

King Classic Sudoku

	3	8						5
				5	2		3	9
				4		3		8
3			1	5	7	9		4
7		1			4	6	5	3
5		2	6	3				
1	7		3			5	6	
	2		8	9				7
		4			6			

Difficulty: ★ 12/29

2	5	8	3	7	6	4	1	9
6	4	9	1	5	2	3	7	8
3	7	1	9	4	8	2	6	5
5	8	2	4	6	1	7	9	3
1	9	4	7	8	3	5	2	6
7	6	3	2	9	5	1	8	4
8	1	6	5	3	7	9	4	2
9	2	5	8	1	4	6	3	7
4	3	7	6	2	9	8	5	1

Difficulty: ★★★★★ 12/28

ISAAC ASIMOV’S SUPER QUIZ

FROM NORTH AMERICA SYNDICATE INC., 300 W. 57th STREET,
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FOR RELEASE MONDAY, DEC. 29, 2025

SUPER QUIZ

Take this Super Quiz to a Ph.D. Score 1 point for each correct answer on the Freshman Level, 2 points on the Graduate Level and 3 points on the Ph.D. Level.

Subject: FLOWERS
(e.g., Its common name means “do not forget to remember me.” Answer: Forget-me-not.)

FRESHMAN LEVEL
1. It is a symbol of remembrance of soldiers who died during warfare. Answer: _____
2. Its name is from Old French, meaning “lion’s tooth.” Answer: _____
3. Its name is from the ancient Greek word for “star.” Answer: _____

GRADUATE LEVEL
4. What flower is mentioned in the poem “I Wandered Lonely as a Cloud”? Answer: _____
5. The civil war between the House of Lancaster and the House of York was known as _____. Answer: _____
6. This flower’s name is an anagram for “love it.” Answer: _____

PH.D. LEVEL
7. Its name may be derived from a Persian word for “turban,” which the flower resembles. Answer: _____
8. What is the national flower of (a) Japan, (b) Switzerland, (c) Spain? Answer: _____
9. When laterally squeezed, this flower opens and closes like the mouth of a dragon. Answer: _____

ANSWERS: 1. Poppy. 2. Dandelion. 3. Aster. 4. Daffodil. 5. Wars of the Roses. 6. Violet. 7. Tulip. 8. (a) Cherry blossom or chrysanthemum, (b) edelweiss, (c) carnation. 9. Snapdragon (antirrhinum).

SCORING:
18 points — congratulations, doctor; 15 to 17 points — honors graduate; 10 to 14 points — you’re plenty smart, but no grind; 4 to 9 points — you really should hit the books harder; 1 point to 3 points — enroll in remedial courses immediately; 0 points — who reads the questions to you?

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CELEBRITY CIPHER

by Luis Campos

Celebrity Cipher cryptograms are created from quotations by famous people, past and present. Each letter in the cipher stands for another.

“ C A F C X M A F D A A J H D M Z V J H Z A F C X I
D W C Y Z , C X V A Z D N J L J X D G D I Z , C V D X
F J X J O D R W Z A D V M . D X N C A A S O X V H Z
J X . ” — H C M Z X C T F J W V

Previous Solution: “It went beyond idealism and that ridiculous term ‘activism,’ ... We made giving exciting!” — Bob Geldof

TODAY’S CLUE: n sjenba S

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NEA Crossword Puzzle

- ACROSS**
1 Fish eggs
4 Fragment
7 Early lesson for children
11 Curved path
12 Wild plum
13 Overfill
14 Pay- — -view
15 “Peter Pan” pooch
16 Emanation
17 Tropical bird
19 Not long ago
21 Pelt
23 Limb
24 Reef material
27 Once around a track
29 Greek letter
32 “One Flew — the Cuckoo’s Nest”
33 Low-pitched
34 Pinna
35 Name for a bystander
- DOWN**
36 “Thirty days — ...”
37 Remove
38 Elevation (Abbr.)
39 Storm’s center
40 Poison
41 Mature
43 Baseball’s Dizzy —
45 Frying medium
48 Certain musician
52 Seaweed
53 Fossil fuel
55 Payable
56 Broker’s advice
57 Clue
58 Sea eagle (Var.)
59 Golf pegs
60 Antiquity
61 Toward the stern
- DOWN**
1 Engrossed
2 Black-and-white cookie
3 Beige
4 Flavorless
5 Charged particle

Answer to Previous Puzzle

O	L	D		T	O	R		C	A	S	T
R	O	E		B	O	N	O	A	G	A	R
C	B	S		I	N	C	A	S	S	U	M
H	E	I	R	S		E	D	G	I	E	S
			C	U	T			G	I	N	
R	A	C	E	R		P	A	G	O	D	A
A	B	A		O	F	A	N		E	V	A
P	U	T		R	I	G	S		F	I	T
S	T	E	L	L	A	R		P	E	E	V
			E	E	G			R	O	N	
W	E	L	C	O	M	E		I	N	S	U
A	D	I	T		E	D	I	T		I	R
L	I	M	O		N	E	N	E		V	A
T	E	A	R		T	N	T		E	L	S

- 6 Duck
7 Playing marble
8 Aquamarine (Hyph.)
9 Ringlet
10 Remain
12 Escargot
18 Blacken with heat
20 Range in Europe
22 Delighted
24 Insensible state
25 Ellipse
26 Playing card shape
28 Fire remains
30 Nimbus
- 31 Utah city
33 Green — Packers
36 Shoe part
37 Dimple
40 Secure room for valuables
42 Aims
44 Antelope
45 Players in a play
46 Toward shelter
47 Hurt
49 Notion
50 Ride a wave
51 Temporary shelter
54 Tin Man’s need

1	2	3		4	5	6		7	8	9	10
11				12				13			
14				15				16			
17				18			19	20			
			21			22		23			
24	25	26				27	28		29	30	31
32					33					34	
35					36				37		
38					39			40			
		41	42			43	44				
45	46				47		48		49	50	51
52					53	54				55	
56					57					58	
59					60				61		