

BRIDGE

Dealer: South Vulnerable: North/South WEST WEST 8654 AKQJ10 432 3 EAST EAST 3NT 3NT 3NT 3NT SOUTH SOUTH 3NT 3NT 3NT 3NT

You have the West hand and you hear South bid 3NT and North, 3NT. You consider doubling but you lead to take the sure profit. Your lead?

A heart. Wise choice. You lead hearts and more hearts and more hearts and in time you run out of them. Down one. You are happy with this result and are about to toss the hand in but you sense there is still some tension in the air.

It is possible that South does not have the rest of the tricks. Perhaps your partner has an ace. That would be nice. But how are you to tell now? Admit this. Have you ever been so pleased with what you are doing that you did not pay any attention to what others are doing? If so, then you might be willing to admit that you have no idea what your partner played on your hearts.

The North hand: S-KQJH-872 D-65C-AJ1042 The East hand: S-A321-43D-1087C-98765 The South hand: S-1097H-965D-AKQJ109 C-KQ

You can see all four hands now. East has an ace. The ace of spades. You can also see that if you do not take it, South has the rest of the tricks. (He managed to keep eight tricks just in case you did not lead spade.) If you fail to lead a spade, can you stand to hear East say that he signalled for a spade lead?

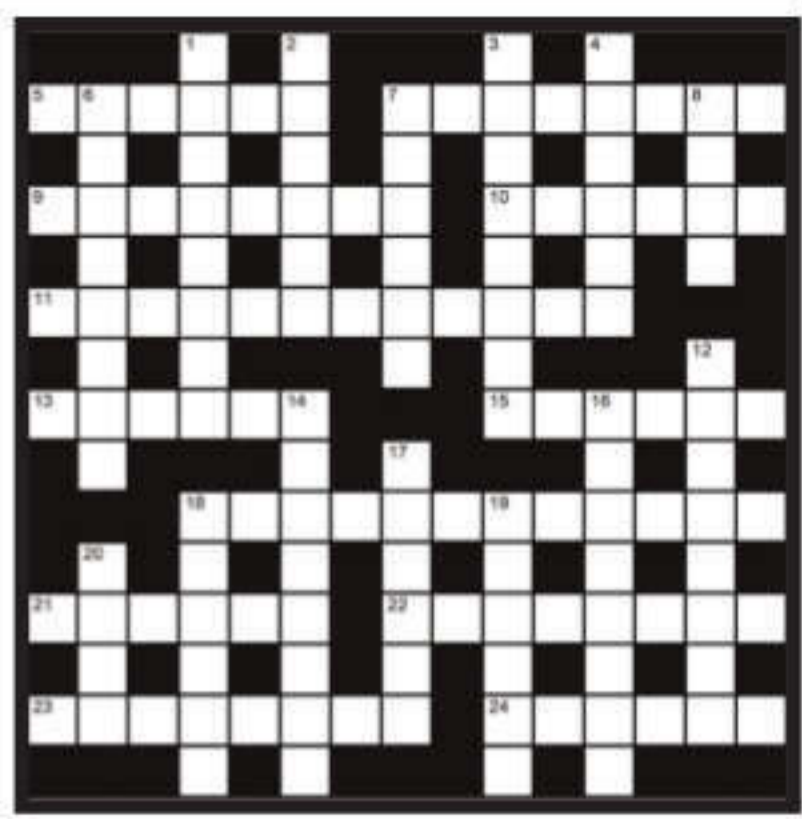
Dealer: South Vulnerable: North/South WEST WEST 64 64 109863 KJ17 EAST EAST 2S 2S 4H 4H SOUTH SOUTH 2S 2S 4H 4H

WEST WEST 64 64 109863 KJ17 EAST EAST 2S 2S 4H 4H SOUTH SOUTH 2S 2S 4H 4H

South opens with 1H and North goes to 2D. South rebids 2S and when the bidding is over, you discover that 2S shows about sixteen points. If opened had a minimum opening, he would just rebid his hearts. North raises to 3H a forcing bid, and South goes on to game. If you just listened to the bidding and did not look at your hand, what would you expect to lead?

SUNDAY CROSSWORD 2496

- QUICK CLUES ACROSS 5. Spain's peninsula (6) 7. Public (8) 9. From the beginning (8) 10. Elaborate (6) 11. New state carved out of M.P. (12) 13. J.K. Rowling's Harry ____ (6) 15. Nervously (6) 18. Abuse, harm or injury (3-9) 21. Equipment (6) 22. Empty language (8) 23. Arctic animal (8) 24. Pressed (6)



- DOWN 1. Do business (8) 2. No longer capable (4,2) 3. Sacrifice (8) 4. Put out or satisfy a thirst (6) 6. Infancy (8) 7. Select (6) 8. Regarding (2,2) 12. Stretch (8) 14. Gave comfort (8) 16. Initiative (8) 17. Provision merchant (6) 18. Disgusting, boring or annoying (6) 19. Moroccan seaport (6) 20. Contributed (4)

- food containers (8) 23. Set back after an instrument breaks (8) 24. How decomposition consumed in a roundabout manner (6) 18. The shade of a short plural in a pure setting (6) 19. Doubtless one wouldn't be (6) 20. I put up with what sort of Amazonian language? (4)

Solutions to 2495

- QUICK CLUES Across: 1. Cyle 4 Bystander, 9. Amazing, 10. Guffaws, 11. Hitch, 13. Yoke, 15. Ian, 16. CCC, 17. Acom, 19. Begum, 21. Ached, 23. Caske, 24. Pal, 25. Fir, 26. Speed, 28. Necho, 29. Cations, 31. Unlamm, 33. Procedure, 34. Jihad, Down: 1. Cha-cha, 2. Chaotic, 3. Epi, 4. Buggy, 5. Seg, 6. Awful, 7. Drawing, 8. Risen, 12. Heard, 14. Kinds, 18. On cue, 19. Boss, 20. Malformed, 22. Horatio, 24. Peckish, 25. FA Cup, 26. Spoke, 27. Deuce, 30. Sou, 32. Aja, CRYPTIC CLUES Across: 1. Bayou, 4. Jack Sprat, 9. Ballots, 10. Afloaty, 11. Lulls, 13. Niles, 15. Tun, 16. Gag, 17. Value, 19. Garba, 21. Maker, 23. Bushy, 24. Pro, 25. Bin, 26. Wryly, 28. Drunk, 29. Nothing, 31. Calypso, 33. Octahedra, 34. Ghent Down: 1. Bubble-gum, 2. Yule log, 3. Uno, 4. Jason, 5. CIA, 6. Sweets, 7. Refuter, 8. Try-on, 12. Saver, 14. Dress, 18. Lobby, 19. Guyed, 20. Stockport, 22. King Tut, 24. Plum pie, 25. Banjo, 26. Which, 27. Yucca, 30. God, 32. Log

If it's your Birthday

Sunday September 22 Your imagination is on top form, and you may be motivated by your fantasies rather than by the facts. The secret is not to expect too much.

Monday September 23 You're facing a positive period over the next few months. Personal, professional and domestic issues will all be thrown into the melting-pot.

Tuesday September 24 It's decision time. Which way will you jump? Will you choose to stay in the past or make a move into the future? You might get the best of everything.

Wednesday September 25 In partnership matters there is one great moral: look, listen and learn. Other people, whether lovers, friends or very close working colleagues may teach you.

Thursday September 26 You'll be bombarding friends with your many ideas. You're eager to find out the facts and to figure out how and why you've arrived at your current situation.

Friday September 27 Distant horizons beckon. There's a sense that a new dawn is about to break. Just when and how, you can't say, but things are looking up.

Saturday September 28 Helpful stars shine your way. You'll be in for an easier time than many people, so count your blessings. Yet the fact that work and domestic chores may be causing irritation will bind you up.

YOUR WEEK AHEAD

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20) The Sun moves on before long, leaving you to stand on your own two feet once again. You're entering a tricky financial phase and will have to face up to a number of awkward choices. Also, it may be time to abandon a commitment.

LIBRA (Sep 24 - Oct 23) Shopping, saving and investments all occupy your attention. Money matters can only increase in importance as the week passes, but don't expect a quick and easy answer. You will have time to realise that you have the chance to set your finances anew.

TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21) Mercury, planet of ideas, renews its connection with intense, passionate Pluto, and you could be heading for an intense confrontation. You will have to speak the plain truth, although please pick your words with care and kindness.

SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 23) It may be more difficult than usual for you to imagine that a close partner can possibly be right, so deep is your belief in your own infallibility. However, any astrologer, on seeing the current planetary picture, would advise you to compromise and bend to circumstances.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21) Something may happen behind the scenes to change your plans and ideas. Whatever takes place will almost certainly involve your work or whatever other routine chores are pre-occupying you at the moment. Romantic hopes are reinforced by Venus.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 24 - Dec 23) Many freedom-loving Sagittarians are now starting to resemble determined, obstinate and emotional Scorpios. In fact, your behaviour, especially a tendency to secrecy in important matters.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23) The relationship between Mercury and Mars is bound to awaken ideas of social adventure, you'll be on the look-out for new friends and anxious to put former associates in their place. Additional attention is required to all travel plans.

CAPRICORN (Dec 23 - Jan 20) The week begins with the Moon powerfully positioned in relation to your sign, so family affairs will probably keep you on your toes. As the days go by, you will see that money lies at the root of all disagreements.

LEO (July 24 - Aug 23) The Moon issues emotional challenges from Wednesday. Thursday, so these should be the perfect days to apply a little of your cheery Leonine medicine to a close partnership. Only you can do this, so why don't you organise a break from domestic routine and plan something special.

AQUARIUS (Jan 21 - Feb 19) Recent developments in the sectors of your chart associated with relations, children and romance seem bound to work out for the best in the long run, even if you have been rather disconcerted by a number of statements or events. Thursday, when the Moon takes a more maternal role probably.

VIRGO (Aug 24 - Sep 23) Legal matters seem to have some role to play in your life over the next three weeks. Is it possible that you have embroiled yourself in a bureaucratic muddle? One thing is certain, and that is if you stick to your guns and do what you know to be right, you won't go far wrong. And you might also win some additional respect from the people who matter.

PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20) The stars are urging self-improvement. This is a special week for all of you pursuing educational goals or working in the travel and communications industry. If there is any way to get other people to see that you really do mean business, then get on with it. Maybe don't be so laid back.

GREATER WARANGAL MUNICIPAL CORPORATION TENDER NOTICE Tender Notice No. SE/GWMC/CTN 08/procurement/2024-25, Dated: 21-09-2024

Navi Mumbai Municipal Corporation Public Health Engineering Department Tender Notice No. NMMC/ACE(Civil)/15/2024-2025

PUNYASHLOK AHILYADEVI HOLKAR SOLAPUR UNIVERSITY, SOLAPUR E-Tender Notice No. 234

OFFICE OF THE GEOHYDROLOGIST Unit-2. Kherva, Opp. Ganpat University, Mahesana, Gujarat- 384012

JUMBLD WORDS Given below are four jumbled words. Solve the jumbles to make proper words and move them to the respective squares below. Select the letters in the shaded squares and jumble them to get the answer for the given clue.

SUDOKU 5721 Difficulty Level 5 Instructions To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from 1 to 9 must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

SOLUTION SUDOKU 5720 1 5 6 9 2 3 7 8 4 2 9 3 4 8 7 5 6 1 7 8 4 5 1 6 3 2 9 9 2 1 6 7 8 4 3 5 8 3 5 2 9 4 6 1 7 6 4 7 1 3 5 2 9 8 3 7 2 8 5 9 1 4 6 4 1 9 7 6 2 8 5 3 5 6 8 3 4 1 9 7 2

कार्यालय कार्यालय ग्राम पंचायत किशोर पंचायत समिति किशनगढ़बास, जिला खैरतल - तिजारा (राज०) इ-निविदा सूचना संख्या - 01 / 2024-25 दिनांक 19/09/2024

RBL BANK LTD. Administrative Office: 1st Lane, Shahpur, Koliapur-416001 Regional Operating Centre: 1st Floor, Building No. 1, Modi Mills Compound, Okhla Industrial Estate, Phase 3, New Delhi 110020

AAVAS FINANCIERS LIMITED (CIN: L65922RJ2011PLCC34297) Regd. & Corp. Office: 201-202, 2nd Floor, South End Square, Mansarovar Industrial Area, Jaipur, 302020

IDFC FIRST Bank Limited (erstwhile Capital First Limited and amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited) CIN : L651107M2014PLC097792

ICICI Home Finance Corporate Office: ICICI Home Finance Company Limited ICICI HFC Tower, Andheri - Kurla Road, Andheri (East), Mumbai - 400069, India