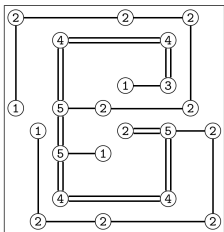


By the Campus Puzzlers' League

Solution to BRIDGES:



The *double bridges* in the above solution trace out the letter **G**.

British-style crossword clues generally consist of two independent phrases cluing the same answer; part of solving is identifying how the clue is split. One half of the clue is a definition, as in a straight crossword clue. The other half can be another definition or wordplay. Occasionally the same phrase functions both as a definition and wordplay; this type of clue is punctuated with an '!'. Punny definitions are sometimes used instead; these are punctuated with a '?'.

There are a number of tricks used in wordplay. Words from the clue can form part of the answer via synonyms or abbreviations. Other transformations must be clued by an indicator word, and can include flipping or anagramming words, taking homophones, or extracting letters. There are strict rules that govern how a wordplay clue may be set; if you've never seen a cryptic clue before, go to our website for examples and resources.

Solve enough of the clues (you won't need them all) to extract a single letter answer, and check it on our website below.

CRYPTIC CLUES

Sometimes one must start early.

- Bar: inside, imbibe amaretto (4)
- Number of foggy days around the world? (6)
- On it from a strange configuration (9)
- Couple of PhDs I call (5)
- Return dope without ecstasy capsule (3)
- Dig around blue automaton (5)
- University's cool, I hear (6)
- Ultimately, witness & eavesdrop secretly! (3)
- Shirt and tie, at first (1)