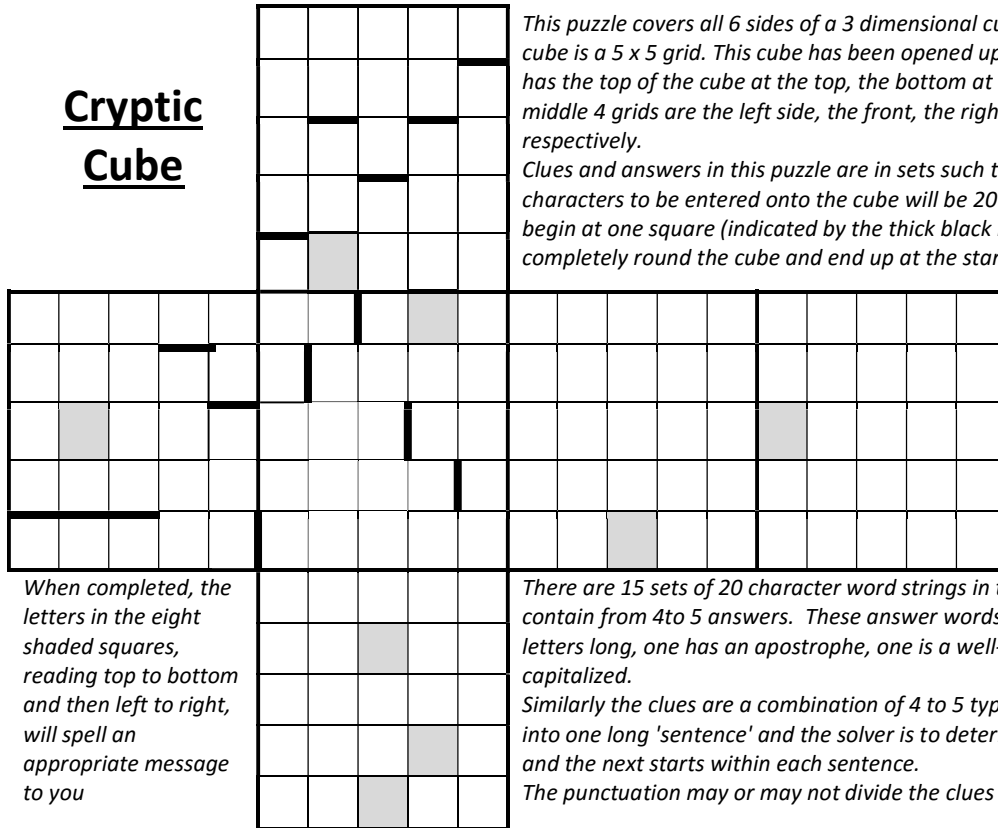


# Cryptic Cube



This puzzle covers all 6 sides of a 3 dimensional cube where each face of the cube is a 5 x 5 grid. This cube has been opened up for ease of viewing and has the top of the cube at the top, the bottom at the bottom, and then the middle 4 grids are the left side, the front, the right side and the back respectively.

Clues and answers in this puzzle are in sets such that together the final set of characters to be entered onto the cube will be 20 characters long and will begin at one square (indicated by the thick black line) and then proceed completely round the cube and end up at the starting point.

Therefore all vertical entries in the 'right' and 'back' sides will proceed from bottom to top and horizontal entries on the 'top' will go from right to left

When completed, the letters in the eight shaded squares, reading top to bottom and then left to right, will spell an appropriate message to you

There are 15 sets of 20 character word strings in this puzzle and each set will contain from 4 to 5 answers. These answer words vary in length from 3 to 7 letters long, one has an apostrophe, one is a well-known acronym and 8 are capitalized.

Similarly the clues are a combination of 4 to 5 typical cryptic clues combined into one long 'sentence' and the solver is to determine where one clue ends and the next starts within each sentence.

The punctuation may or may not divide the clues properly.

These clues start on the 'front' (to the right of the thick bar) and proceed **across** the right side, the back, the left side ending up on front

- a1 Given to, student of Leon, outside of the ship/ place, of betting and of mediocre nonsensical/ propoganda, first four support/ alternative top, alternative particle
- a2 Treat, oddly on Montana, flower/ of unbelievers, not so/ right, ring a couple of learners and turn over/ Time Machine, race about oiler, right away/ to Swiss, range and slap brutally
- a3 Follows shirt change, liar has southern/ tabernacle and includes wash/ initially, come out like the animal/ the animal that's to come back with the back half of the litter
- a4 State of oblivion, crazily sane, I am/ revolutionary, leader goes to hospital area, yes, happy/ I live hoping to finish /, I lay about Slavic person
- a5 All, backed up ma for ruminant/, not even first one, do disable/ sword finally, the top, the middle/ seat without a position/ a cup from Greece and French garlic

These start on the 'top' of the cube (just below the thick bar) and proceed **down** the front, along the bottom, up the back ending on the top

- d1 Stud purchase, order saint/ poor pill, mostly/ produce car, tee off/ next to capture first, lose saint
- d2 Dirty and wet, noisy first, first light/ is illuminating the extremes, learner likes first Gin Fizz/ Ernest has no right about South African, grape/ lover changes, sore
- d3 Large package of blood, group returning the French/ rug, of biryanis/ and Gehrig, that is the point for Huey's and Dewey's companion/ and of shallow computer star/ and of schlepp I let accumulate
- d4 Smoke component of, start/ to get taken, has jazz, great/men mostly about nothing/, relative of Ernie, central/ wisdom of Errol or Ernie
- d5 Contract, break to right, to start/ so, god bird/ daw mostly, aired odds only, bestow/ to supper, e.g. myself and AI/ alone, not AI uniquely

These Clues start by going down the 'left' side (just below the thick bar) and proceed **round** the bottom, up the right and across the top

- r1 Money taken from Frigate, off day Spanish/ for Bantu regiment I'm with, symbol/ Canadians create, not at/ Spanish, flower of Ontario, finally/ track southern underprivileged
- r2 Amber allure, sinfully contained/ sweet crazy sets, red/ or final one, peel apples, the/ greasy grisly lion has western
- r3 Defender, maybe about a rug, hesitation/, lied about, store/ no trend oddly stored/, stored first, head rush
- r4 Wood cutting I counted, first rationale/ of international defense organization, no absorption, unit/ of Egyptian flower, mostly/ a glow soundly for old coin/ acrobat takes part of sheet, of matted fibers
- r5 Duty to come with liters/ I start the French, The French island/ of Guam, a mower partly returning for her/ drinking, aid good man, uncooked/ seed of pumpkin, it probably leads