

SUNDAY PUZZLES

SOLUTIONS ON C8

THE NEW YORK TIMES CROSSWORD

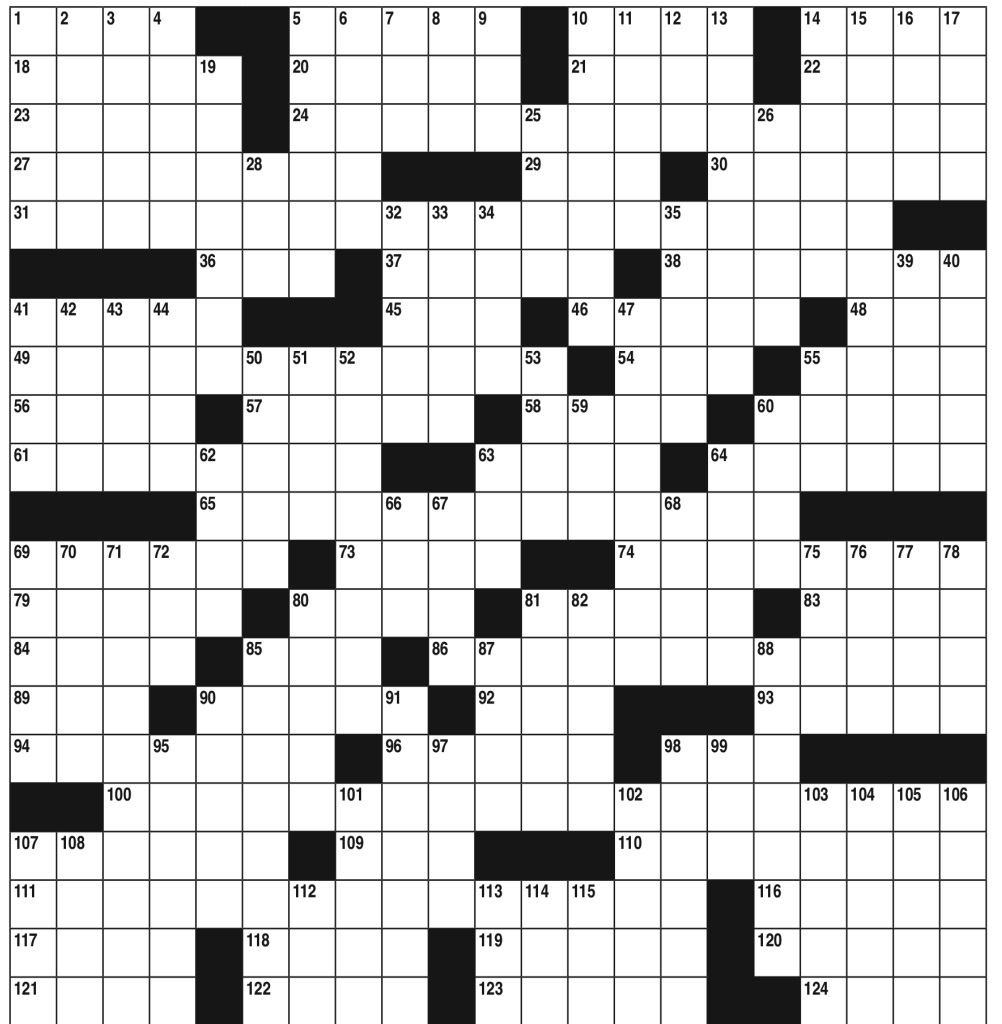
No. 0214

TODDLER TALK

BY KATIE HALE AND CHRISTINA IVERSON / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

Katie Hale, of London, and Christina Iverson, of Ames, Iowa, are stay-at-home moms. Katie is also co-founder of a community organization that recycles children's books. They connected online after Katie read about Christina's first Times puzzle and reached out for mentoring. This is Christina's seventh crossword for the paper. It is Katie's debut. — W.S.

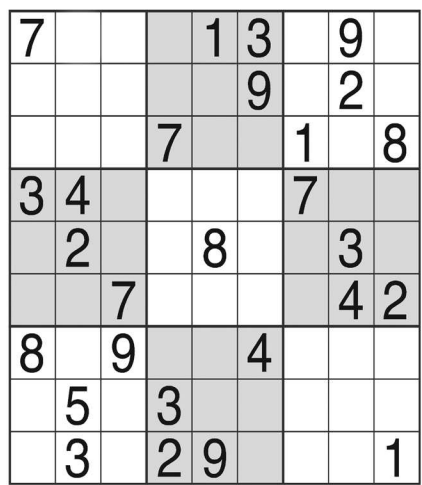
- ACROSS**
- 1 Unloading point
 - 5 Trait for a ballerina
 - 10 "Wanna hear a secret?" preceder
 - 14 Not much
 - 18 The "O" of OWN
 - 20 Portrayer of Captain Davies in "Roots"
 - 21 Bind with rope
 - 22 Abacus column
 - 23 Helpful
 - 24 Accept payment from Batman?
 - 27 Eponymous Irish city
 - 29 ___ pickle
 - 30 Counterparts of faunas
 - 31 Cause for celebration at a pachyderm sanctuary?
 - 36 ___ lecithin (chocolate additive)
 - 37 What most pens can't do
 - 38 Jane portrayer in 1981's "Tarzan, the Ape Man"
 - 41 Worry about, informally
 - 45 Flip (out)
 - 46 Rock band that you might think would always be an opening act, with "the"?
 - 48 Ex-Giants QB Manning
 - 49 Finish scooping out a big stir-fry?
- DOWN**
- 1 Childbirth assistant
 - 2 Choose to participate
 - 3 Concern for Superman
 - 4 Superman's birth name
 - 5 Like many a teenage boy's facial hair
 - 6 First Asian tennis player to be ranked No. 1 in singles
 - 7 Press
 - 8 Bishop's jurisdiction
 - 9 Long period
 - 10 Like some evidence and bulbs
 - 11 Doctor's order
 - 12 I.R.S. ID
 - 13 Live broadcast no-no
 - 14 In
 - 15 One creating draft after draft?
 - 16 Andean empire member
 - 17 Some clicks of the tongue
 - 19 Slice of toast?
 - 25 Comes out ahead
 - 26 Dolts
 - 28 Market launch, for short
 - 32 Amphibians that may have toxic skin
 - 33 Cliché
 - 34 Shakespeare villain with more lines than the title character
 - 35 Kindle download
 - 39 Skip the big ceremony, say
 - 40 They're found around Scots
 - 41 Bony fish with prized eggs
 - 42 "Bottled poetry," according to Robert Louis Stevenson
 - 43 Active Sicilian volcano
 - 44 Filled with wonder
 - 47 Without concrete evidence
 - 50 "Ad Parnassum" and "Fish Magic," for two
 - 51 Metaphor for a shared experience
 - 52 Be more important than
 - 53 Exaggerated kiss sound
 - 55 Fuss
 - 59 Legal title: Abbr.
 - 60 He wrote lyrics to "My Way" for Sinatra
 - 61
 - 62 Channel with a lot of house renovation shows
 - 63 Keeps in the loop, in a way
 - 64 Give a start
 - 66 Prez with a rhyming campaign slogan
 - 67 Lab work
 - 68 Cause of some brain freeze
 - 69 It comes in California and New York styles
 - 70 Covered in vines
 - 71 Celebrity who holds the Guinness world record for "Most Frequent Clapper"
 - 72 Half and half?
 - 75 Gallivants
 - 76 On the safe side
 - 77 Ancient kingdom in modern-day Jordan
 - 78 Elusive, in a way
 - 80 Words to learn, briefly
 - 81 In itself: Lat.
 - 82 "Oh, come on!"
 - 85 Aggressive pitch
 - 87 Physically fit
 - 88 Rock song?
 - 90 Big cut of tuna
 - 91 Fill with wonder
 - 95 Attaches, as a button
 - 97 Some shop tools
 - 98 "Now it makes sense!"
 - 99 "___ So Bad" (Tom Petty song)
 - 101 Flying ___ drop (pro wrestling move)
 - 102 Shocks, in a way
 - 103 Hip bone
 - 104 Classic brand of wafers
 - 105 Upright
 - 106 The Apostle of Ireland, familiarly
 - 107 It might come in a branded tote bag
 - 108 Buddy
 - 112 "___-haw!"
 - 113 Laid up
 - 114 Formerly called
 - 115 Perón of politics



Online subscriptions: Today's puzzle and more than 4,000 past puzzles, nytimes.com/crosswords (\$39.95 a year).

SUDOKU

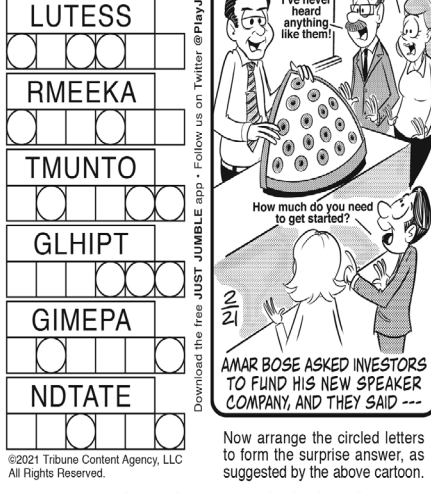
Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.



DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

JUMBLE

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form six ordinary words.



PRINT YOUR ANSWER IN THE CIRCLES BELOW

LOS ANGELES TIMES SUNDAY CROSSWORD

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

"SEEING PROGRESS" BY PAM AMICK KLAWITTER

ACROSS

- 1 Playground game with hoops
- 6 Blobby sci-fi villain
- 11 Part of many a plot
- 19 In the know
- 20 Fitness motto
- 21 Removes faded flowers from
- 22 Fit
- 24 Brand with a Jumpman logo
- 25 Regret
- 26 School near Windsor
- 27 Stiles of "Whose Line Is It Anyway?"
- 28 "Friends" friend
- 29 Arrives like a brainstorm
- 34 A, to Beethoven
- 36 Fair
- 37 Formal talk
- 39 Deer sir
- 43 Droid from Naboo, familiarly
- 46 Volume unit
- 48 Go inside
- 50 Long, long tail?
- 51 Start of a hopeful chant
- 55 Tower engineer
- 57 Simone's state
- 58 Dagger of yore
- 59 Mosque official
- 61 Bound to be
- 62 "I, Claudius" role
- 63 Collapsed
- 66 Like some fried food
- 68 Letters on a bathroom tube
- 69 Absolutely zero
- 72 Dealer-busting org.
- 75 Meter starter
- 76 Compared with
- 77 Places where quiet is often demanded
- 78 Cut of the loot
- 81 River past Logroño
- 84 It's raised at a circus
- 85 Obligation
- 86 Many surfers
- 88 Ignore mistakes, say
- 92 Letters on a GIs letters
- 93 Absorb, as a spill
- 95 Twitter rampage
- 96 Hale-Bopp, for one
- 97 Alphabetically
- 98 Ingredient
- 99 Yawning cause
- 101 Place to make a deal
- 103 Some tributes
- 105 Disney theme park
- 111 Bristol bye-bye
- 113 Bit of politeness from a hat-tipper
- 116 That guy, to
- 117 Subject of many a watch
- 119 Family film feature
- 123 Enthusiastic to a fault
- 124 Elicit a chuckle
- 125 A detective may act on one
- 126 Spoofs
- 127 Minibike kin
- 128 ___ music
- 2 Accept the blame
- 3 Wild party
- 4 "No seats" sign
- 5 Job listing abbr.
- 6 "Precisely like this"
- 7 "Take ___ at it"
- 8 Bingo cousin
- 9 Marcel Marceau clown persona
- 10 Snacked
- 11 Princess with cinnamon-bun locks
- 12 Not kidding
- 13 Asleep in Eng. class?
- 14 Cause of sticker shock at the florist?
- 15 They may be unsung
- 16 "CSI" actor
- 17 Old food label figs.
- 18 I-9 ID
- 21 Thoughts of the beach while in class, e.g.
- 23 MIT offerings
- 27 Boxing div.
- 30 Suspects
- 31 Jordanian queen dowager
- 32 José's hand may symbolize one
- 33 "It's clear now"
- 35 Multi-lingual Irish singer
- 40 First golfing U.S. president
- 41 Pulitzer-winning author James
- 42 ___ standard
- 43 Bowl, say
- 44 Was highly regarded
- 45 Formal wear item
- 46 1983 Indy 500 champ Tom
- 47 Fancy moldings
- 49 Throw very hard
- 52 Berkshire racecourse
- 53 Deadlocked
- 54 Alleged creation of Buffalo's Anchor Bar
- 56 Wray of "King Kong"
- 60 Herd mentality output?
- 64 Golfer's gouge
- 65 Pasta restaurant
- 67 RPI and NIH closing?
- 69 Cards, for short
- 70 Tiberius' tongue
- 71 Blessed ___
- 72 Casual Friday fabric
- 73 Musical workout, at times
- 74 Singer's perfect pitch, say
- 75 "... chips-down" link
- 77 "Ciao"
- 78 Swedish auto
- 79 Bit of optimism
- 80 Lotion additive
- 82 Fuzzy memory
- 83 One taking a class over
- 87 Juice with a lizard logo
- 89 Picard's counselor
- 90 Jon of "Mad Men"
- 91 Checkout action
- 94 Stamps
- 98 Figure with a cape
- 100 ___ kit: Ancestry.com item
- 101 Signed off on
- 102 Speechless player
- 104 Like morning fields
- 106 Stimulate
- 107 Memory miscue
- 108 Pass-rushing group, briefly
- 109 Prevention amount
- 110 Strength
- 111 Inventing middle name
- 112 Card holder, maybe
- 114 Pub mugfuls
- 117 Jazzy genre
- 118 Yokohama yes
- 119 Omelet filler
- 120 70-Down trio opener
- 121 Bright students' org.
- 122 "How obvious"

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Sunday, February 21, 2021

Daily Bridge Club

Placing the cards

By FRANK STEWART
Tribune Content Agency

"Possession is nine-tenths of the law. Possessio is nine-tenths of the word." — graffiti

"Card reading" — discerning what your opponents hold by drawing inferences from the bidding, opening lead and play — is alleged to be the domain of the expert. In truth, the process can be simple in principle, often amounting only to counting to 13. But you must be in possession of the relevant facts.

In today's deal, South opened one diamond after three passes and leaped to five diamonds, reasonably enough, when North raised. West led the queen of spades, and South took dummy's ace and tried a heart finesse with his queen. West won and continued with the jack of spades.

South ruffed, led a trump to dummy and returned a club. When East played low, South agonized and played ... the ten. West took the queen and returned a club to East's ace for down one.

South would, or should, make his contract if he possessed all the facts. After he ruffs the second spade, he can dig for information. He takes the ace of hearts, ruffs a heart high in dummy and ruffs the last spade. He draws trumps with the ace, ruffs his last heart in dummy and leads a club. East plays low.

At that point, South knows that West had K-J-5-4 in hearts, probably

Q-J-10-x in spades and a singleton diamond. Suppose West's clubs were A-9-7-4. Then some aggressive Wests might have opened the bidding, but every West would have doubled South's one diamond for takeout as a passed hand, not vulnerable.

South should put up his king of clubs, placing East with the ace.

West dealer
N-S vulnerable

NORTH
♠ A 7 4
♥ 8 7
♦ Q 9 6 5 4
♣ J 5 3

WEST
♠ Q J 10 3
♥ K J 5 4
♦ 7
♣ Q 9 7 4

EAST
♠ K 8 6 5 2
♥ 10 9 6
♦ 8
♣ A 8 6 2

SOUTH
♠ 9
♥ A Q 3 2
♦ A K J 10 3 2
♣ K 10

West Pass
North Pass
East Pass
South 1♦
5♦

Opening lead — ♠ Q

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