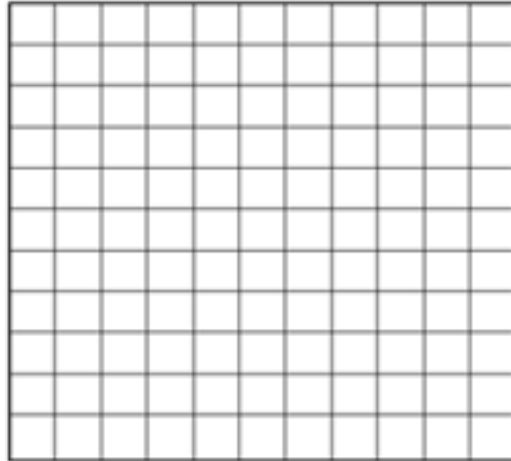


Puzzle #36 – May 2004 "Safety First"

Instructions: Guess the words defined by the cryptic clues (words vary in length from four to eight letters and include one proper name), 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 margin continue on the next line below; down words that don't end at the bottom margin continue in the next column to the right. Seven across words and seven down words won't fit in the grid unless one of their letters is omitted. Those fourteen letters, taken in order, spell three words related to the title of the puzzle as well as to two words hidden in the completed grid that solvers are invited to find. As ever, I am grateful to Kevin Wald for help with the clues.



Across

1. Wanting to agree with basso instead of soprano
2. Goes here and there, in, out; and does it over and over
3. Authorized hat containing perfume
4. Airplane vanishes from highest point in curve
5. Pass first of tests for young novice
6. School torment
7. Note opening of religious order by artist Joan
8. Folk art form embraced by soccer star
9. 200-mg root reported
10. Sour green or brownish orange
11. African province of birth
12. Fake headers from five alleged live sex exhibits
13. Ray, for example, has early start in riding school
14. Goneril eschews having peevish
15. Answer before teacher starts to fold
16. Contend with English goods
17. Small head cover for swallow
18. Mettle of state chief
19. Close in on earthworm
20. None abandons husband for a sweet
21. Cheer about Brazilian river bird
22. Coin a word for "place of assembly"
23. Attitude reversed in Mesopotamia
24. Settle in north, milling steel

Down

1. Oblique quiz directions
2. Disorderly return of device for shooting fish
3. Talented brother consumed by drink
4. West embraces Latin sex
5. Blanket talk follows start of winter
6. Bring out what Felicity keeps under wraps
7. Part of dissenting group harboring resistance
8. Pirate band dropping quiet manner
9. Talk about inhospitable lodging place!
10. Cut with a small measure of fertilizer
11. Copal, perhaps, put son in control
12. Summary of matters encompassed
13. Net error in function
14. Prop handler started in pain
15. Small ridge in marshy ground
16. Actual money
17. Member of Parliament in Ireland's domains
18. About an organ theater holding five hundred and fifty
19. Flipped over piquant taste of insect
20. Damage child with rod
21. Beats by about three points
22. Peer upset the Spanish are leaving
23. A thousand bucks gets a grass beard
24. Age when Mark becomes new character