of a rectangle within the  
 word square, the other two corner letters being the encoded form. Thus, in the  
 example shown, CR gives SG (*not GS*, which RC would give). Where a pair of letters  
 appears in the same row or column in the word square, its encoded form is produced  
 from the letters immediately to the right of or below each respectively. For the  
 last letter in a row or column the first letter in the same row or column becomes  
 the encoded form. Thus IC becomes CE. When all the pairs are encoded, the word  
 is joined up again, thus CRITICAL is encoded as SGCICEOP. Answers to the six  
 clues in italics must be encoded thus in the diagram. The codeword must then be  
 deduced with the help of the answers to normal clues, so that the diagram may be  
 completed. **The answers to two of the italicized clues supply a hint to the codeword.**

## ACROSS

- 1 *Did some fencing - with breathers* (6)
- 5 *Part for Thomas Allen - not far from tripe!* (6)
- 9 Residual liquid from ore blasted with methyl (9, 2 words)
- 12 Weedkiller to distribute with water in (8)
- 13 Thin young chap grasping end of baton (4)
- 14 *I love appearing in production of OUDS, offensive* (6)
- 15 A vessel containing good plane fuel (5)
- 16 Having gone wrong, redo rib stitch (old-fashioned) (7)
- 19 Mozambique leafage conceals this destroyer of local crops (6)
- 21 Undated clothes display former brand (6)

## AZED 2,161 Solution & notes

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

**Across** 1.anag. in spittle; 11. bore t in arum; 14. Tina (Turner, US singer) in anag.; 15. um in ster(n); 19, r in paus(e); 25, no. ob. (rev.); 28, (Bertrand) 'Russell'; 30, 1<sup>st</sup> prizewinning clue by D.F. Manley in AZ No. 1,117; comp. anag. & lit.; ref. 'Ode to a Grecian Urn'; 31, cf. ankh; 32 tee lies in st.

**Down** 2, p + tai in reporter; 4, 2 meanings; 9, ain leg + as in anag.; 10, e + blis(s), & lit.; 12, i.e. take horse (= heroin), & anag.; 21, dorse (qv) + t; 22, cf. asking; 23, i.e. I can with ic as b = ban; 25, broth(ER); 26, t in gens; 29, alternate letters.

## PRIZE RULES

£25 in book tokens for the first three correct solutions opened. Solutions postmarked no later than Saturday to **AZED No. 2,164**, The Observer, 90 York Way, London N1 9GU

- 24 Smooth yarn from chap on mixed course at uni (7)
- 25 Gold centre of Irish or Italian flag, might one suppose? (5)
- 27 *One left beverage unfinished - it could kill insects!* (6)
- 29 Skinny young model - mostly pale condition (4)
- 30 Length of rule more advanced, we heah, for which top dons dress up? (8)
- 31 One secure on returning passage? Indian chef may use this (9)
- 32 *Lower conceals last pair of letters from amour here?* (6)
- 33 *Clever word play wherein Azed endlessly plays with mug* (6)

## DOWN

- 1 Once reflighted, met prey flying (ree zapped out)? (4)
- 2 Bird on lawn speared plant (12)
- 3 The Boston Strangler? A blend of rat and ogre (7)
- 4 Con received in mail deviously describing picture (8)
- 5 Detente with a woman (in part at least) (4)
- 6 Glut in drink rising? Very old hat (7)
- 7 Compound mineral salt extracted from shaly tin, deep mined (12)
- 8 Grand aim, when about to follow curriculum level (8, 2 words)
- 10 Swelling on bottom coming up (5)
- 11 Dull - how science often ends up? (4)
- 16 Act of awarding first, one bagged by night bird (8)
- 17 Section of America, central, fringing southern region (8)
- 18 Gutted sole surrounded by chips and endives (7)
- 20 Flowering plants completely in rows (7)
- 22 US film actor who's played in epics (5)
- 23 Solo cantata, e.g. a full-toned one church summarily rejected (4)
- 26 Stake consumed incorporating Joan's end (4)
- 28 Past gin time? It shows Jock's ready for a kip (4)

*The Chambers Dictionary (2011) is recommended. It does not give one (possibly unfamiliar) proper name..*