

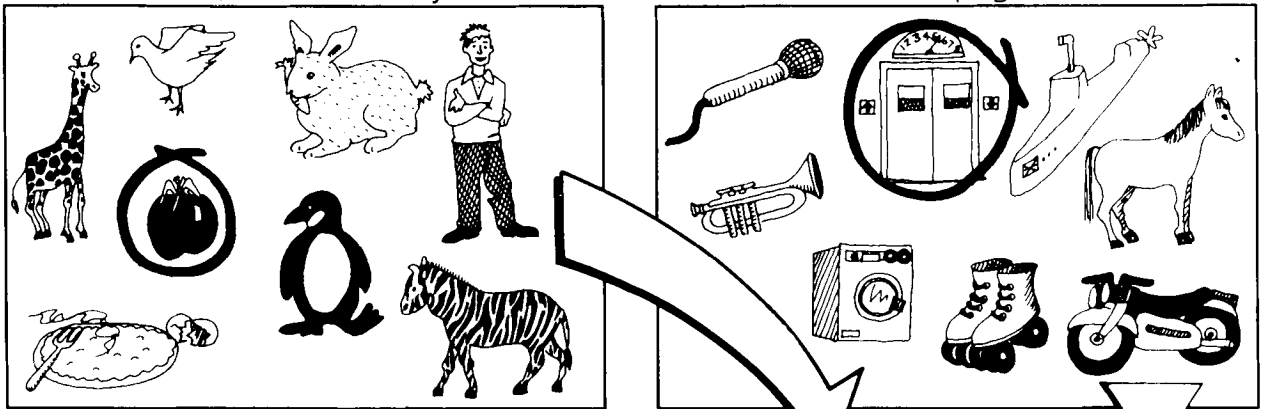
# Absurd riddles

There is a particular kind of riddle which we can call an 'absurd riddle'. Its answer is logical but silly (or 'absurd'). Here are two examples:

What is yellow and always points to the north? – A magnetic banana.

What is white and yellow and travels at 200 kilometres an hour? – A train-driver's egg sandwich.

Here are eight more absurd riddles. Complete the answers with the help of the pictures. (All the words you need are at the bottom of the page.)



- |   |   |                                    |
|---|---|------------------------------------|
| 1 | What is red and goes up and down?                                       | A <u>tomato</u> in a <u>lift</u> . |
| 2 | What has six legs, four ears and a tail?                                | A _____ on a _____.                |
| 3 | What is soft and yellow and goes round and round?                       | An _____ in a _____.               |
| 4 | What is black and white and has eight wheels?                           | A _____ on _____.                  |
| 5 | What is black and white, has four legs and makes a lot of noise?        | A _____ with a _____.              |
| 6 | What can fly underwater?  | A _____ in a _____.                |
| 7 | What has big ears and can travel at 150 kilometres an hour underground? | A _____ on a _____.                |
| 8 | What is very tall and has a very loud voice?                            | A _____ with a _____.              |

One more question:

What is big and yellow and eats rocks?

bird giraffe horse lift man microphone  
motorbike omelette penguin rabbit  
rollerskates submarine tomato trumpet  
washing-machine zebra

# Solutions

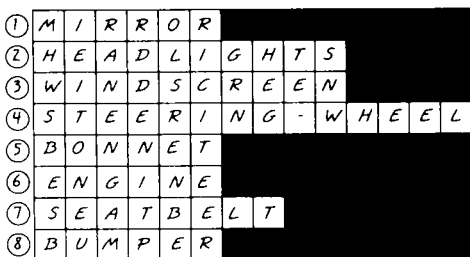
## Doctor!

Page 7

1. Use a pen.
2. When did *what* happen?
3. I know, doctor. I've been ill.
4. Well, you've got it again.
5. I'm nervous too. It's the first operation I've ever done.
6. Who said that?
7. That's fantastic! I've never been able to play it before.
8. Next!

## Numberplates

Page 8



Note: In American English, *license plate* is used instead of *numberplate*; also, *windshield* is used instead of *windscreen*, and *hood* instead of *bonnet*.

## Absurd Riddles

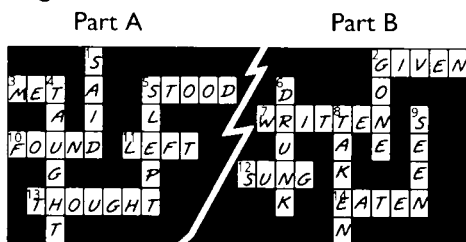
Page 9

1. A tomato in a lift.
2. A man on a horse.
3. An omelette in a washing machine.
4. A penguin on rollerskates.
5. A zebra with a trumpet.
6. A bird in a submarine.
7. A rabbit on a motorbike.
8. A giraffe with a microphone.

The answer to the question *What is big and yellow and eats rocks?* is *A big yellow rock-eater*.

## Crossword in Two Halves

Page 10



All the verbs are irregular, but:

- for the verbs in Part A, the Past Simple and the Past Participle are the same: *meet/met/met*, *say/said/said*, *stand/stood/stood*, etc;
- for the verbs in Part B, the Past Simple and the Past Participle are different: *give/gave/given*, *go/went/gone*, *write/wrote/written*, etc.

## Film Encyclopedia

Page 11

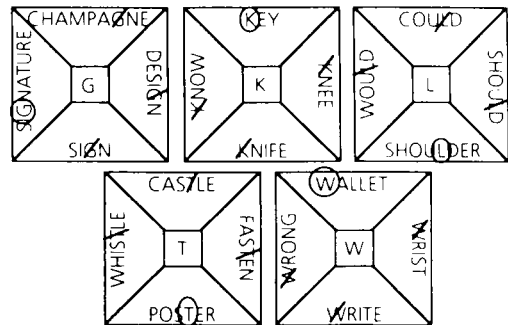
1. THE MAN WHO CAME TO DINNER.
2. THE MAN WITH THE GOLDEN GUN.
3. THE MAN FROM LARAMIE.
4. THE MAN ON THE EIFFEL TOWER.
5. THE MAN WHO WATCHED TRAINS GO BY.
6. THE MAN IN THE BACK SEAT.
7. THE MAN WHO SHOT LIBERTY VALANCE.
8. THE MAN IN THE WHITE SUIT.

Answer to question:

The hidden word in each title is *who*: THE BOY WHO STOLE A MILLION, THE GIRL WHO HAD EVERYTHING, THE SPY WHO LOVED ME, THE WOMAN WHO CAME BACK.

## Silent Letters

Page 12



1. B
2. K
3. T
4. K
5. T
6. B
7. B
8. B
9. G
10. K
11. W
12. W
13. L

Remember these useful rules:

- In *-mb* at the end of a word, the *b* is always silent.
- In *-gn* or *-gne* at the end of a word, the *g* is always silent.
- In *kn-* at the beginning of a word, the *k* is always silent.
- In *wr-* at the beginning of a word, the *w* is always silent.
- In *could*, *should* and *would*, the *l* is always silent.
- In *-st-* in the middle of a word, the *t* is usually pronounced, but it is silent in some words.

## Football Team

Page 13

