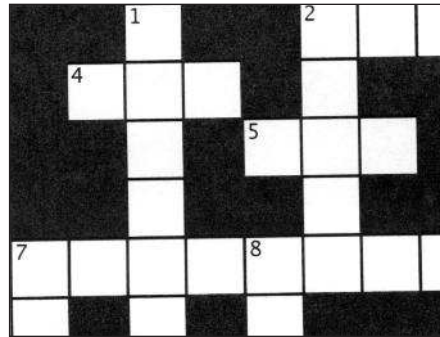
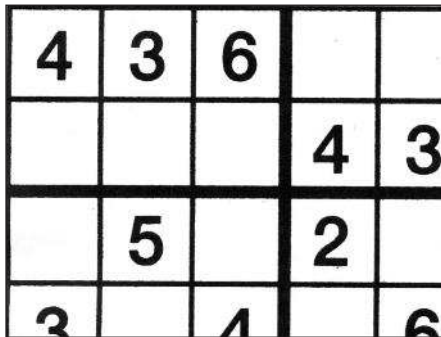


Word Games and Puzzles



MILL1ON

Joan Acosta

bestofthereader.ca

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joan@joanacosta.ca

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Welcome

This e-book is part of a series called Best of The Reader. Most of the material in the e-books is from *The Westcoast Reader*. It is a newspaper for adults who are improving their English reading skills.

To the reader

- ✓ You can use this book in a classroom, with a tutor, or on your own.
- ✓ You can check your answers at the end of the book.

Reading levels

Most of the e-books in this series have three reading levels. This e-book does not have stories. It has puzzles and word games, and there are no reading levels.

To the teacher

Learners can do the puzzles and word games individually, in pairs, or in groups.

Teachers' Guide

There is a Teachers' Guide on this website. The guide has ideas on how to use the e-books with students.

Acknowledgements

The author gratefully acknowledges the financial support of Capilano University for this project.

Most of the material in this book first appeared in *The Westcoast Reader* (1982 to 2009).

Credits

Illustrations

Front cover—Find the differences: Nola Johnston

Pages: 8, 9, 18, 20, 21, 25: Guy Parsons; Pages 14, 15, 16, 17: Nola Johnston; Page 7: iStockphotos; Pages 12, 13: Craig Freeman; Pages 10, 11: Government Information Office, Republic of China (Taiwan)

Word play

Can you guess these words and expressions?

1

school

2

cof fee

3

W
A
L
K

4

store

5

cloudy

6

MILL1ON

7

TROUBLE

8

EVER
EVER
EVER
EVER

9

e
l
k
c
u
b

👉 More on page 6

Word play

Can you guess these words and expressions?

1

think
think

2

22222
DAY

3

over
over
over
over

4

M
O
T
H
E
R

5

✓
yearly

6

bit

7

W
WALK
L
K

8

ABCDEF
GHIJKLM
NOPQRS
TVWXYZ

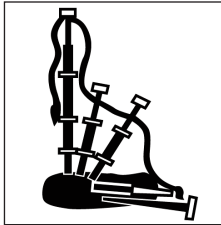
9

YouJustMe

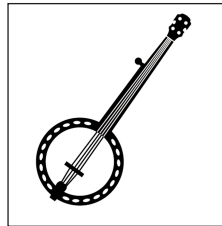
Find the words: Musical instruments

Find the words in the puzzle. Some words go across and some go down.

bagpipes



banjo



djembe



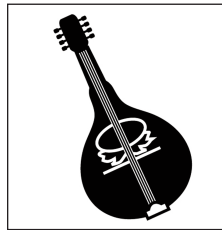
drums



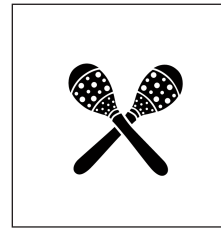
horn



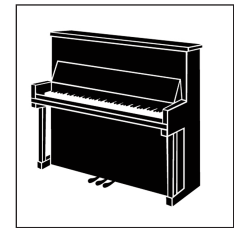
mandolin



maracas



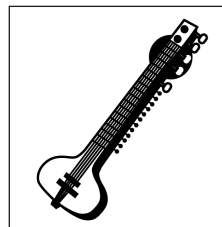
piano



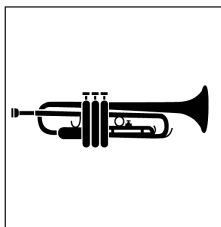
saxophone



sitar



trumpet



violin



m	h	t	m	a	n	d	o	l	i	n
a	d	r	m	g	w	l	e	d	j	y
r	b	u	e	b	v	i	o	l	i	n
a	a	m	h	a	d	j	e	m	b	e
c	n	p	j	g	s	e	l	k	y	s
a	j	e	n	p	n	k	a	d	z	i
s	o	t	h	i	k	i	z	k	z	t
s	a	x	o	p	h	o	n	e	m	a
a	u	j	r	e	d	r	u	m	s	r
c	d	p	n	s	p	i	a	n	o	x

Find the words: Valentine's Day

Fill in the blanks with words from the puzzle.

On February 14, my boyfriend gave me a big box
of _____ and a beautiful red _____.



I gave him a _____ and a _____ card.

In the evening we went to a fancy restaurant. We ordered
a delicious _____ and a bottle of _____.



Puzzle



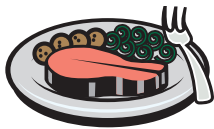
Find the words in the puzzle. Some words go across and some go down.



valentine



gift



dinner



chocolates



rose



wine



There is one more "Valentine" word in the puzzle. Can you find it?

The Westcoast Reader 2/2009

Find the words: Sounds



Circle the correct answers. Then find the words in the puzzle.

1. Cows ____.
a. chirp
b. moo

2. Keys ____.
a. jingle
b. honk

3. Dogs ____.
a. moo
b. bark

4. Kettles ____.
a. jingle
b. whistle

5. Bees ____.
a. buzz
b. bark

6. Owls ____.
a. moo
b. hoot

7. Frogs ____.
a. croak
b. meow

8. Clocks ____.
a. honk
b. tick

9. Mice ____.
a. squeak
b. whistle

10. Lions ____.
a. bark
b. roar

11. Cats ____.
a. meow
b. tick

12. Ducks ____.
a. moo
b. quack

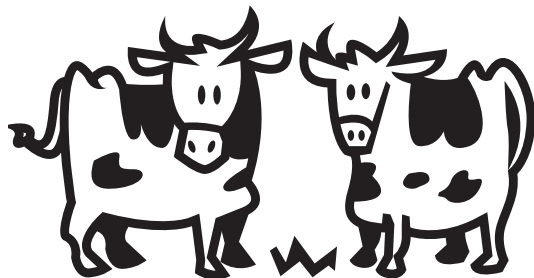
13. Horns ____.
a. honk
b. tick

14. Pigs ____.
a. oink
b. hiss

15. Balloons ____.
a. bleep
b. pop

16. Turkeys ____.
a. gobble
b. ping

j	i	n	g	l	e	e	c
b	p	c	s	t	i	c	k
a	o	b	q	l	j	q	k
r	p	u	u	a	c	m	m
k	o	z	e	y	r	o	i
e	i	z	a	l	o	o	x
g	n	d	k	a	a	w	a
y	k	f	o	o	k	h	q
n	a	m	e	o	w	i	u
i	r	o	a	r	l	s	a
h	o	o	t	g	u	t	c
h	o	n	k	y	i	l	k
h	g	o	b	b	l	e	x



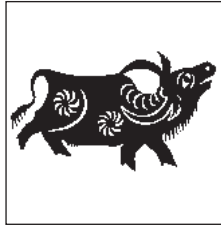
Find the words: Chinese zodiac

Each year of the Chinese lunar calendar is named after one of 12 animals. Find the 12 animals in the puzzle. Some words go across and some go down.

rat



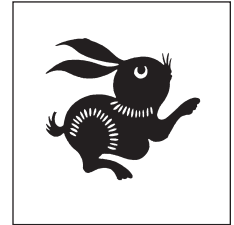
ox



tiger



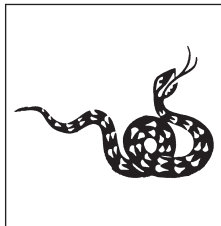
rabbit



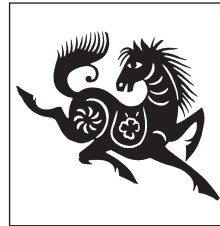
dragon



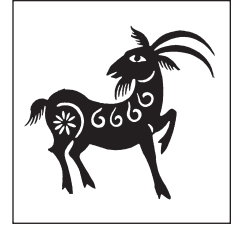
snake



horse



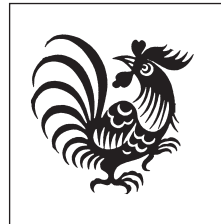
sheep



monkey



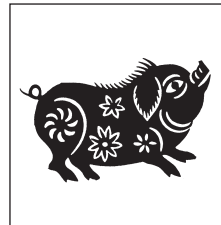
rooster



dog



pig



p	a	o	y	e	u	o	x	s	d
i	s	h	e	e	p	u	r	n	r
g	i	j	r	e	m	q	o	a	a
e	h	h	r	z	m	r	o	k	g
m	o	n	k	e	y	a	s	e	o
y	r	i	n	m	v	b	t	o	n
w	s	r	j	s	b	b	e	d	l
l	e	d	n	p	p	i	r	m	i
z	k	o	p	r	a	t	h	b	k
t	s	g	t	t	i	g	e	r	v

The 12 animals of the Chinese zodiac

Each year on the Chinese lunar calendar is named after one of 12 animals. Each animal has different qualities. Find the year you were born. Do you have the same qualities as the animal the year is named after?



Rat — 1924, 1936, 1948, 1960, 1972, 1984, 1996, 2008, 2020

Rats are friendly. They work hard and save their money.



Ox — 1925, 1937, 1949, 1961, 1973, 1985, 1997, 2009, 2021

Oxen are good listeners. They are strong, but a bit stubborn.



Tiger — 1926, 1938, 1950, 1962, 1974, 1986, 1998, 2010, 2022

Tigers are brave and strong. They like excitement.



Rabbit — 1927, 1939, 1951, 1963, 1975, 1987, 1999, 2011, 2023

Rabbits are smart and polite. They are often shy.



Dragon — 1928, 1940, 1952, 1964, 1976, 1988, 2000, 2012, 2024

Dragons are good at politics. They are proud and flashy.



Snake — 1929, 1941, 1953, 1965, 1977, 1989, 2001, 2013, 2025

Snakes are successful and wise. They can be tricky.



Horse — 1930, 1942, 1954, 1966, 1978, 1990, 2002, 2014, 2026

Horses are cheerful and popular. They are sometimes impatient.



Sheep — 1931, 1943, 1955, 1967, 1979, 1991, 2003, 2015, 2027

Sheep are talented and artistic. They always get ahead in life.



Monkey — 1932, 1944, 1956, 1968, 1980, 1992, 2004, 2016, 2028

Monkeys are funny and like to play tricks. They love new things.



Rooster — 1933, 1945, 1957, 1969, 1981, 1993, 2005, 2017, 2029

Roosters are good workers. They have lots of friends.



Dog — 1934, 1946, 1958, 1970, 1982, 1994, 2006, 2018, 2030

Dogs are faithful and friendly. They can keep a secret.



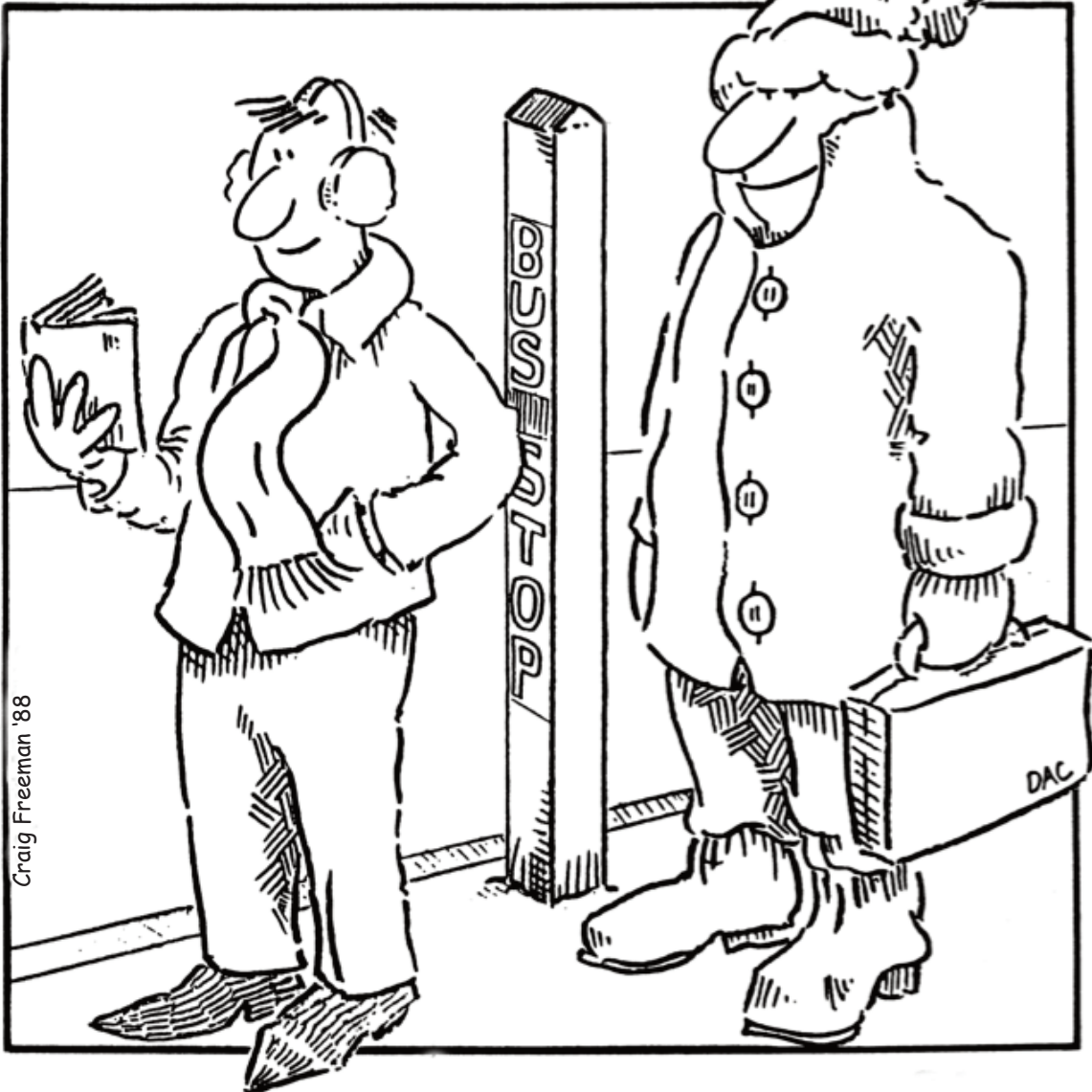
Pig — 1935, 1947, 1959, 1971, 1983, 1995, 2007, 2019, 2031

Pigs are honest, brave, and proud. They love to learn.

Find the differences

Can you find 8 differences between picture A and picture B?

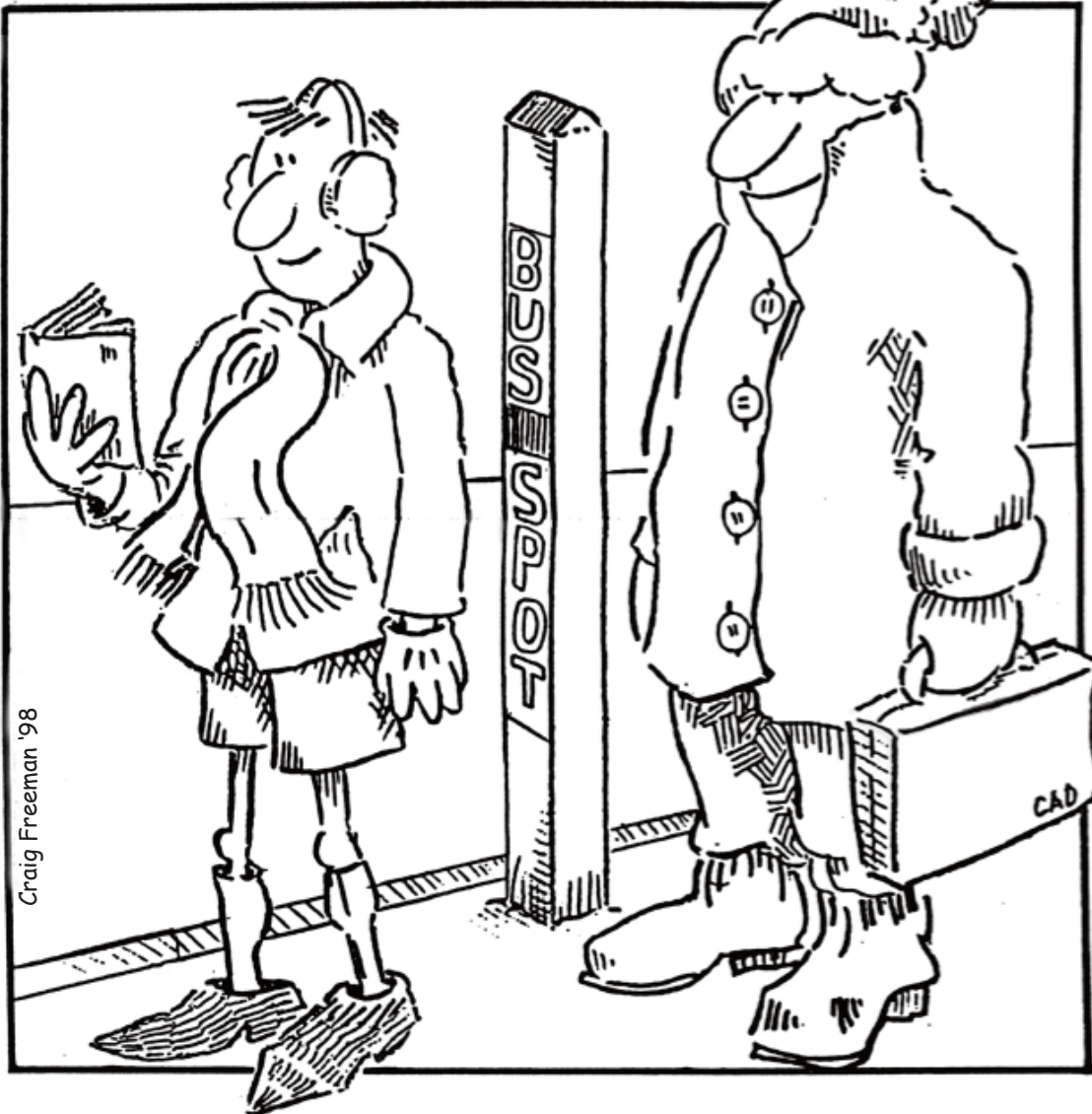
A



➡ Picture B on page 13

Find the differences

B



8 Each time you find a difference, circle it, and put a checkmark in a box.

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
--------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------

The Westcoast Reader 3/1988

Find the differences

Can you find 8 differences
between picture A and picture B?

A



➡ Picture B on page 15

Find the differences

B



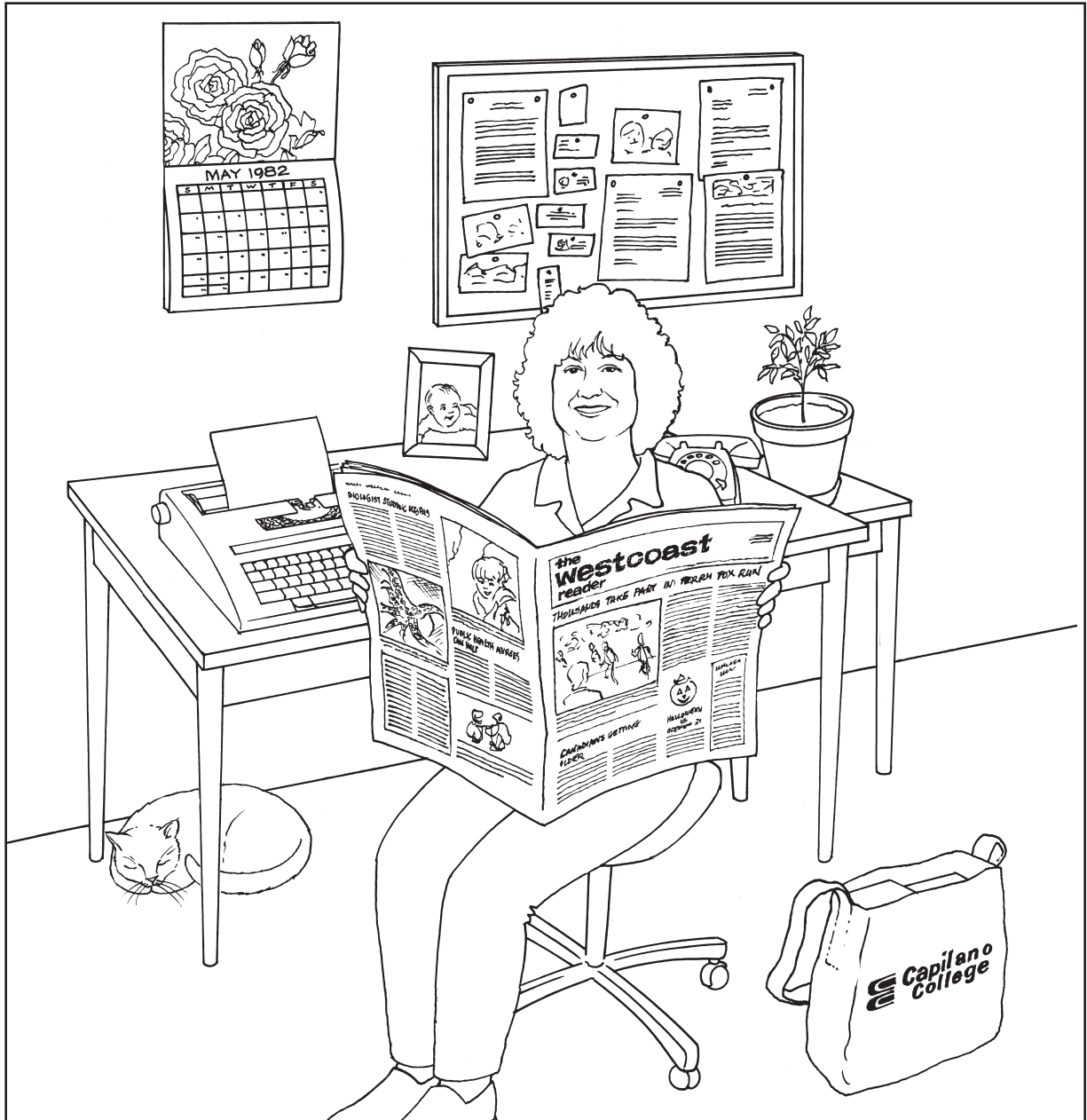
8 Each time you find a difference, circle it, and put a checkmark in a box.

The Westcoast Reader 11/2002

Find the differences

Can you find 12 differences
between picture A and picture B?

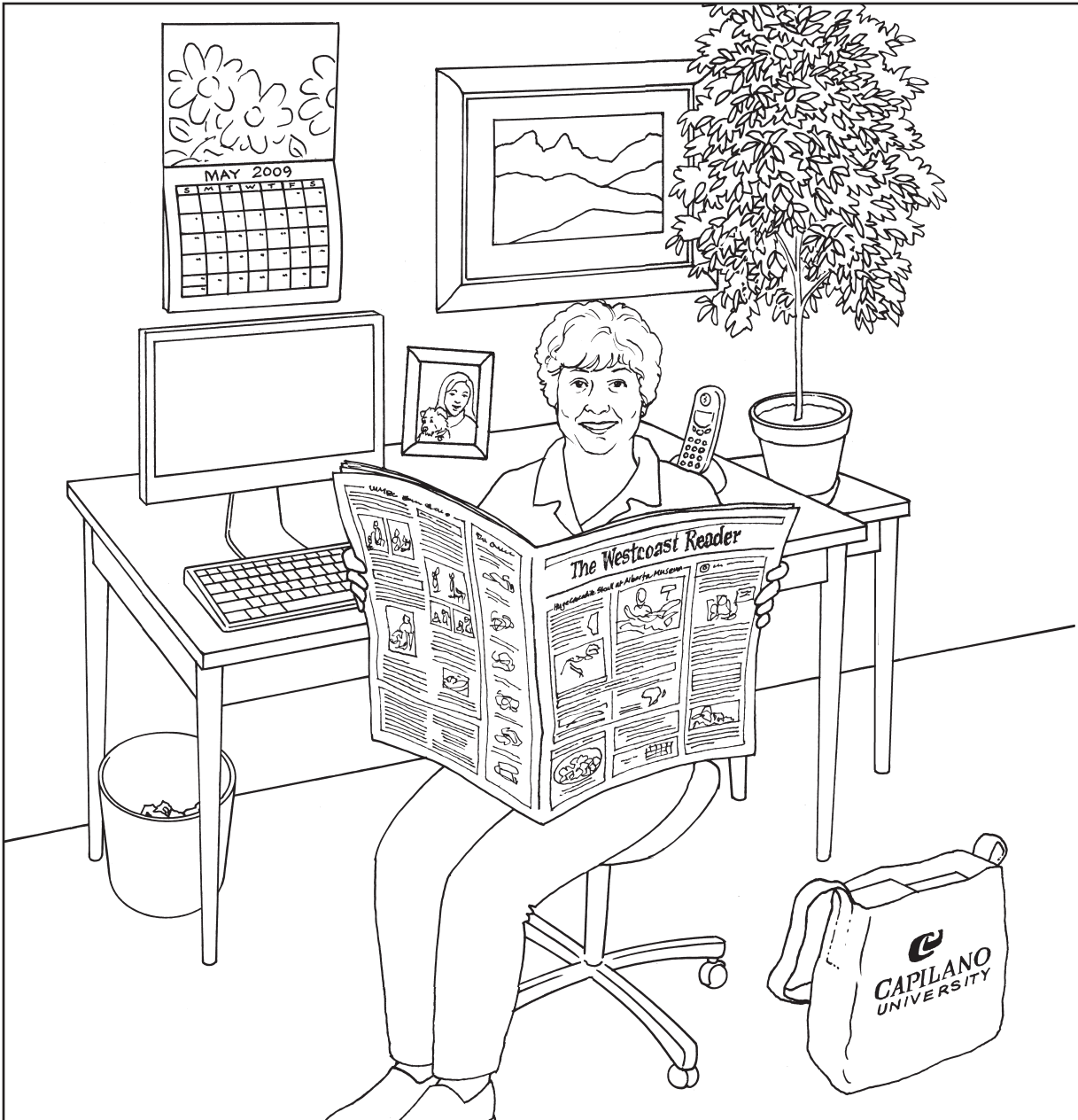
A The office of the editor of *The Westcoast Reader* in 1982.



➡ Picture B on page 17

Find the differences

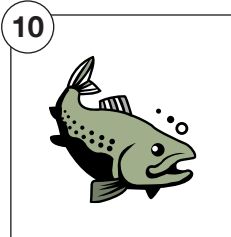
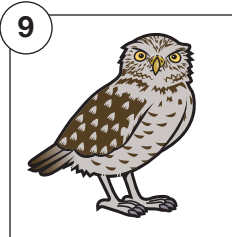
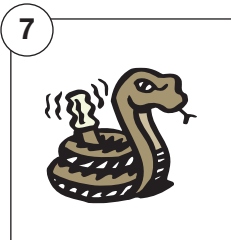
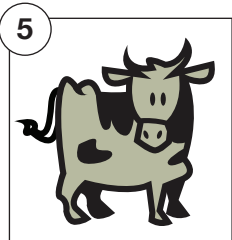
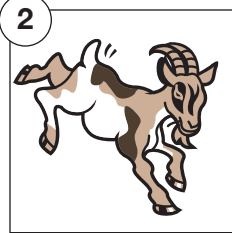
B The office of the editor of *The Westcoast Reader* in 2009



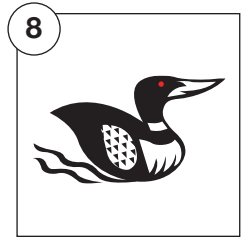
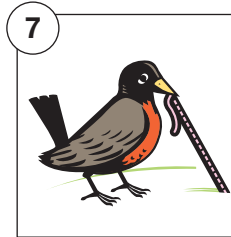
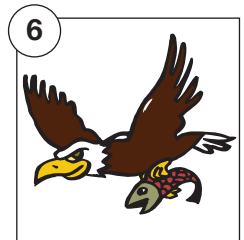
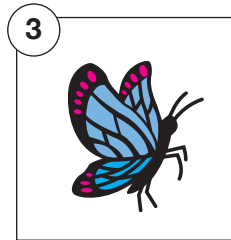
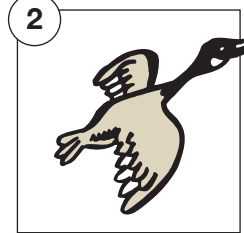
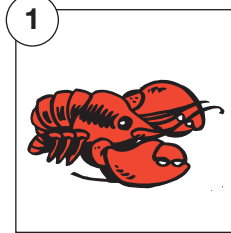
12 Each time you find a difference, circle it, and put a checkmark in a box.

Crossword: Nature

Across



Down

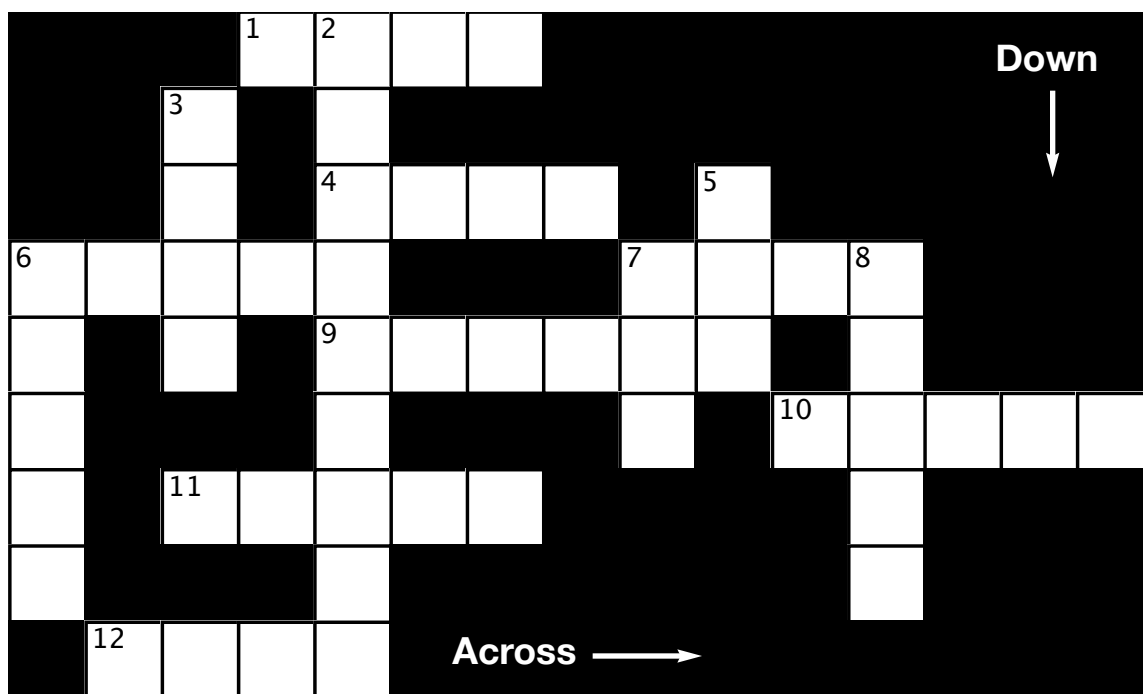


		1			2					3	
	4										
			5								
							6				
7				8							
						9				10	

Down
↓

Across →

Crossword: Opposites



Write the opposite of each word below in the crossword puzzle.

Across

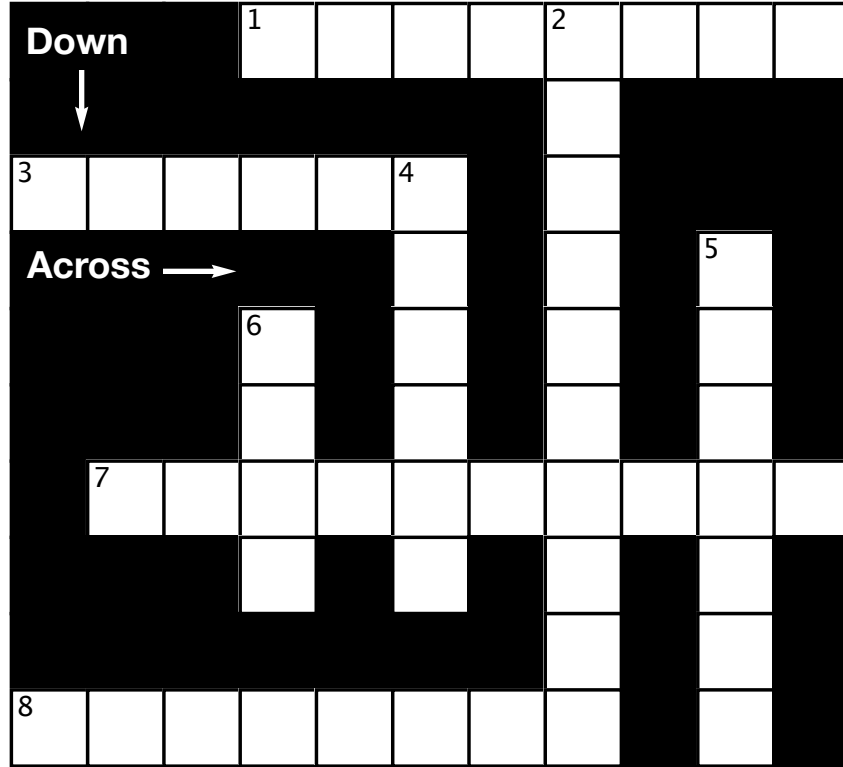
1. Opposite of buy
4. Opposite of push
6. Opposite of true
7. Opposite of soft
9. Opposite of wide
10. Opposite of right
11. Opposite of black
12. Opposite of early

Down

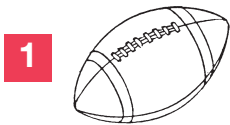
2. Opposite of cheap
3. Opposite of empty
5. Opposite of cooked
6. Opposite of last
7. Opposite of cold
8. Opposite of clean

Crossword: Balls

What is the name of the sport that goes with each ball?



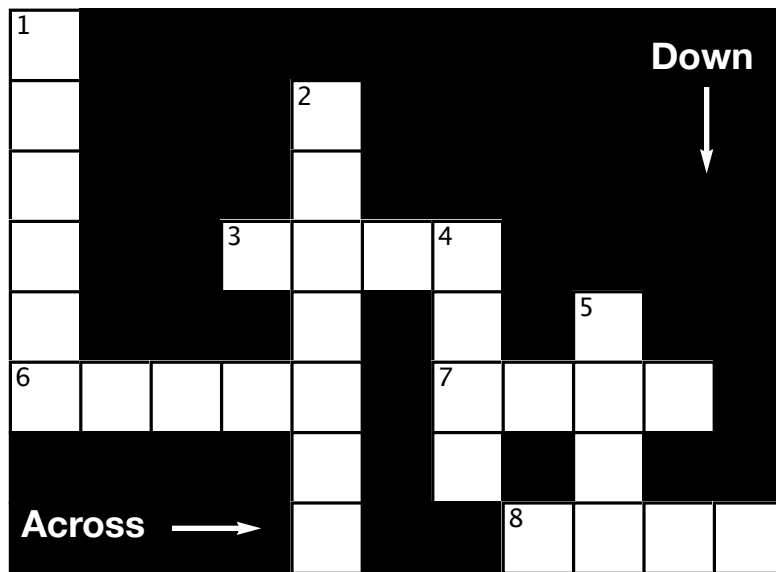
Across



Down



Crossword: Things to do in the summer



Across

3. Play _____.



6. Paddle a _____.



7. Go for a _____.



8. Sleep in a _____.



Down

1. Have a _____.



2. Plant some _____.



4. Catch a _____.



5. Fly a _____.



Easy

Sudoku

Many people like to play Sudoku.
It is a number puzzle.

Start with an easy Sudoku

Here is an easy Sudoku puzzle. It has 16 squares.

Rule

Each column of four squares, each row of four squares, and each box of four squares must have the numbers 1, 2, 3, and 4 in any order.

	column			
row	1	2	4	3
	3	4	2	1
box	2	3	1	4
	4	1	3	2

Try these two Sudoku puzzles

1

3	1		
	2		
		2	
		1	3

2

		2	
1			
			4
	3		

👉 More on page 23

Harder

Sudoku

These three Sudokus are a little more difficult. They each have 36 squares.

Rules

Each column of six squares, each row of six squares, and each box of six squares must have the numbers 1 to 6.

1

	1			3	
6					2
		2	5		
		3	2		
3					4
	4			2	

2

1					3
		3	6		
		2	1		
		4	5		
		6	3		
4					5

3

		2	1		
	5			2	
6					4
2					3
	2			4	
		1	5		

➤ More on page 24

Hardest

Sudoku

These three Sudokus are even more difficult. They each have 81 squares.

Rules

Each column of nine squares, each row of nine squares, and each box of nine squares (three squares by three squares) must have the numbers 1 to 9.

1

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

2

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

3

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

Tongue twisters

Tongue twisters are phrases or sentences that are hard to say quickly and correctly. They are good pronunciation practice. Try to say each of these quickly three times.



- A black bug's blood
- Six silly sisters selling shiny shoes
- Willy's real rear wheel
- He threw three free throws.



Riddles

Riddles are popular in many countries. They are a kind of puzzle. You have to guess the answer to a riddle.

The answers to these riddles are on page 28.

1 What can you catch but not throw?

2 What belongs to you, but other people use it more than you do?

3 What does everyone in the world do at the same time?

4 What can run but never walks, has a mouth but never talks, has a head but never weeps, and has a bed but never sleeps?

5 What has teeth, but cannot bite?

**Do you know a riddle?
Write it on the lines.**

Answers for puzzles

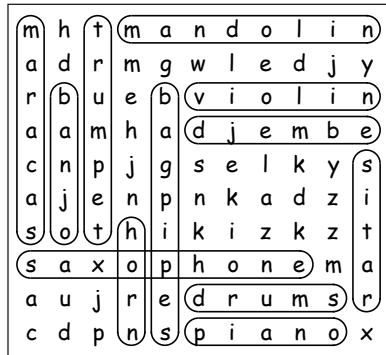
Word play (p 5)

1. high school
2. coffee break
3. sidewalk
4. corner store
5. partly cloudy
6. one in a million
7. big trouble
8. forever
9. buckle up

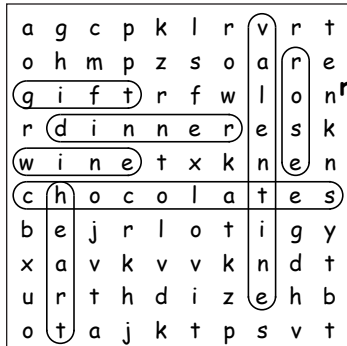
Word play (p 6)

1. think twice
2. Tuesday
3. leftovers
4. stepmother
5. yearly checkup
6. little bit
7. crosswalk
8. missing you
9. just between you and me

Musical instruments (p 7)



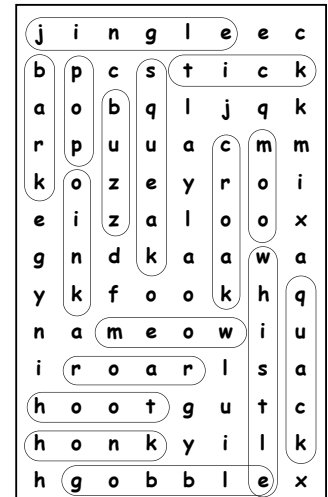
Valentine's Day (p 8)



The extra word is *heart*.

Sounds (p 9)

- 1b
- 2a
- 3b
- 4b
- 5a
- 6b
- 7a
- 8b
- 9a
- 10b
- 11a
- 12b
- 13a
- 14a
- 15b
- 16a



Chinese zodiac (p 10)



Find the differences (pages 12-13)

In Picture B

1. CAD on briefcase
2. Pants are short
3. BUS SPOT
4. Buttons are on other side of coat
5. Stitching on second button is horizontal
6. Hand is out of pocket
7. Scarf has two ends
8. Craig Freeman '98

Answers for puzzles

Find the differences (pages 14–15)

In Picture B

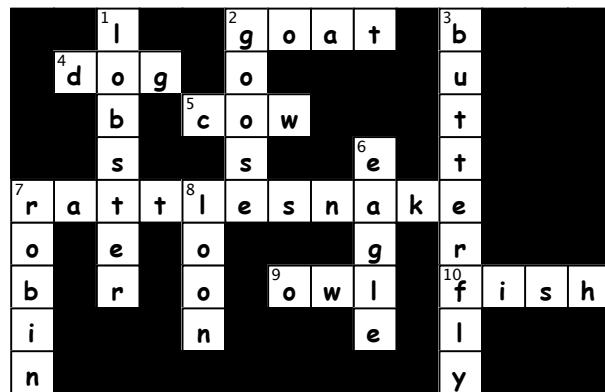
1. Man is wearing glasses
2. Two plants
3. Board says Exercise A
4. Dictionary is on the desk
5. Sign says History
6. Clock is round
7. Name of newspaper is *Eastcoast Reader*
8. Newspaper has two pages

Find the differences (p 16–17)

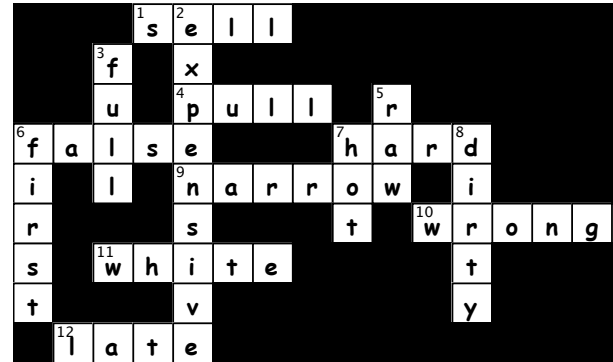
In Picture B

1. Calendar is for May 2009
2. Picture on calendar is different
3. Plant is bigger
4. Framed painting
5. Computer
6. Cordless phone
7. Framed photo on desk is different
8. Different issue of *The Westcoast Reader*
9. Editor's hair is shorter
10. Editor looks older
11. Wastebasket
12. Book bag says Capilano University

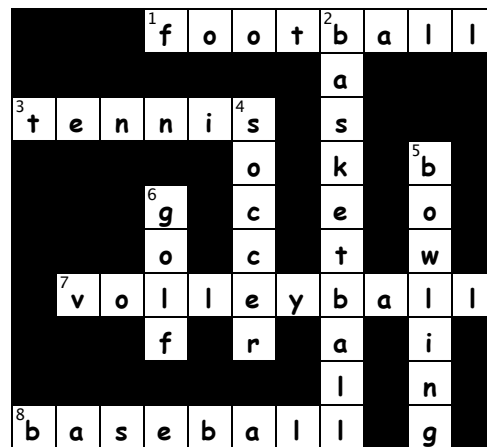
Crossword: Nature (p 18)



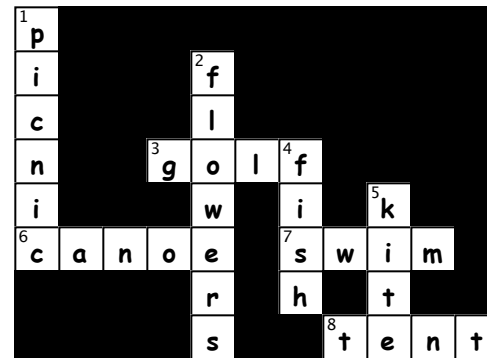
Crossword: Opposites (p 19)



Crossword: Balls (p 20)



Crossword: Things to do (p 21)



Answers for puzzles

Sudoku (p 22)

Sudoku 1

3	1	4	2
4	2	3	1
1	3	2	4
2	4	1	3

Sudoku 2

3	4	2	1
1	2	4	3
2	1	3	4
4	3	1	2

Sudoku (p 23)

1

2	1	4	6	3	5
6	3	5	4	1	2
1	6	2	5	4	3
4	5	3	2	6	1
3	2	6	1	5	4
5	4	1	3	2	6

2

1	6	5	4	2	3
2	4	3	6	5	1
3	5	2	1	4	6
6	1	4	5	3	2
5	2	6	3	1	4
4	3	1	2	6	5

3

4	6	2	1	3	5
1	5	3	4	2	6
6	3	5	2	1	4
2	1	4	6	5	3
5	2	6	3	4	1
3	4	1	5	6	2

Sudoku (p 24)

1

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

2

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

3

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

Riddles (p 25)

1. A cold
2. Your name
3. Grow older
4. A river
5. A comb