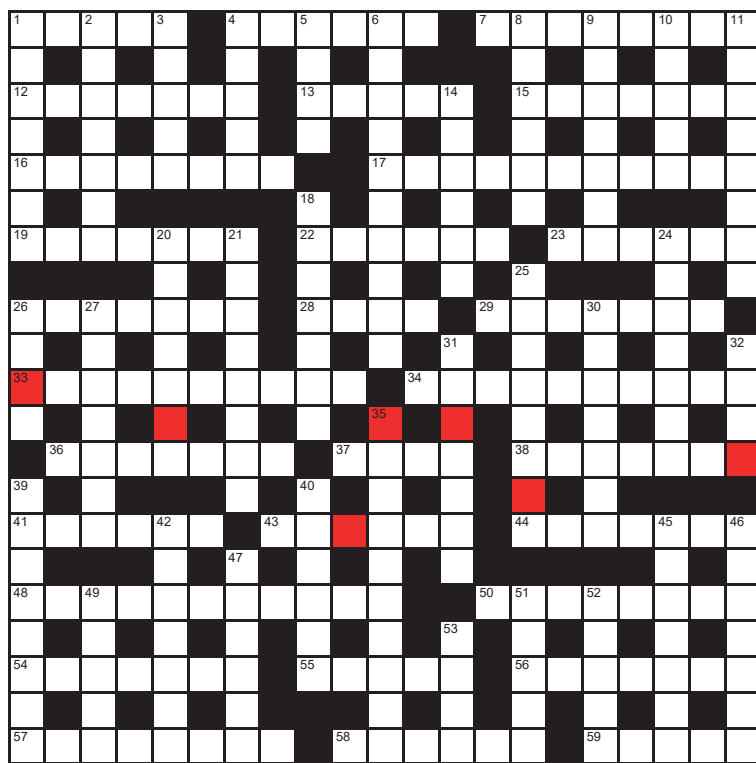


The seven highlighted letters will reveal the theme and they precede thirteen thematic lights. The remaining nine thematic lights are featured there. None of these twenty-two clues contains a thematic definition.

- ACROSS**
- 1 See 53
 - 4, 26 Actor Gyllenhaal's reportedly after a couple of things to wear (6,7)
 - 7 See 24
 - 12 Novelist runs to Checkpoint Charlie, say (7)
 - 13 Old railwaymen by the points (5)
 - 15 West End stage-hand will make things happen (7)
 - 16 Miss out after having nothing during short month (4,4)
 - 17 Non-flier embraces novelist and model (11)
 - 19 Two successive monarchs are more impressive (7)
 - 22 Team turned around court orders (6)
 - 23 One with name on donkey jacket (6)
 - 26 See 4 across
 - 28 Extract from Calderon oddly (4)
 - 29 Most of the East Anglian marshes are around the edge of Brigg (7)
 - 33 Cleaners – 51 separately join in game (10)
 - 34 Look smaller (10)
 - 36, 37 First of the chickens moulting as programmes finish (7,4)
 - 38 Illumination coming in through home country (7)
 - 41 Legendary poet's love verses finally given to Welsh lass (6)
 - 43 See 24
 - 44 Pen letter, we hear, showing acquiescence (5,2)
 - 48 Phuket destroyed and Bryher too almost (2,3,6)
 - 50 See 31
 - 54 Gold signs overlap (7)
 - 55 Rowdy Yankee loves taking books (5)
 - 56 See 2
 - 57 One Jock in the identical surroundings, for starters (3,5)
 - 58 Oxbridge working in harmony (6)
 - 59 Chap by river in the Big Apple (5)
- DOWN**
- 1 Belch goes to jail, charged with drink (4,3)
 - 2, 56 Two horses, both heading up without a Royal Grey (7,7)

- 3 Charged over small transgressions (5)
- 4 Group of wives run to Gozo's neighbour (5)
- 5 Banker featuring in the *County News* (4)
- 6 Jacobean tribesmen (10)
- 8 Engrossed at the Big Top? (6)
- 9 In France the one certain time for relaxation (7)
- 10 Messenger on the Tube? (5)
- 11 Material on one set of books (8)
- 14 Cornish visitors encountered by German river (6)
- 18 Brew that's expensive in Nice (7)
- 20 See 26 down
- 21 Occupant's monthly payment includes the players (8)
- 24, 7 Brewed new Helsinki malt (7,8)
- 24, 43 Wiltshire river, both hot and cold, with respect to half the land (7,6)
- 25 A new name on US pergola in Michigan state university town (3,5)
- 26 Jabberwock's outer parts (4)
- 26, 20 Agreement from German contralto – ask Gould round (4,7)
- 27, 46 Shelter and archway demolished (7,7)
- 30 Accommodation that's being fixed (7)
- 31, 50 Support service in deserted railway around South Wales (7,8)
- 32 Crikey! The Queen of the Hebrides has no loch (1,3)
- 35 Fat boy's petition (5,5)
- 39 A pair of unfinished sculptures (8)
- 40 Overawe? Wow! (6)
- 42 Morning, Heather! Where's Virginia? (7)
- 45 Reports bad behaviour of Swiss archer and his lad (5,2)
- 46 See 27
- 47 Fortune from part of church left out (6)
- 49 Worked half-heartedly, with a glazed look (5)
- 51 Horse circling wide tree (5)
- 52 Soundly decline to work at the same time (5)
- 53, 1 across Scam firm (9)



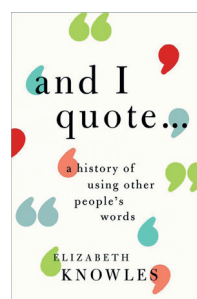
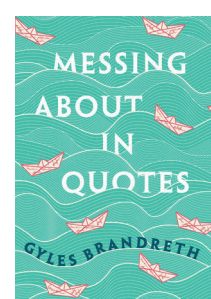
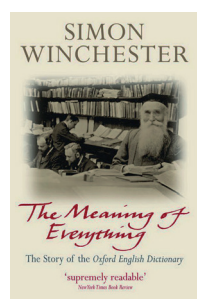
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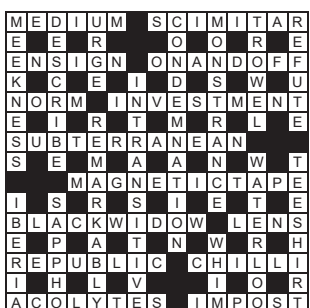
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Copies of *The Meaning of Everything* by Simon Winchester, *Messing About in Quotes* by Gyles Brandreth and *and I quote...* by Elizabeth Knowles will be awarded to the senders of the first three correct answers opened on Wednesday January 2. Entries, using the form above and marked Christmas Crossword, should be sent to Weekend FT, One Southwark Bridge, London SE1 9HL. Solution and winners' names on Saturday January 5.



Solution 16,047



Solution 16,036

