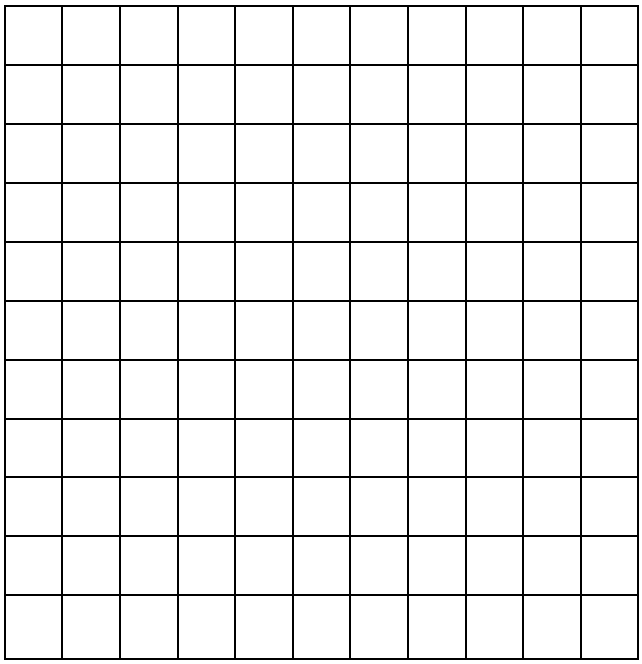
Lacking Support

Guess the words defined by the following clues. The answers vary in length from three to eleven letters long and of these, two are capitalized, one is foreign, two are acronyms, two are hyphenated, and one is an alternate spelling. The punctuation in the clues may or may not help the solver.

Enter the answers in the grid one after the other starting in the top left corner and in the same order as the clues. Across words that don't end at the rightmost square of the row will continue on the leftmost square of the next row. Similarly, down words that do not end in the bottom square will continue at the top of the next column.

Six across words and six down words will have to be shortened to other valid words in similar fashion before they are entered in the grid. In addition, four other across words and four other down words will each have to have a letter removed first. These eight letters taken in order will form a common phrase in keeping with the twelve changes



Across

1. Main support of taxi returning with a kilobyte and one (8)
2. Tackle, a herb that's been chopped up for the sea turtle (11)
3. Hard water, dealers make nice around me (6)
4. Heckles walkers without the top (4)
5. Less cold mostly for the animal (5)
6. Article about returning staff will add beauty (5)
7. Rational but revolutionary bores (5)
8. A composition for one or two instruments is smooth, organized, natural and therefore always initialized (6)
9. Pour out the terrible cream finally (4)
10. Deliver from danger of unorthodox cure, circumnavigating the Spanish domain (6)
11. Surgical tubes are the extremes of spirit sent out (6)
12. Driver maybe is supportive of consumption (8)
13. Halyard part returns beam (3)
14. Cryptogamia graduate with icky center for stick in the mud (8)
15. Morey, occasionally has returned more reserved (5)
16. Punier without one and about to trim (5)
17. Valley bird returns with author (4)
18. Sealed archive for example starts secure (4)
19. Racquet game part for myself and cosmic communicators (4)
20. Crazy Mae is crazy French lady (6)
21. Ratio and then half of orange part (4)
22. Return, let last starter relate (4)
23. Military officer loses lodger instead (4)
24. In with cook finally for egg product… (5)
25. …or product of egg, blockade dropping last for blocked throughput (10)
26. Sweep hind part for intimidating pitch (9)

Down

1. Slanderers trick babes another way (10)
2. Desert transport arrived with changes, black (9)
3. Firm returns to Aspen for example for eight part data structure (6)
4. Therefore flyer comes back with refresher (4)
5. Unaccompanied advance, audibly (4)
6. Deletes sayings incorporating the written work (5)
7. Passport maybe and mostly old statue (4)
8. For example, Pearl is finally singing the (3)
9. The usual practice but not in that way (5)
10. Sally shortly has a liaison internally (3)
11. Enlarge eccentric and meticulous collector (7)
12. Animal that is Asian, nettle (5)
13. Latter part of curve including fifth of acknowledgement (7)
14. Quickly access extremes, father comes home (4)
15. The response starts for each evaluation, don't bother about cooking kale (8)
16. Regarding a pugilistic endeavor (5)
17. Wane audibly for the English wheel... (4)
18. …and meeting place in deep ubiquities (3)
19. Some of the trotter returns the cake (5)
20. Add back to hospital, area of chamber maybe (5)
21. One of three maybe to put an edge on the European flower (5)
22. Ten less one ten, one mostly coming back (5)
23. Huskies, without slider casts (4)
24. Double set transforms glossina (6)
25. Not that half in standing starts! (4)
26. Nerve centers maybe in the bar Ms. Cook manages (9)
27. Return to original winding road (10)