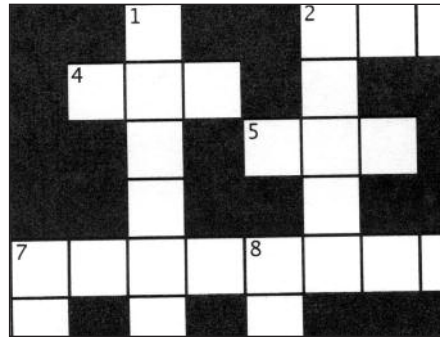
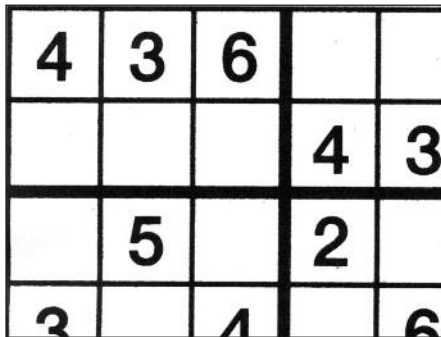


# Word Games and Puzzles



MILL1ON

Joan Acosta

bestofthereader.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

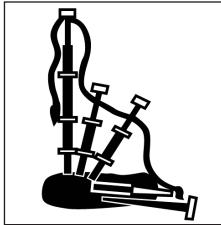
9

YouJustMe

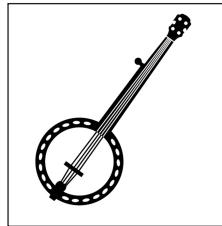
# Find the words: Musical instruments

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

bagpipes



banjo



djembe



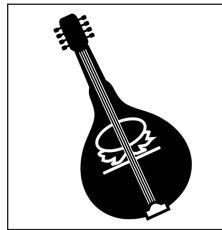
drums



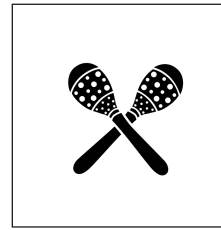
horn



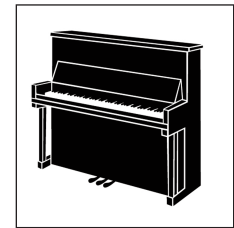
mandolin



maracas



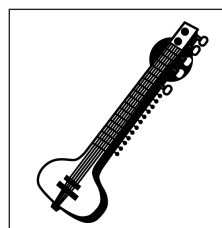
piano



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

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

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

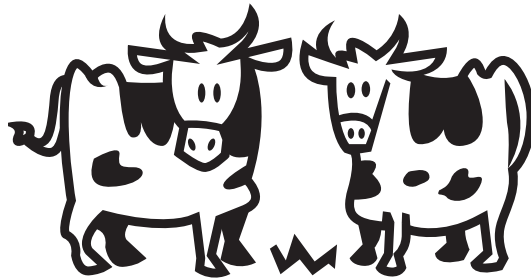
13. Horns \_\_\_\_.  
a. honk  
b. tick

14. Pigs \_\_\_\_.  
a. oink  
b. hiss

15. Balloons \_\_\_\_.  
a. bleep  
b. pop

16. Turkeys \_\_\_\_.  
a. gobble  
b. ping

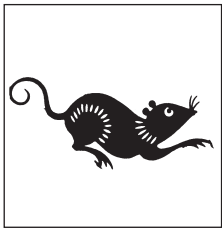
j	i	n	g	l	e	e	c
b	p	c	s	t	i	c	k
a	o	b	q	l	j	q	k
r	p	u	u	a	c	m	m
k	o	z	e	y	r	o	i
e	i	z	a	l	o	o	x
g	n	d	k	a	a	w	a
y	k	f	o	o	k	h	q
n	a	m	e	o	w	i	u
i	r	o	a	r	l	s	a
h	o	o	t	g	u	t	c
h	o	n	k	y	i	l	k
h	g	o	b	b	l	e	x



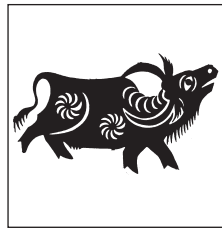
# Find the words: Chinese zodiac

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



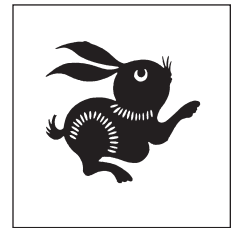
ox



tiger



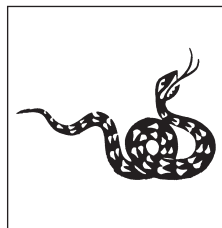
rabbit



dragon



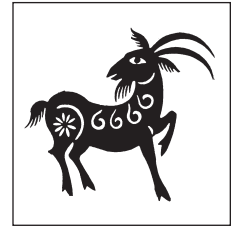
snake



horse



sheep



monkey



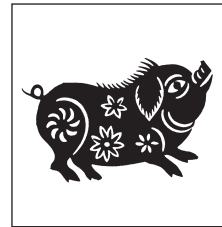
rooster



dog



pig



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

2019 is the Year of the Pig.

# 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.



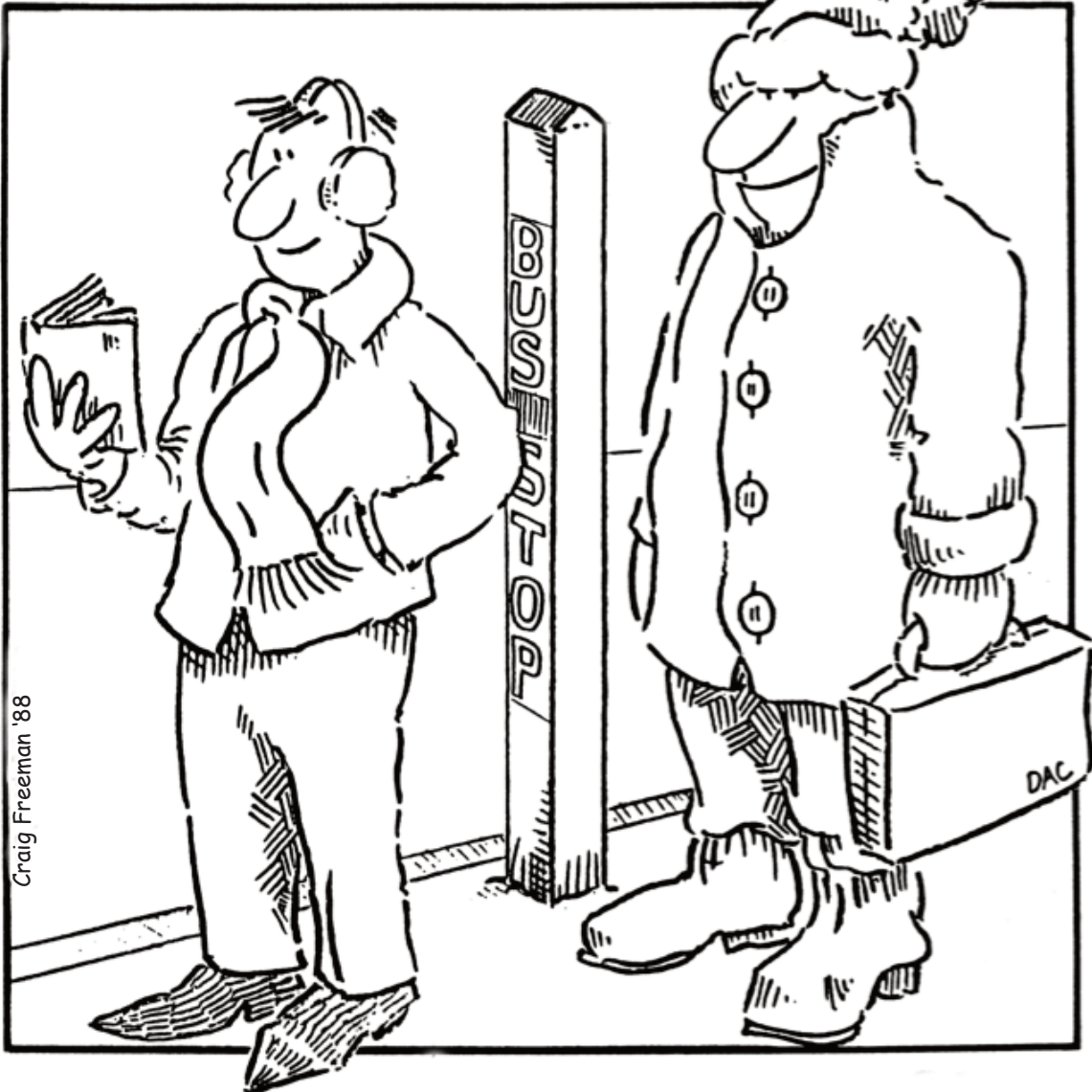
**Pig — 1935, 1947, 1959, 1971, 1983, 1995, 2007, 2019, 2031**

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

# Find the differences

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

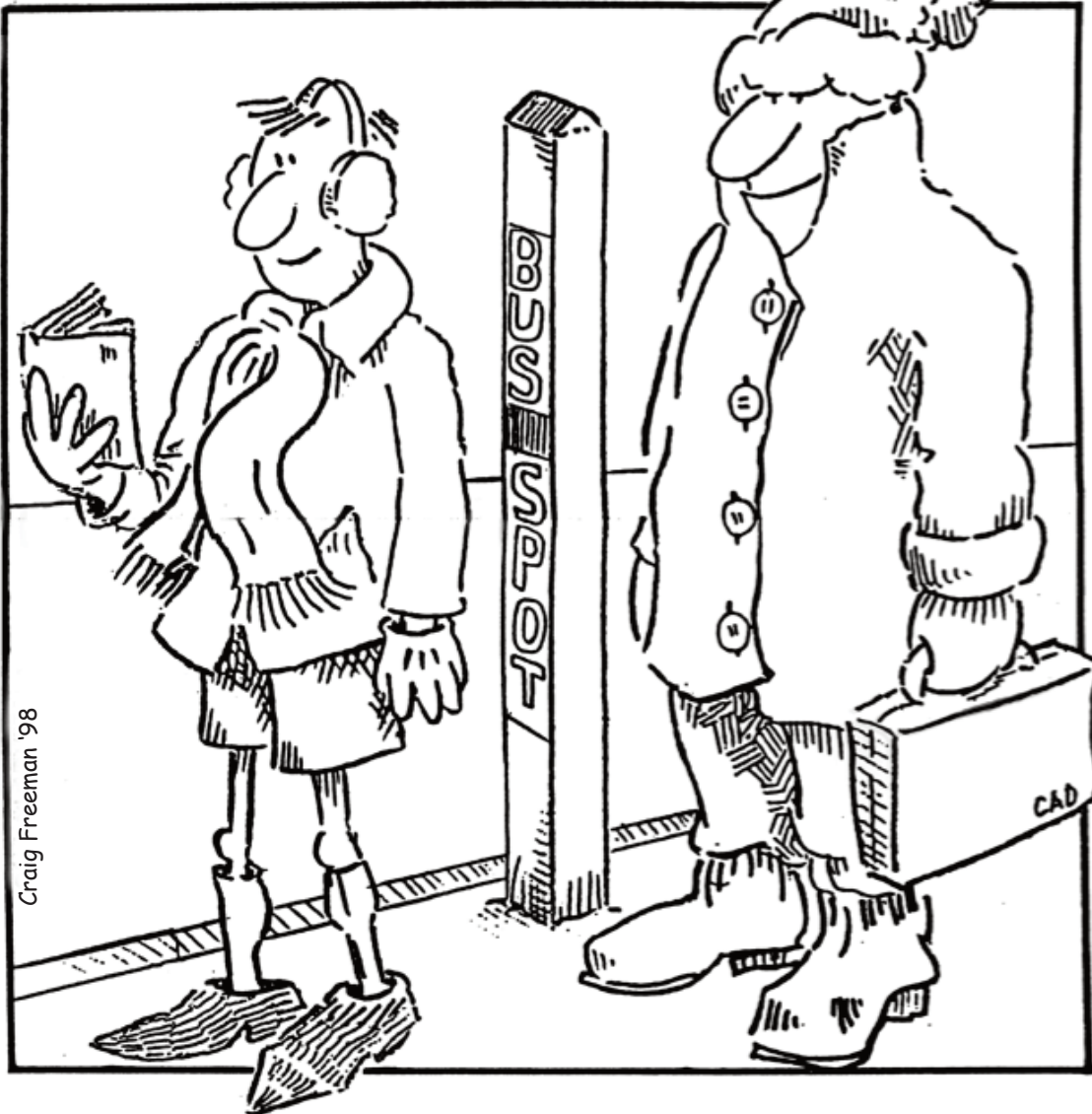
A



➡ 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



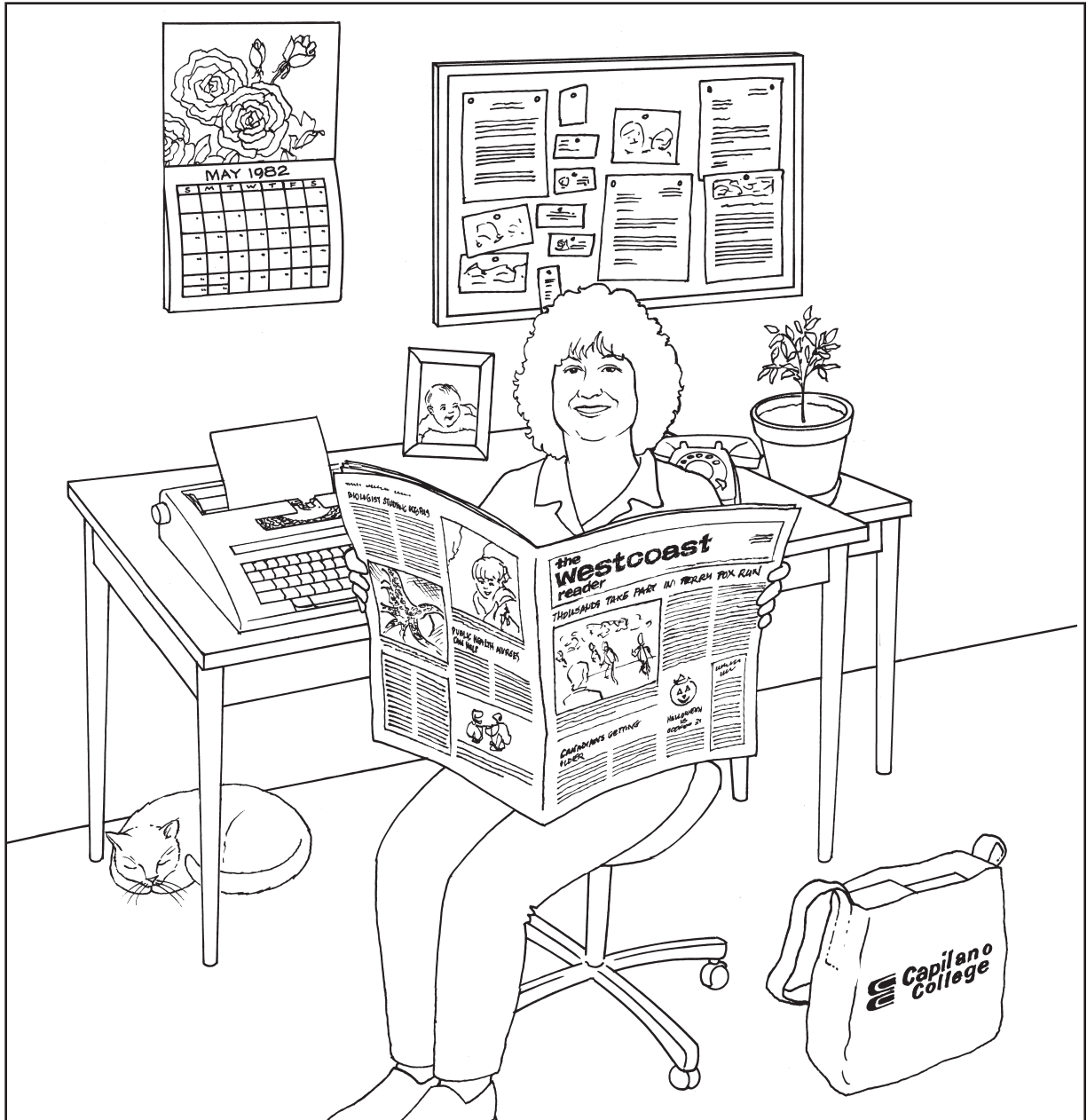
8 Each time you find a difference, circle it, and put a checkmark in a box.

*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.

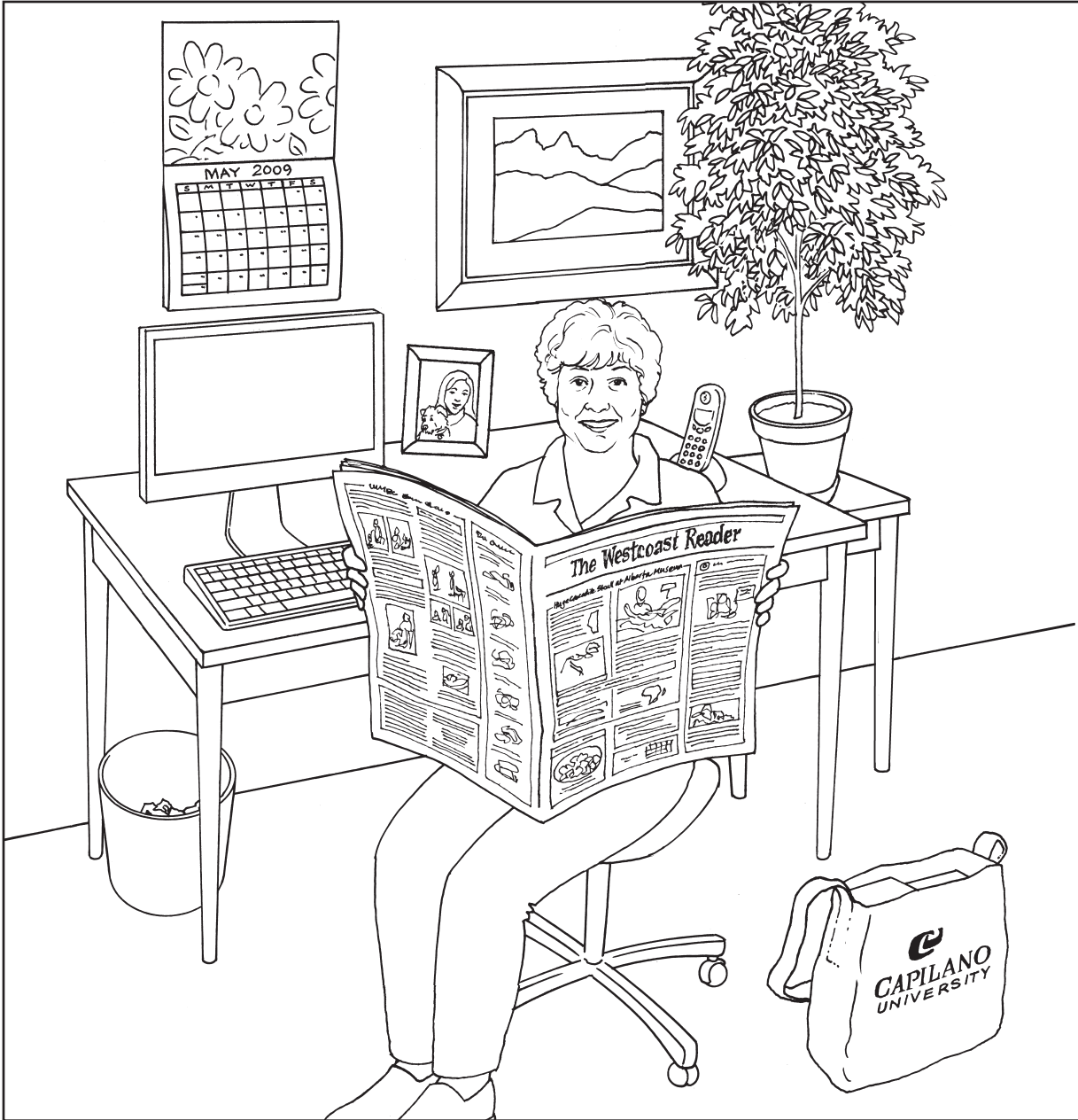


➡ Picture B on page 17



# Find the differences

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

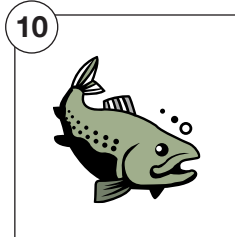
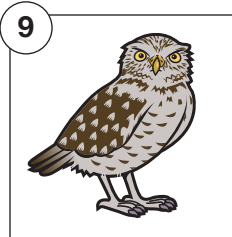
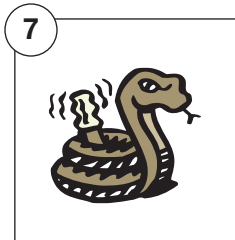
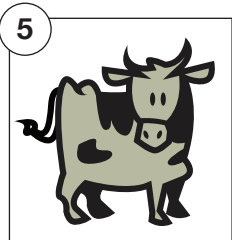
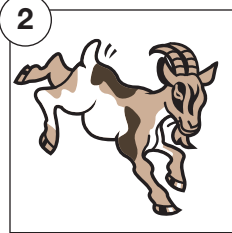


**12** Each time you find a difference, circle it, and put a checkmark in a box.

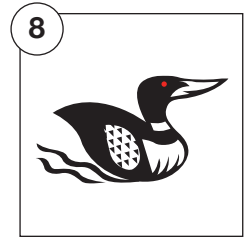
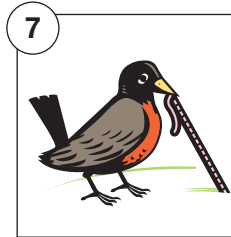
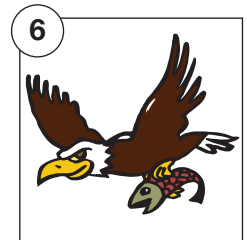
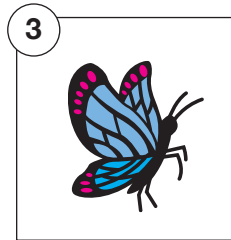
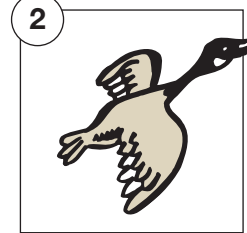
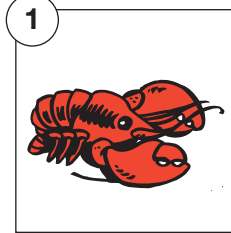
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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# Crossword: Nature

## Across



## Down

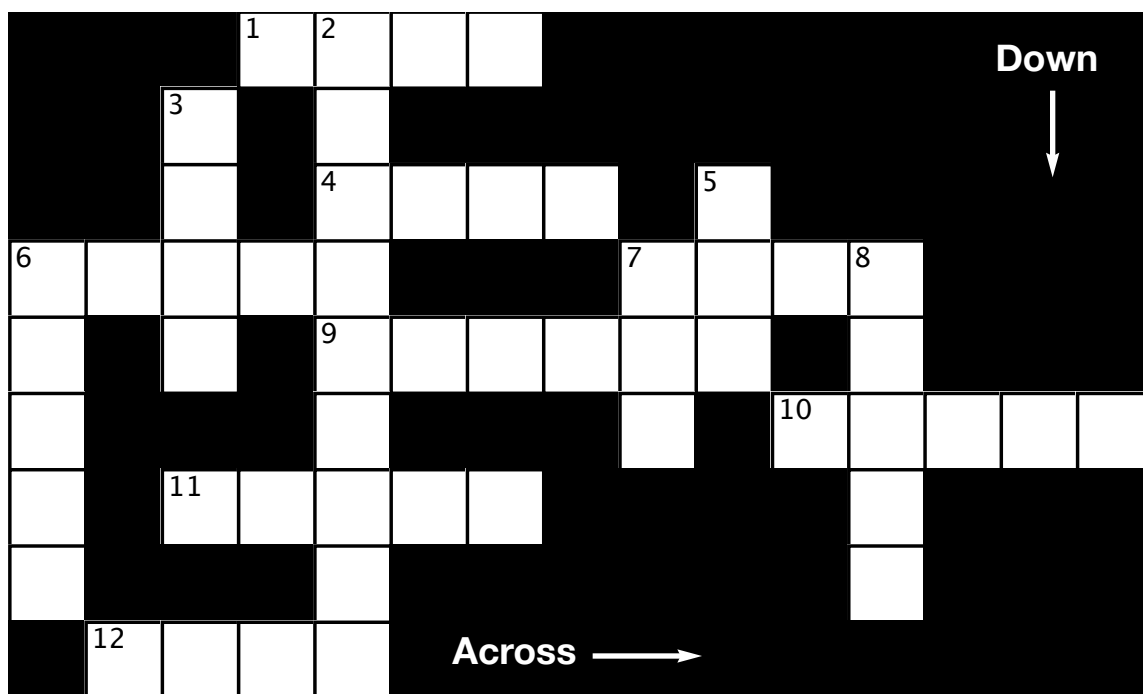


		1			2					3	
	4										
			5								
							6				
7				8							
						9				10	

Down  
↓

Across →

## Crossword: Opposites



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

### Across

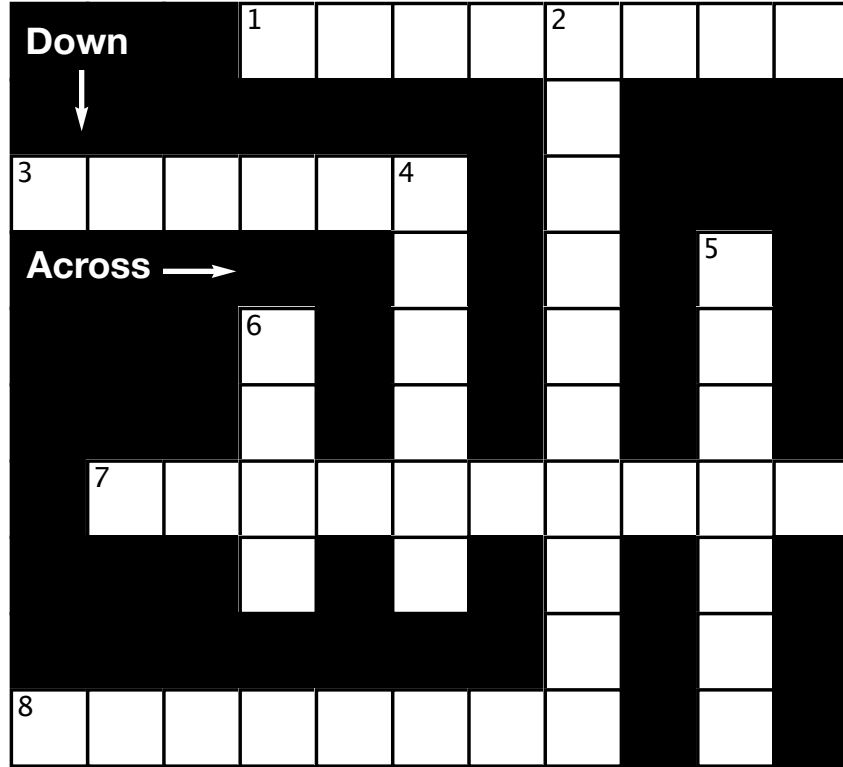
1. Opposite of buy
4. Opposite of push
6. Opposite of true
7. Opposite of soft
9. Opposite of wide
10. Opposite of right
11. Opposite of black
12. Opposite of early

### Down

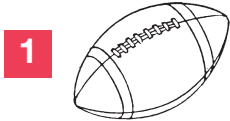
2. Opposite of cheap
3. Opposite of empty
5. Opposite of cooked
6. Opposite of last
7. Opposite of cold
8. Opposite of clean

# Crossword: Balls

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



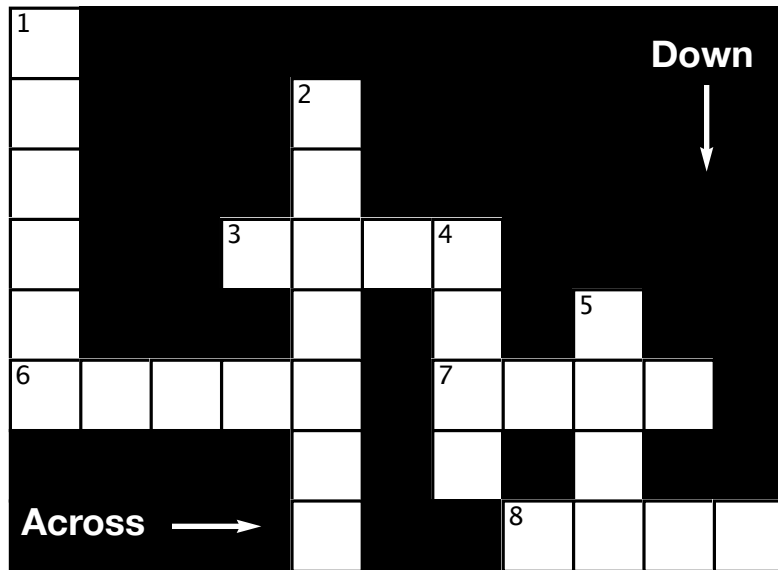
## Across



## 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

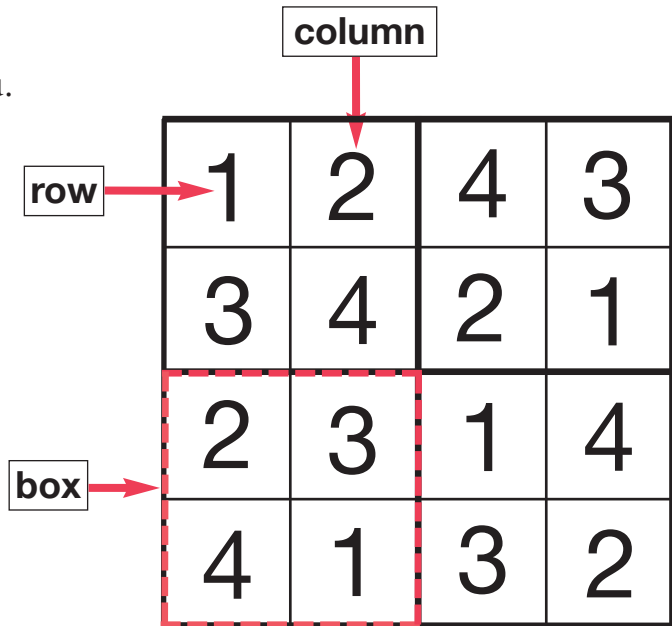
Many people like to play Sudoku.  
It is a number puzzle.

## 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.



## 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.**

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# Answers for puzzles

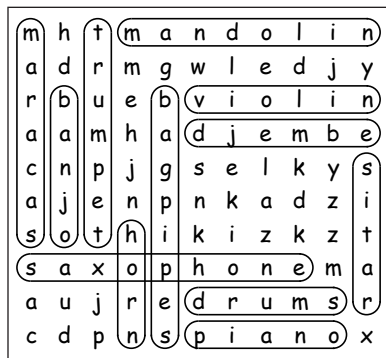
## Word play (p 5)

- high school
- coffee break
- sidewalk
- corner store
- partly cloudy
- one in a million
- big trouble
- forever
- buckle up

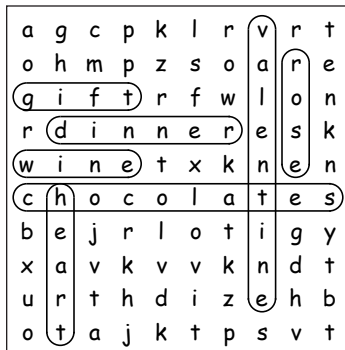
## Word play (p 6)

- think twice
- Tuesday
- leftovers
- stepmother
- yearly checkup
- little bit
- crosswalk
- missing you
- just between you and me

## Musical instruments (p 7)



## Valentine's Day (p 8)



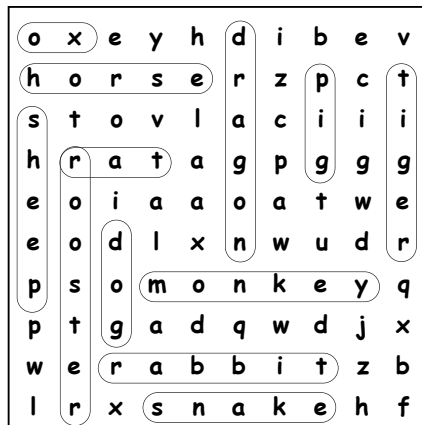
The extra word is *heart*.

## 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

- CAD on briefcase
- Pants are short
- BUS SPOT
- Buttons are on other side of coat
- Stitching on second button is horizontal
- Hand is out of pocket
- Scarf has two ends
- Craig Freeman '98

## Answers for puzzles

### Find the differences (pages 14–15)

In Picture B

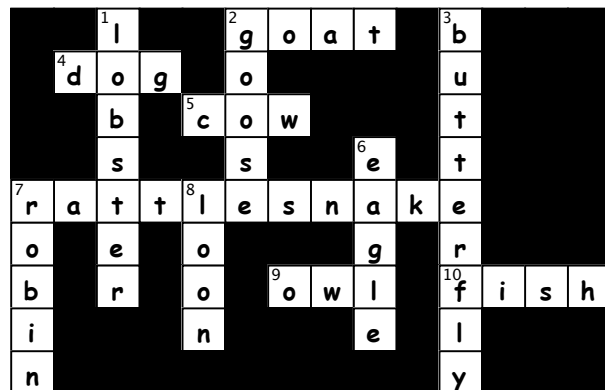
1. Man is wearing glasses
2. Two plants
3. Board says Exercise A
4. Dictionary is on the desk
5. Sign says History
6. Clock is round
7. Name of newspaper is *Eastcoast Reader*
8. Newspaper has two pages

### Find the differences (p 16–17)

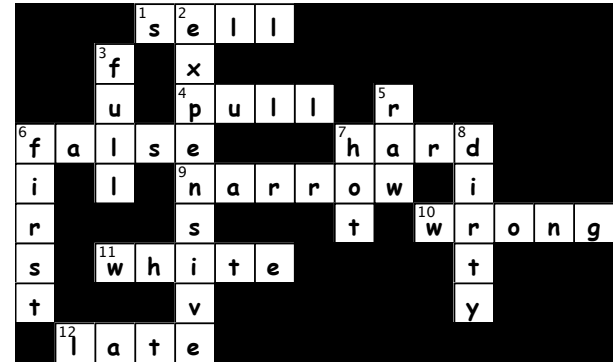
In Picture B

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

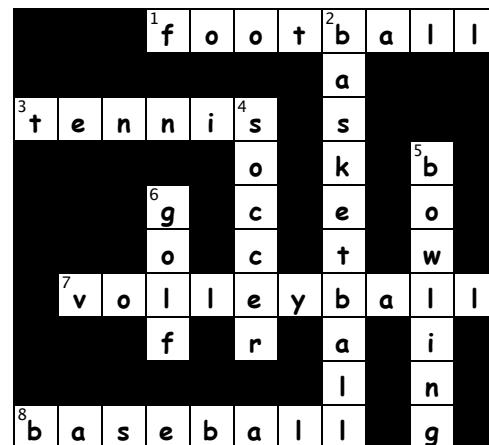
### Crossword: Nature (p 18)



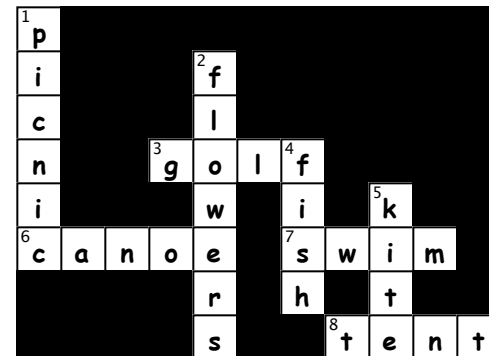
### Crossword: Opposites (p 19)



### 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