

Sudoku Mild No 14,856

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

Difficult No 14,857 **Super fiendish No 14,858**

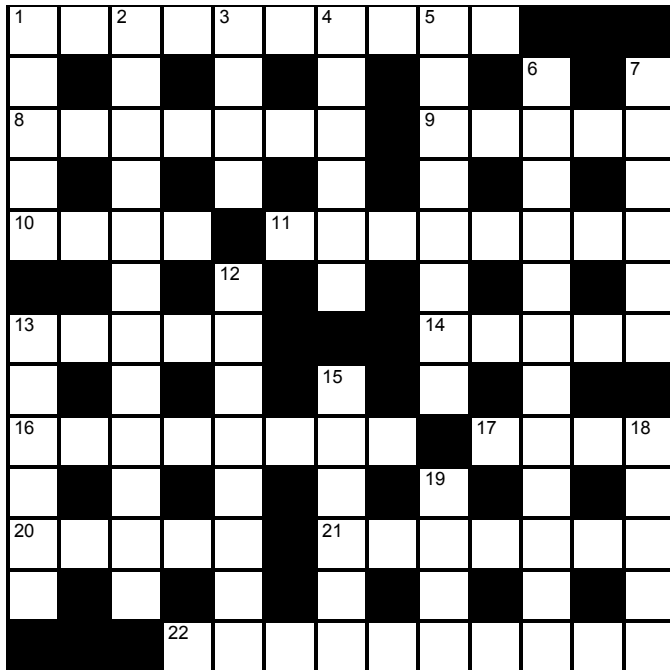
	3	8						
7			4		2			
9								5
	8				5	1		
					4			
	1		2	7		8		9
			6		7		9	
						4	1	3
		1			3		6	8

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

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Cluelines Stuck on Sudoku, Killer or KenKen? Call 0901 293 6263 before midnight to receive four clues for any of today's puzzles. Calls cost £1 plus your telephone company's network access charge. SP: Spoke, 0333 202 3390 (Mon-Fri 9am-5.30pm).

The Times Quick Cryptic No 2657 by Mara



Across

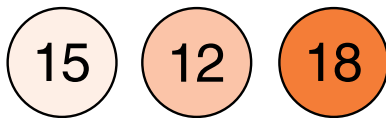
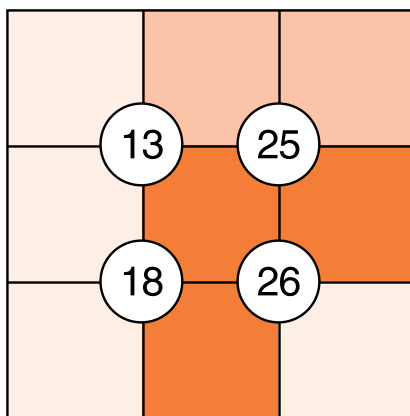
- 1 Mammal after insect, one of two on the field? (7,3)
- 8 Carbon in wrought iron is for cutter (7)
- 9 Measure monarch, for example (5)
- 10 Flier, bit of a laugh (4)
- 11 Extraordinary dormice: tail on one is ordinary (8)
- 13 Lifeless piece of theatre nicely turned around (5)
- 14 Mean line for painter of matchstick men (5)
- 16 Metal tin, a lump processed (8)
- 17 Wind up, containers knocked over (4)
- 20 Shabby hat worn by that man (5)
- 21 Room where Barbie's boyfriend entertains desire (7)
- 22 Source of bait that's a big issue? (3,2,5)

Down

- 1 Cold, cold incline (5)
- 2 Certain cadre, unfortunately, locked up (12)

- 3 Smooch: a little peck is similar (4)
- 4 Failure, something for Christmas dinner (6)
- 5 A rifle I'd misused where planes observed (8)
- 6 Evidently unhappy employee, one observing hands on face? (5-7)
- 7 Long fish eaten by small fish without effort (6)
- 12 English work in Haiti destroyed country (8)
- 13 Rogue operation in effect (6)
- 15 Daft bird (6)
- 18 Rubbish garment (5)
- 19 Hotpot not dry's served up (4)

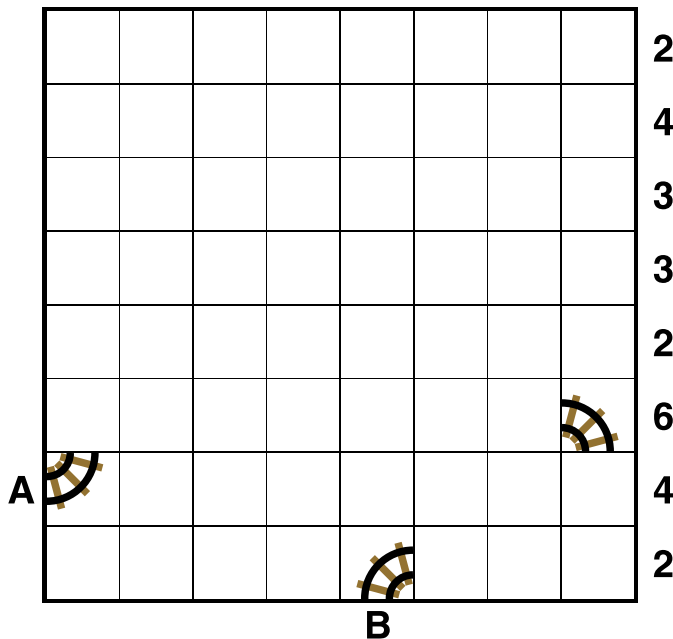
Suko No 4097



Place the numbers 1 to 9 in the spaces so that the number in each circle is equal to the sum of the four surrounding spaces, and each colour total is correct

Train Tracks No 2226

7 4 1 5 2 3 2 2



Lay tracks to enable the train to travel from village A to village B. The numbers indicate how many sections of track go in each row and column. There are only straight sections and curved sections. The track cannot cross itself.

Word watch
David Parfitt

Dactylogram

- a A prehistoric flying reptile
- b A representation of poetic metre
- c A fingerprint

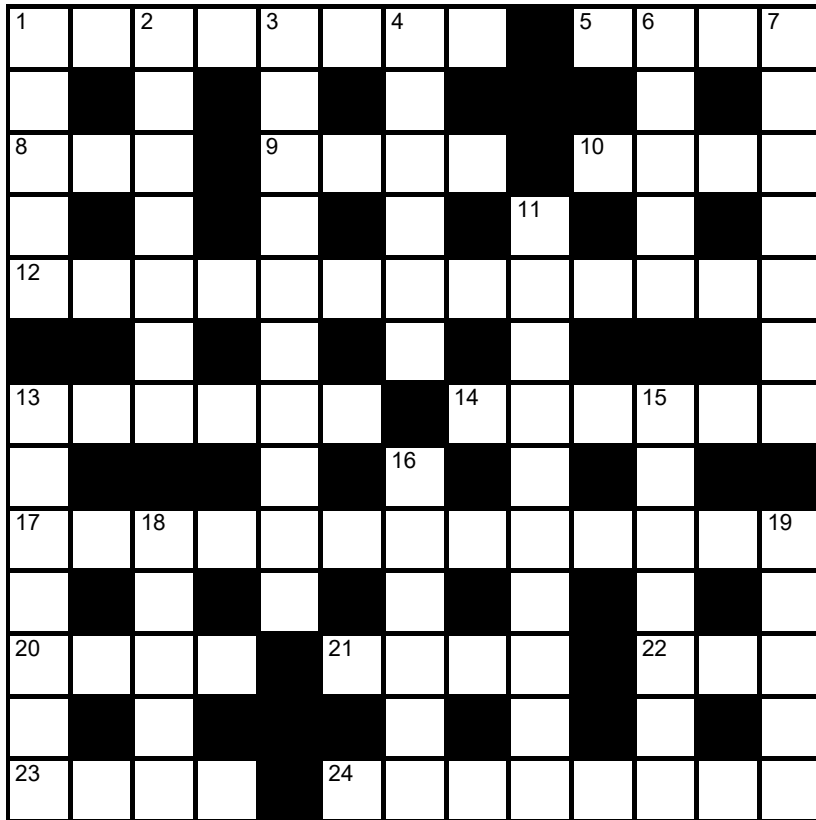
Purparty

- a A durable indigo fabric
- b Applying across political divisions
- c A share of an inheritance

Shidder

- a A female animal
- b (Of a mast, eg) to break apart
- c A horseshoe fitter, a farrier

times2 Crossword No 9512

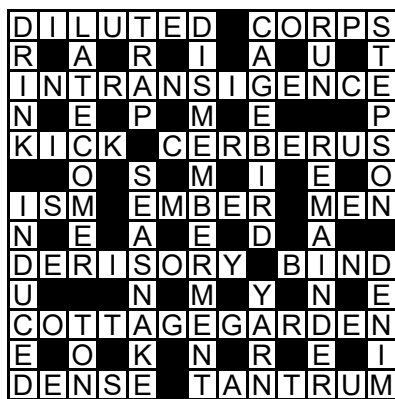


Across

- 1 Protector, defender (8)
- 5 Unwanted wild plant (4)
- 8 Spanish cry of approval or encouragement (3)
- 9 Location (4)
- 10 Creative subjects (4)
- 12 Company working on behalf of another firm (13)

- 13 Extra segment at the end of a performance (6)
- 14 Stimulating drink (6)
- 17 Avocado (9,4)
- 20 Element, symbol Fe (4)
- 21 Cutting remark (4)
- 22 Concert (3)
- 23 Bird's home (4)
- 24 Disconcert, agitate (8)

Solution to Crossword 9511



Down

- 1 Batch of 12 dozen (5)
- 2 Biting, mordant (7)
- 3 Deter (10)
- 4 Shrewd, sharp (6)
- 6 White wading bird (5)
- 7 Earn, merit (7)
- 11 Advantageous (10)
- 13 Great joy, euphoria (7)
- 15 Cargo (7)
- 16 Intense effort (6)
- 18 Physical appearance (5)
- 19 Scoundrel (5)

Need help with today's puzzle? Call 0905 757 0143 to check the answers. Calls cost £1 per minute plus your telephone company's network access charge. SP: Spoke, 0333 202 3390 (Mon-Fri 9am-5.30pm).

KenKen Medium No 6188

24×	20×	1-	6	3÷	
			2-	11+	
7+		20×			
	3÷			1-	
3÷			13+		1-
	36×				

All the digits 1 to 6 must appear in every row and column. In each thick-line "block", the target number in the top left-hand corner is calculated from the digits in all the cells in the block, using the operation indicated by the symbol.

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Futoshiki No 4736

<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
					^
<input type="text"/>	>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	>	4	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
					v
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
2	>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	>	<input type="text"/>
		<input type="text"/>	>	<input type="text"/>	<
		<input type="text"/>	>	<input type="text"/>	<

Fill the blank squares so that every row and column contains each of the numbers 1 to 5 once only. The symbols between the squares indicate whether a number is larger (>) or smaller (<) than the number next to it.

Kakuro No 3695

	6	24	8		12	16	29		8	6
7				22					6	
34				4					3	
4			3			11				
	4					9				
11				27	13				34	16
32								15		
16			31					4		
			3							
	8	6	6			17	16	3		6
11					14					
				4				7	4	
6			36							
3			7					11		

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Fill the grid using the numbers 1 to 9 only. The numbers in each horizontal or vertical run of white squares add up to the total in the triangle to its left or above it. The same number may occur more than once in a row or column, but not within the same run of white squares.

Quintagram®

Solve all five cryptic clues using each letter underneath once only

1 By the sound of it, deer sleep (4)

— — — —

2 Coloured liquid – article put into some beer (5)

— — — — —

3 Lively foxtrot possibly dangerous (6)

— — — — — — —

4 Chap with endlessly bold high official (8)

— — — — — — — —

5 What authors want – neckwear fit for a king! (9)

— — — — — — — — —

A	A	A	A	D	D	E	E
F	I	I	I	I	K	L	M
N	N	N	O	O	P	R	R
R	S	S	T	T	Y	Y	Z

Brain Trainer

EASY	57	x 2	- 18	÷ 4	- 7	x 5	+ 54	- 19	÷ 12	TIMES ITSELF	ANSWER	
MEDIUM	57	x 3	+ 211	1/2 OF IT	- 52	DOUBLE IT	+ 122	÷ 20	+ 3/10 OF IT	÷ 13	ANSWER	
HARDER	578	x 3	1/6 OF IT	- 178	x 5	+ 225	÷ 4	- 96	÷ 9	SQUARE IT	ANSWER	

Polygon



From these letters, make words of **three** or more letters, always including the central letter. Answers must be in the *Concise Oxford Dictionary*, excluding capitalised words, plurals, conjugated verbs (past tense etc), adverbs ending in LY, comparatives and superlatives.
How you rate 15 words, average; 21, good; 24, very good; 28, excellent

Yesterday's answers
 deli, den, deni, denim, die, diel, dim, dime, din, dine, eld, end, ide, idem, idle, idli, imide, indie, lend, lid, lied, lined, meld, mend, mid, midi, **midline**, mild, mind, ned, nide

Cell Blocks No 5079

		2		2	
2					2
2	12		3	6	
					2
			4		
				2	
3	5				2

Divide the grid into square or rectangular blocks, each containing one digit only. Every block must contain the number of cells indicated by the digit inside it.

Set Square No 3698

	x	-		= 12
x		-		+ = 1
		-		
+		x		x = 10
8	-	6	x	=
=	=	=		
20	36	55		

Enter each of the numbers from 1 to 9 in the grid, so that the six sums work. We've placed two numbers to get you started. Each sum should be calculated left to right or top to bottom.

Please note, BODMAS does not apply

Killer Moderate No 9430

14	22	3		8	17	10		11
		12				7	17	
8		15	6		9			
						17	13	
	7	15	21	13	7		3	8
9						10		
	4			16			13	
16		14		8		4	6	
11		15					16	

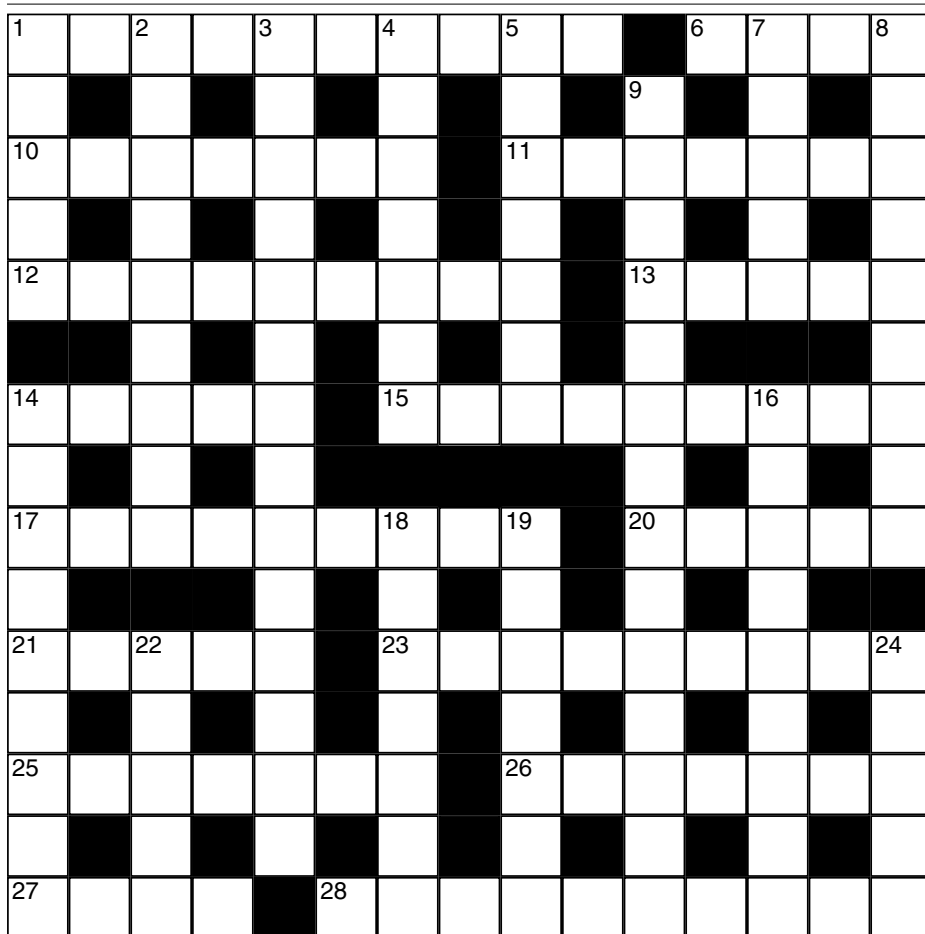
Killer Tough No 9431

12	23		8			17		
		18				13		
21	5		17	8	20	18		18
		12						
					18			
8		10		12				22
21		16	17					
			8		21	11		12
8			11					

As with standard Sudoku, fill the grid so that every column, every row and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9. Each set of cells joined by dotted lines must add up to the target number in its top-left corner. Within each set of cells joined by dotted lines, a digit cannot be repeated.

Cluelines Stuck on Sudoku, Killer or KenKen? Call 0901 293 6263 before midnight to receive four clues for any of today's puzzles. Calls cost £1 plus your telephone company's network access charge. SP: Spoke, 0333 202 3390 (Mon-Fri 9am-5.30pm).

Times Crossword 28,898



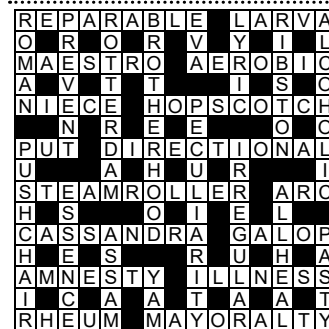
ACROSS

- 1 A clerk's odd half-cut hairstyle (10)
- 6 House record label is after soprano initially (4)
- 10 Irritate insect lover (7)
- 11 Fabled hill that is found in South Dakota (7)
- 12 Censure those people around India with second religious belief (9)
- 13 Star turn caught by everyone (5)
- 14 Staff take more time to deal with deliveries (5)
- 15 Tropical fruit tree has thorn protecting bunch? (5,4)
- 17 Those against hollowed out universal support — who was asked? (9)
- 20 Become very warm when in decay (5)
- 21 Trembling like mother of cygnets (5)
- 23 Note to perform vocally, ignoring small tremolo (9)
- 25 Big figures of company deficit — with little current (7)
- 26 Poling a boat topless round back of Trinity? It needed this first (7)
- 27 Responsibility assigned to under-secretary (4)
- 28 Become a minister and submit to PM's whims? (4,6)

DOWN

- 1 Small dog I had raised to excavate (3,2)
- 2 Duke, perhaps, stealing wife from another one? (9)
- 3 Sheer quality of Sunshine Soap ad being broadcast (14)
- 4 Holds good bastion in the wars (7)
- 5 Reported hoard found on lake in mountainous region (7)
- 7 Watching and complying with missing outside broadcast (5)
- 8 Dig tunnel badly, revealing some tolerance (9)
- 9 Pottery company relocates — worry for breakage (5,9)
- 14 Author book company lifted — about chapters one and two finally (9)
- 16 Stress appeal is to be found in children's book heroine (9)
- 18 Drink cuppa with most of cinnamon roll eaten (7)
- 19 One moved out day before receiving a signal (7)
- 22 The French put in more meat with rice dish (5)
- 24 Chokes eating English plums (5)

Yesterday's solution 28,897



Check today's answers by ringing 0905 757 0141 by midnight. Calls cost £1 per minute plus your telephone company's network access charge. SP: Spoke 0333 202 3390.

Solutions

Quick Cryptic 2656

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

Codeword 5195

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

Kakuro 3694

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

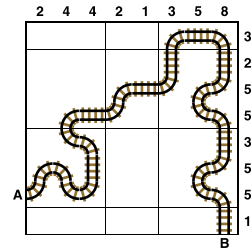
Sudoku 14,853

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

GK Crossword 230

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

Train Tracks 2225



Sudoku 14,854

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

Cell Blocks 5078

3			4						
3									
	2			12					
	2	4							
			2	2					
4						3			
5								3	

Set Square 3697

4	+	6	x	9
+		-		-
3	x	5	+	1
x		x		+
8	-	7	+	2

Lexica 7365

S	H	O	R	E	
W		B			
I	C	E			
S		Y	A	N	K
H				I	
			S	E	T

Sudoku 14,855

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

Futoshiki 4735

5	4	>	3	>	2	1
						^
1	<	2	5	4	3	
						^
3	1	2	5	4		
						^
2	<	3	4	1	5	
						v
4	5	1	3	2		

KenKen 6187

3-	11+	4	36x	6	3	
1	5	4	2	6	3	
4	6	3	5	2	1	
5+	3	2	5	6	1	4
2-	6	3	1	4	5	2
3-	2	1	6	3	4	5
5+	5	4	2	1	3	6

Lexica 7366

Q	U	A	Y		
	T			P	
P	E	S	T	L	E
	R			A	
	U			N	
O	S	P	R	E	Y

Today's solutions

Killer 9428

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

Killer 9429

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

Cryptic Quintagram

- 1 Doze
- 2 Paint
- 3 Frisky
- 4 Mandarin
- 5 Royalties

Suko 4097

1		3	9
	13		25
2		7	6
	18		26
4		5	8

Brain Trainer

- Easy 100
- Medium 2
- Harder 121

Word watch

- Dactylogram** (c) A fingerprint (*Chambers*)
- Purparty** (c) A share of an inheritance (*OED*)
- Shidder** (a) A female animal (*Collins*)

Chess – Winning Move

- 1 ... Rxf2+! 2 Kh1 (2 Kxf2 Rg8+ mates quickly) 2 ... Qxf3 3 Rxe8+ Kc7 and mate soon follows

Sudoku fiendish

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

Killer tricky

Fill the grid so that every column, every row and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9. Each set of cells joined by dotted lines must add up to the target number in its top-left corner. Within each set of cells joined by dotted lines, a digit cannot be repeated.

21				9			18	
19		8		23				7
		19				19		
22			13	12	21			13
				16				
9	6		17			15	22	
			11					
16			23		6		4	
11					7			13

Suko

24	14	
24	24	

16	12	17
----	----	----

Place the numbers 1 to 9 in the spaces so that the number in each circle is equal to the sum of the four surrounding spaces, and each colour total is correct

Codeword

Every letter in the crossword-style grid, right, is represented by a number from 1 to 26. Each letter of the alphabet appears in the grid at least once. Use the letters already provided to work out the identity of further letters. Enter letters in the main grid and the smaller reference grid until all 26 letters of the alphabet have been accounted for. Proper nouns are excluded.

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

X 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	L	12	13
14	A	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	M

Mini Sudoku

Fill in the grid so that every column, every row and every 3x2 box contains the digits 1 to 6

	5	2			
1					5
			6		
			3		
3					2
	6	4			

Solutions in tomorrow's Times2

THE  TIMES

MindGames Tuesday April 23 2024
Brain boost puzzles

Yesterday's solutions

SAMURAI

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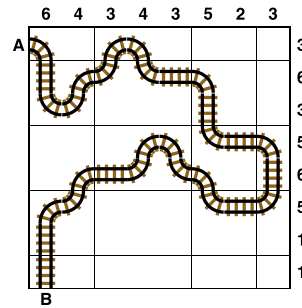
SUKO

9	5	4
8	7	3
2	1	6

MINI SUDOKU

6	4	3	5	2	1
1	5	2	4	6	3
5	2	1	6	3	4
3	6	4	2	1	5
2	3	5	1	4	6
4	1	6	3	5	2

TRAIN TRACKS



FUTOSHIKI

5	2	1	3	4
	^	^		
1	3	4	2	5
				v
2	1	5	4	> 3
4	5	3	1	2
		v		v
3	< 4	2	5	1

SUDOKU

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

KILLER

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

CODEWORD

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