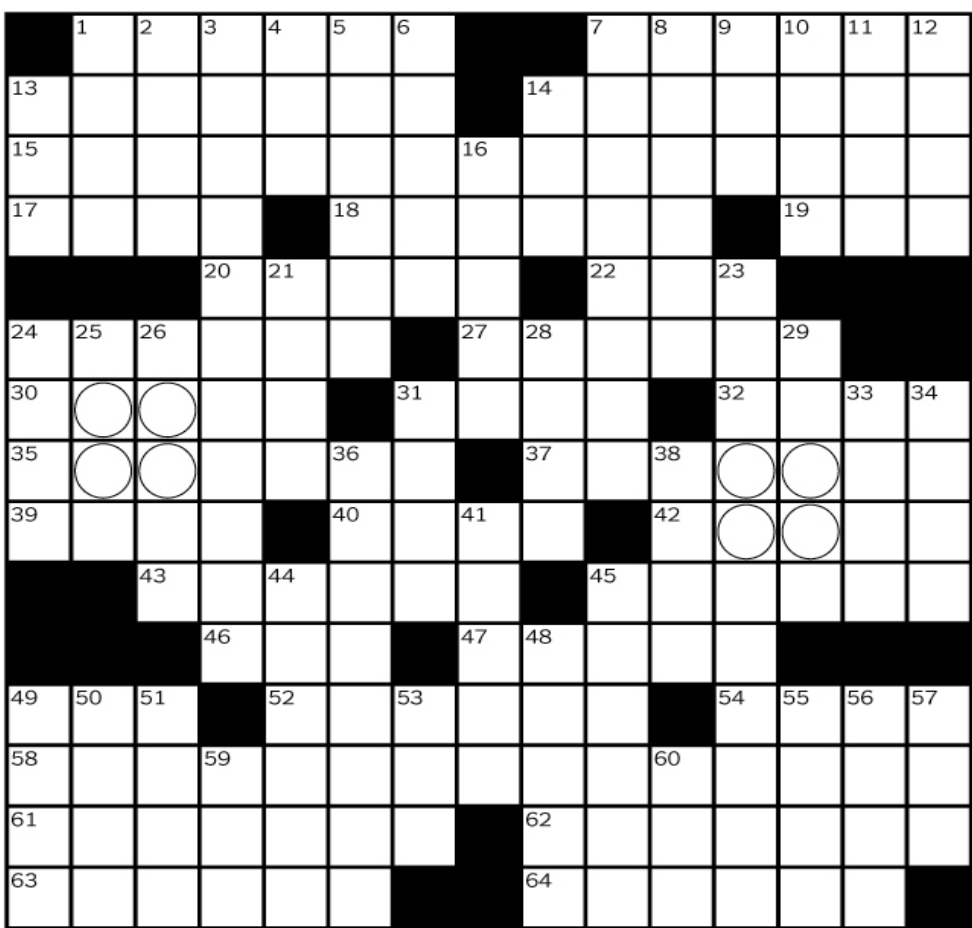


The New York Times crossword



- Across**
- 1 Brewer Coors
 - 7 Add liberally to
 - 13 & 14 With 64-Across, familiar rule not always followed
 - 15 5-Down and others
 - 17 Da's opposite
 - 18 Bygone record label
 - 19 Melodramatic sound
 - 20 Adobes and abodes
 - 22 Touchdown stat
 - 24 Twins sharing a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame
 - 27 Push to the right, say
 - 30 Part of an extended family
 - 31 Chem. assay
 - 32 China problem
 - 35 Cap
 - 37 It's good for your health
 - 39 Automaker Ferrari
 - 40 QB calls
 - 42 ___ Tales, magazine where many H. P. Lovecraft stories first appeared
 - 43 Ban on strip mining, e.g.
 - 45 Western and foreign, to moviegoers
 - 46 Chess piece: Abbr.
 - 47 "___ want to talk about it"
 - 49 Be behind
 - 52 Relaxes
 - 54 Fordham athletes
 - 58 Studier of distant emissions
 - 61 Major
 - 62 Ones giving cash for quarters
 - 63 Some Rijksmuseum holdings
 - 64 See 13- & 14-Across
 - 21 "That's ___ hadn't heard"
 - 23 Subject of a six-volume history by Edward Gibbon
 - 24 "Going ___..."
 - 25 Property claim
 - 26 Lay claim to
 - 28 Informal turndowns
 - 29 Its for more than one
 - 31 It flows in un río
 - 33 Brief start
 - 34 Ones hoofing it
 - 36 Stars and others
 - 38 Rocker Stefani
 - 41 Plot feature
 - 44 Temporarily out, say
 - 45 Disappear
 - 48 Sorghum variety
 - 49 Stars, e.g.
 - 50 Checkout line complaint
 - 51 Kind of piece in a jigsaw puzzle
 - 53 Literary monogram
 - 55 Ascap part: Abbr.
 - 56 Bobcat or Cougar, for short
 - 57 Class that's soon to leave: Abbr.
 - 59 Suffix with opal
 - 60 Sarcasm clarifier

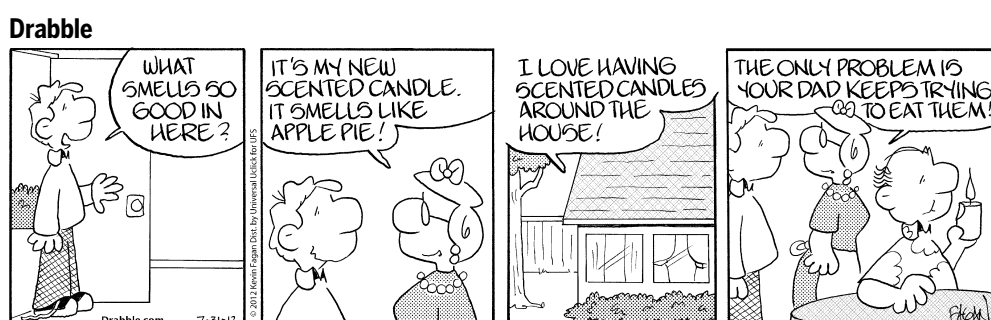
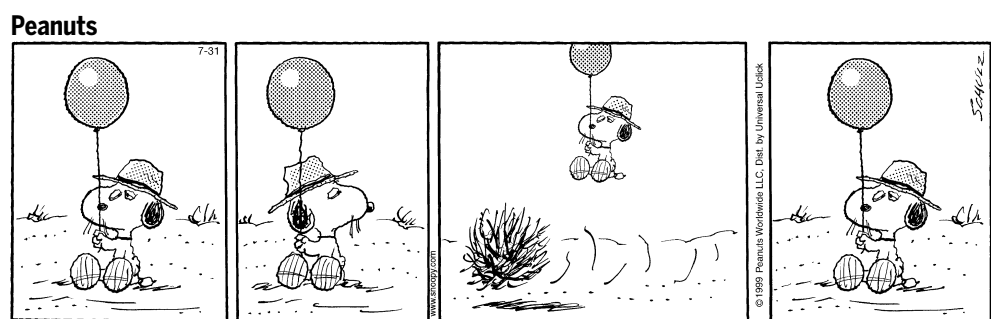
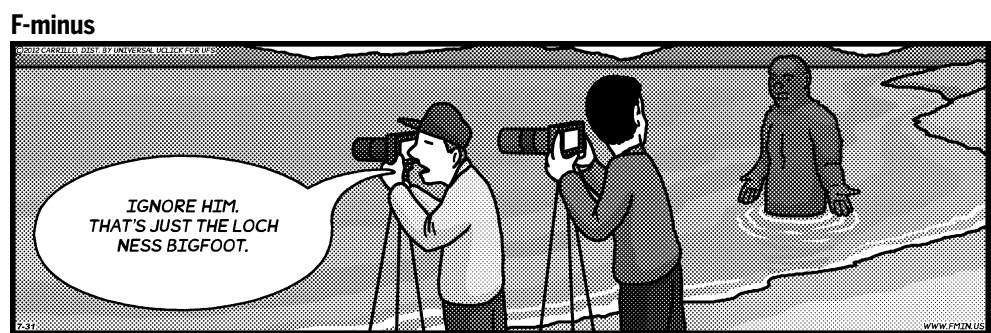
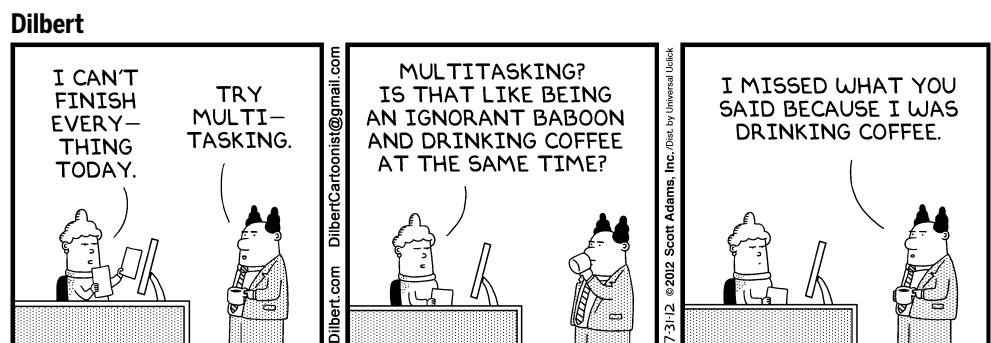
Down

- 1 "It's ___!"
- 2 Take out
- 3 Not paid for, as factory work
- 4 One to build on
- 5 Some charitable sporting events
- 6 Part of an our
- 7 How some argue
- 8 One who's split
- 9 Pal
- 10 Authors
- 11 Vision: Prefix
- 12 Investigator of many accidents, for short
- 13 Engine part: Abbr.
- 14 Northern extremes?
- 16 Mr. Mojo ___ (anagrammatic nickname for Jim Morrison)

Yesterday's solution



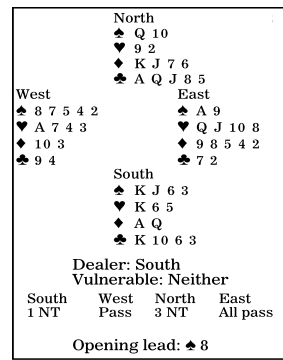
comics



horoscope

- Capricorn** (DEC. 22-JAN. 19)
Under most circumstances, you are not the type of person who easily backs away from a challenge. However, if things look to be too difficult currently, it might be better to hang back.
- Aquarius** (JAN. 20-FEB. 19)
Be helpful to others whenever you can, but be cognizant of your own needs and limitations as well. If you take on more than you can handle, no one will benefit.
- Pisces** (FEB. 20-MARCH 20)
There are times when we probe too deeply into others' personal affairs and we learn things we'd rather not know. Don't let your curiosity get out of hand and create this kind of situation.
- Aries** (MARCH 21-APRIL 19)
You shouldn't have to be told to be extremely tactful if you find yourself in an involvement with someone whose support you badly need. This could be shaky ground for you.
- Taurus** (APRIL 20-MAY 20)
Adopting a negative attitude regarding a distasteful but necessary task would only compound matters. Grit your teeth and get the job done.
- Gemini** (MAY 21-JUNE 20)
The temptation to take a huge financial risk might be rather pronounced. Unfortunately, Lady Luck isn't likely to back you up in this type of speculation.
- Cancer** (JUNE 21-JULY 22)
Be open-minded to any advice offered you, but don't be unduly influenced by persons who always view things negatively. Make up your own mind.
- Leo** (JULY 23-AUG. 22)
Try not to be overly exacting with or too demanding of subordinates. They'll perform far better and produce much more if you minimize your supervision and nitpicking.
- Virgo** (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22)
There's a possibility that you could be unreasonably stingy with persons who have treated you generously in the past. Behaving in such a manner is the wrong way to repay such kindness.
- Libra** (SEPT. 23-OCT. 23)
You could be inclined to postpone important things that require immediate attention. If you stall too long, the day will be over before you get anything done.
- Scorpio** (OCT. 24-NOV. 22)
To a large degree, the end results of an important matter will be determined by the way you anticipate the consequences of your actions. Think and act positively, and you'll come out ahead.
- Sagittarius** (NOV. 23-DEC. 21)
It's an excellent time to analyze your spending patterns in search of budgetary holes. If you truly want to make improvements, you'll view things realistically.

bridge



Surely we all have some quirky habits. While hunting through quotations containing the word "eleven," I found someone who also exhibits one of mine. David Attenborough, an Englishman who has done many wonderful nature programs for the BBC, said, "I'm absolutely strict about it. When I land, I put my watch right, and I don't care what I feel like, I will go to bed at half past 11. If that means going to bed early or late, that's what I live by. As soon as you get there, live by that time."

The only time I reset my watch before landing is when it would also require changing the date.

Yesterday we looked at the Rule of Eleven. Here is an echo, although from a different angle. How should East plan the defense against three no-trump after West leads the spade eight?

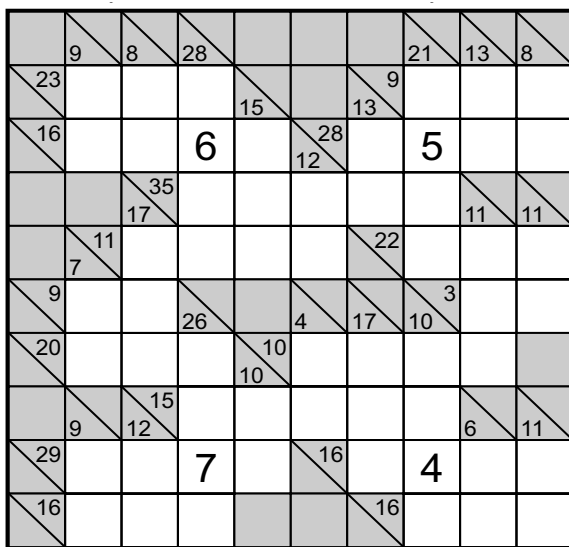
The auction is standard. With no singleton or void, North should just raise to three no-trump. For each deal in which five of a minor makes and three no-trump fails, there will be numer-

ous others where three no-trump succeeds and five of a minor goes down.

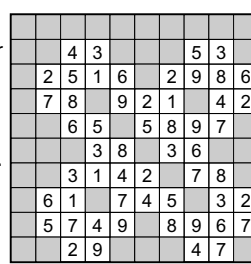
East should start by applying the Rule of Eleven. Eight from 11 is three. So, if West's lead is fourth-highest, there will be only three spades higher than the eight in the North, East and South hands combined. However, East can see four: dummy's 10 and queen, and his nine and ace. The lead cannot be fourth-highest; it must be top of nothing.

Ergo, there is no point in East's plugging away at spades. He should win the first trick and shift to the heart queen, which naturally works beautifully here.

kakuro



A Kakuro consists of a playing area of filled and empty cells similar to a crossword puzzle. Some black cells contain a diagonal slash from top left to bottom right with numbers in them, called "the clues". A number in the top right corner relates to an "across" clue and one in the bottom left a "down" clue. The object of a Kakuro is to insert digits from one to nine into the white cells to total the clue associated with it. However no digit can be duplicated in an entry.



Yesterday's solution

language tips

BETTER CHINESE

1. 黄河流域 (huáng hé liú yù)
The Yellow River Basin

黄河流域是指黄河流经的广大地区，主要在中国的西北部，中华民族的发祥地。因为沉积大量泥沙使河床增高，黄河中下游地区易发洪水。(huáng hé liú yù shì zhǐ huáng hé liú jīng de guǎng dà dì qū, zhǔ yào zài zhōng guó de xī běi bù, zhōng huá mín zú de fā xiǎng dì。 yīn wèi chén jī dà liàng ní shā shǐ hé chuáng zēng gāo, huáng hé zhōng xià yóu dì qū yì fā hóng shuǐ。)

The Yellow River Basin is the large area that the Yellow River flows through, most of it being in the northwest of China. It is the cradle of the Chinese nation. Due to the large amount of mud deposited in the river, the river bed is very high, causing it to flood easily.

2. 舜 (shùn)
Shun

舜是尧之后的部落联盟的首领。尧退休时将自己的位置让给了品性高尚又有才能的舜。后来因为禹治水有功，舜又把联盟首领的位置让给了禹。(shùn shì yáo zhī hòu de bù luò lián méng de shǒu lǐng。 yáo tuì wèi shí jiāng zì jǐ de wèi zhì ràng gěi le pǐn xìng gāo shàng yòu yǒu cái néng de shùn。 hòu lái yīn wèi yǔ zhì shuǐ yǒu gōng, shùn yòu bǎ lián méng shǒu lǐng de wèi zhì ràng gěi le yǔ。)

Shun was the tribal union's leader after Yao. Because of his good moral conduct and ability, Yao passed his position to Shun. Later on because of Yu's success in controlling the floods, Shun gave his position to Yu.

— From *Read stories and learn Chinese*, by Li Jin and Tian Zhuhua. Beijing Language and Culture University Press.

BETTER ENGLISH

“预支遗产” 大行其道

Pre-heritance refers to financial support given by living parents to their children or grandchildren as an alternative to leaving an inheritance to them after they die.

Pre-heritance(预支遗产)指父母健在时将财产拿出来为子孙提供经济支持，而不是将其留作身后遗产供后继继承。

According to a national survey in the UK, 82 percent of people over 55 said they would prefer to give financial support to their children or grandchildren before they die. And 44 percent said they would consider releasing equity from their homes in to give their children or grandchildren the finances necessary to buy their first house or to cover the cost of weddings or education.

It seems that parents are increasingly beginning to recognize the advantages of giving financial support to their offspring at a time when they really need it, thereby also potentially avoiding the pitfalls of inheritance tax, tax paid on inherited money or property.

据英国一项全国性调查显示，55岁以上的人中有82%表示愿意在身故前给子孙提供经济支持。44%的人愿意将房产抵押获取资金来帮助子孙购买首套房或承担他们结婚及上学的费用。似乎有越来越多的父母开始意识到在孩子们真正需要的时候提供经济支持的有利之处了，另外，这样做还能避免上缴遗产税。

— To learn more buzzwords, please log on to <http://language.chinadaily.com.cn>. Follow us on Sina Weibo at <http://weibo.com/languagetips>.

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