

Verbal Communication

by Ron Sanford

What is verbal communication?
I step outside into the cold as I ruminate,
Trying to make sense of my individual situation,
How it applies to the "big picture" in the "real world."
I want to be a team player
But I have to be selfish in a sense.
Don't expect too much or bite off more than you can chew,
As the old adage says.
Greed and inordinate competition are wrong, I know,
Not by reading a book, but by experience.
In my heart of hearts I am convinced:
The book is opened and coincidentally says the same thing!
A parallel universe?
How can I explain with limited knowledge through words what must be mixed with faith?
Sorry, if I scared the stragglers and the anti-antis
With a word synonymous to trust.
Regardless of our beliefs,
May we assemble peacefully.
Let us be joined in holy matrimony,
In the name of empirical knowledge, faith and experience
To extol the virtues of truth and justice for all...
Let us commence with a moment of silence.
Don't think out loud, "Ye of little faith"
(Which correctly translated reads: short time trusters)
Do you think the One who created the eye cannot see you?
Keep your thoughts to yourself.
God can read them and will reward you in secret
If you learn to have an open mind
And you are tuned in to the right source.
Verbal communication sometimes is better
When other people can't hear you.
So keep the lip buttoned down and pass me the book.
Thank you.

Lex Parsimoniae

by Ray Ybarra

They said it wasn't real
But somehow I knew better
What I knew was better
I was heard yet lying
Heard fire, happening.
Everyone silent
Was it nobody I knew
Really, he's been, heard about

Letters from a Prophet

by William Cruz Smith

And how shall we dream
Of this undreamt place
The sun without its heat
The moon without its shimmering light
And what of the scholarly birds,
The eagles soaring without
The brevity of our sight
Or blinded fish swimming
In pools of silence
Without our poles
We have all
Become uncomfortable
With this murky world.
One day our hearts
Will fail us
Our minds will demand prayers
And what shall we do with
Our final bronzed words
Broken in our mouths
Our minds deeply troubled
With things that are
And things that are not

PUZZLES

By Grace Badik

Answers on page 6

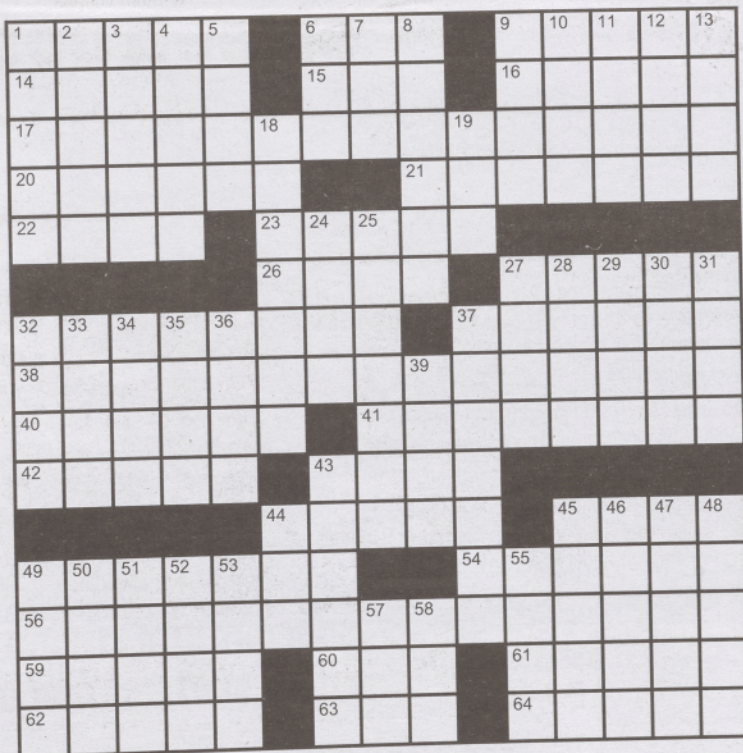
Crossword

Across

1. Monastery head
6. Special ____
9. Aid and ____
14. Silty
15. "I'm impressed!"
16. Day of bull riding
17. 4th of July
20. Seasonal serving
21. As seen in a museum
22. Rejections
23. Bay window
26. Mountain pool
27. To plot
32. Device for absorbing excessive/unwanted heat
37. Party
38. Incongruities
40. Cheerleader's accessory
41. Scoring against oneself and not opponent
42. Not rain or snow or ice
43. Throw off
44. Because of
45. Base of a crocus stem
49. Severe
54. Perfect world
56. Momentous
59. Medical term: a bodily discharge
60. Deli loaf
61. Taste or touch
62. Beat
63. Snakelike fish
64. What makes up a forest

Down

1. Extraterrestrial
2. Drum played with the hands
3. Red ____ of Courage
4. Forebodings

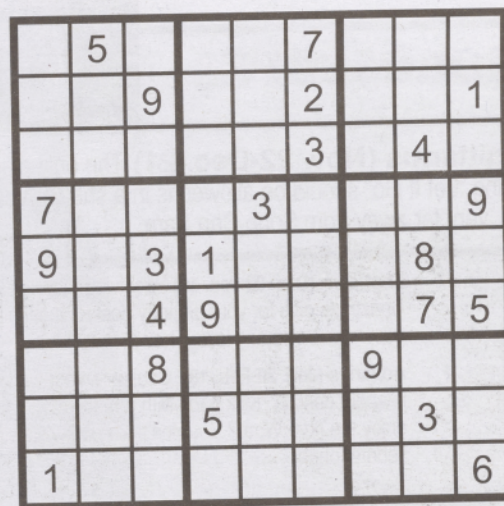


5. Proof goof
6. Part of B.Y.O.B.
7. Herd of seals
8. The land of Stockholm
9. Chevron competitor
10. ____ War
11. Icelandic epic
12. Mets, Jets or Nets
13. Bean used to make miso
18. Self-centeredness
19. Nothing
24. Indian royal
25. Exasperating
27. Percussion instrument

28. Puerto ____
29. Opera highlight
30. Zest
31. Pianist Myra
32. Replaced when one gets older
33. Organic compound
34. Zenith
35. Hit the bottle
36. Sometimes happens when you sneeze
37. Issued
39. Nincompoop
43. Flimflam

44. Bad-mouth
45. Apple gizmo
46. Think out loud
47. Wash cycle
48. Magicians
49. Artful
50. Lung sound
51. Jack-in-the-pulpit, e.g.
52. "Quit it!"
53. "Comin' ____ the Rye"
55. Reason to cram
57. Reply to a captain
58. Abbr. to the left of a number

Sudoku



The objective of Sudoku is to fill in all the blank squares with the correct numbers from 1 to 9. Every row, column and square must include all digits, 1 through 9, in any order.



This man
works.

So does
Street Roots.