

Guest Puzzle — January 2008 "Numbers" by Arthur Schless

Instructions: Guess the words defined by the cryptic clues (words vary in length from three to eleven letters and include one capitalized word), then enter them in the grid one after another in the same order as their clues, starting in the upper left corner. Across words that don't end at the right continue on the next row, and down words that don't end at the bottom continue in the next column. Eight across words and nine down words won't fit in the grid unless one of their letters is removed. Those seventeen letters, taken in order, spell a two-word phrase describing an eleven-digit number. The number is to be entered in the dashes beneath the grid. The digits of that number, taken in conjunction with the row numbers to the left of the grid, mark the positions of letters in the grid that spell a word appropriate to the puzzle's title.

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Across

1. Pathologically sickened by critics of chaos
2. Primarily something odd related to nature
3. Hera touches inner muse
4. Actor-soldier gets uniform for nothing
5. Bit of élan
6. Power judge no saint
7. Now or then, extract value
8. Plunder capital from run on bank
9. A shrub all by itself
10. Burn singular department store?
11. Sulk quietly away from home
12. Demands payment for past deeds
13. Confusion in shadows
14. City weight system
15. Knight leaves stadium for open space
16. Bird of intuition
17. Only rejected organic compound
18. Carried a circular sofa
19. Allergy symptom in small joints reported
20. Smear taco liberally
21. Discourage dyes; they're odd
22. Team in torment
23. Except if UN shortened lessons
24. Chieftain of supreme erudition
25. Cape with four points

Down

1. Can liquid for alcoholic beverage
2. Gore hit Betsy's bird
3. Colony member, wrapped in wax cloth, galloped slowly
4. Kennedy, having mended tear, gets dressed
5. Ibis or ani covering rail
6. Boy has head of old amphibian
7. Cause some to have applications
8. ATM has money on peninsula
9. Primarily my yearning to have fantasy
10. Routine sound of waves
11. Before scion is heard
12. Visitor, Norse, traveling about a day in France
13. Came together, inside!
14. Vessel chiefly to use before experiments
15. Damper and drunker, lost head
16. Flower girl
17. Solvent disables lynx seizing English earl
18. Stir no-cal Coca Cola beverage
19. Working as a cub counter
20. Name period of weather
21. Sings of royals getting nothing for work