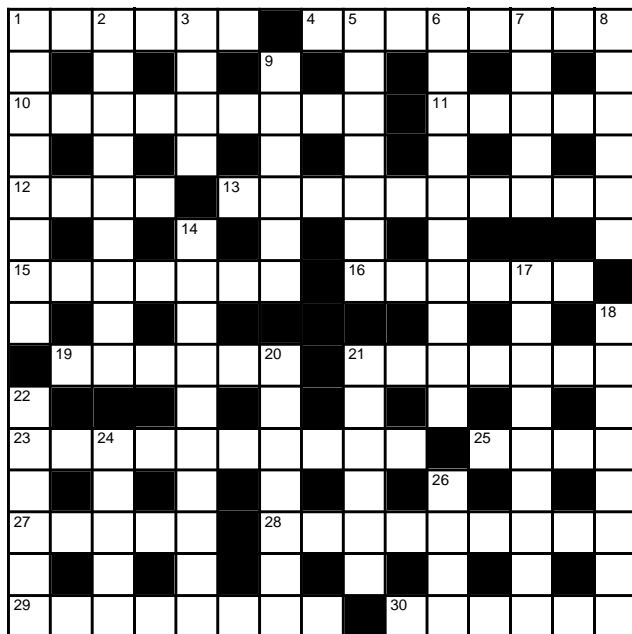


## Goodness of Wit Test #1: Standard Cryptic (CHANCE Vol. 21, No. 3) by WITZ (Jonathan Berkowitz)

**Instructions:** This is a standard cryptic crossword. For the uninitiated, clues consist of two parts, a definition and a wordplay section. The apparent meaning of a clue is irrelevant to the clue's answer. For the most part, you should ignore punctuation and capitalization; their function is to make the surface sense seem more reasonable, and to confuse you! Words in clues are often used in misleading ways. See Appendix for a brief guide to solving cryptic crosswords.



### Across

- 1 Lines up to hear hints (6)
- 4 Lacking scent old roses misplaced (8)
- 10 Arm author and famous uncle at 99 (9)

- 11 More hazardous without Rhode Island slope expert? (5)
- 12 Measure first instances of technical instant message error (4)
- 13 Ms. Anderson developed lack of purpose (10)
- 15 Recent cold in New York period of dormancy (7)
- 16 Backbone has large piecewise function (6)
- 19 Beethoven's piece's heartless sexy writing (6)
- 21 Enlarge complex rank (7)
- 23 Potential natural in game code breaker (10, 2 words)
- 25 Makes correspondence returning unwanted mail (4)
- 27 Welcome from child always in verse (5)
- 28 Express to the audience what the infatuated conductor had for the percussionist? (9)
- 29 Program she clued poorly (8)
- 30 Dolly's crazy insurer from London (6)

### Down

- 1 Value on either side of box edges away from rectangle and Scrabble piece (8)
- 2 Strange East Timor statistic (9)
- 3 Listen to medical examiner giving award (4)
- 5 Concludes selenium cut into pieces from the rear (7)
- 6 Again testing maples arranged in circle (10)
- 7 Innocuous Internet super achievers? (5)
- 8 Emphasize short hair (6)
- 9 Perhaps stayed fixed (6)
- 14 Mistakenly enter fluid not blocked by software (10)
- 17 Benin or Mali tyrant giving up what analysts usually assume (9)
- 18 Groupings from temperature scale with incorrect results (8)
- 20 On-line service provider gets sore over suspension (7)
- 21 Unfinished gel bad omen for chromosome set (6)
- 22 Closed meeting in mountains lacking a trace of snow (6)
- 24 Male physician pens letter (5)
- 26 Head question (4)



## Brief Guide to Solving Cryptic Crosswords

*Anagrams* – answer is a transposal of another word or phrase

Example: Examiners confused streets. Answer: testers (anagram of “streets”)

Indicators: mixed up, confused, moving, upset, bananas, in flux, otherwise

*Reversals* – read a word or phrase backwards to get the answer.

Example: Clever trams run in reverse. Answer: smart (trams backwards)

Indicators: back, returns, in retrospect, leftward/west for Across words), rising/northwards (for Down words)

*Hidden words* – answer word is concealed within a longer word or phrase, without rearrangement

Example: Dame Diane reveals average. Answer: median (hidden in “da-me dian-e”)

Indicators: revealing, displays, masks, carrying, in part, essentially, at heart

*Charades* – answer is built up from parts given by the cluing

Example: Monarch, after victory, giving a sly sign. Answer: winking (win+king)

Indicators: before, after, with; indicators may be minimal or absent

*Containers* – a word or fragment is inserted into another word to give the answer

Example: Huge loss in fuel. Answer: colossal (“loss” inside “coal”)

Indicators: swallows, surrounding, about (for containing words); within, inhabits, wearing, invades (for contained word)

*Homophones* – answer has the same pronunciation as another word or phrase

Example: Counted frozen chicken out loud. Answer: numbered (“numb bird”)

Indicators: echoed, noisily, in recital, on tape, anything to do with speaking or listening

*Deletions* – one or more letters are removed from a word or phrase to give the answer

Example: Fiery bird without a tail. Answer: flaming (drop last letter from “flamingo”)

Indicators: dropping, flees, without, loses, after the debut (first letter deleted), unfinished (last letter deleted), without limits (first and last deleted)

*Double definitions* – instead of wordplay, two unrelated meanings of answer are clued

Example: Scooter was blue. Answer: moped

Indicators: generally absent; clues can be very short

*And literally so (“&lit”)* – the entire clue can be read as either definition or wordplay

Example: Dog in wild! Answer: dingo (anagram of “dog in”, and literally so)

Indicators: clues end in an exclamation point

