

PUZZLES

The TWENTY-EIGHTH
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Alot Mispelled

Put away your dictionaries and spell checkers! When was the last time you took a good old fashioned spelling test? Play against your friends! Get them all right and win a prize! (prize not included)

In each of the groups below, three words are spelled correctly, while one is spelled incorrectly. Find the misspelled word.

a. hypocrisy b. pastime

c. miniscule d. foliage

a. spontaneity b. sacreligious

c. segue d. grandeur

a. innoculate b. hindrance

c. vacuuming d. rapport

a. bivouac b. daiquiri

c. quandry d. infallible

a. incliment b. leisurely

c. surreptitious d. conscientious

a. mischievous b. affray

c. perseverance d. invegle

Even Pythagoras could do this.

What to do with your old Julian calendars

To convert from the old-style (Julian) calendar to the new (Gregorian) calendar, Pope Gregory decreed that in 1582, Thursday, October 4 (Julian) would be immediately followed by Friday, October 15 (Gregorian). Recall that in the Julian calendar, all years evenly divisible by four are leap years, while in the Gregorian calendar, years evenly divisible by 100 are not leap years unless they are evenly divisible by 400.

For example, 1996 is a leap year in either calendar, 1900 is a leap year in the Julian, but not the Gregorian, and 2000 is a leap year in either.

1. What is the first year after 1582 in which the Julian and Gregorian calendars agree?
2. What is the second?

Note that the two calendars will never agree on what day it is, but the calendars themselves will occasionally match.

Puzzle by Les Reid

Even Aristotle could do this.

Cubism at RAW

A student was making a display for RAW involving cubes. She wanted to illustrate some interesting properties of cubes in an artistic fashion. In making the display, she realized that she had solved two geometric puzzles.

1) The artist obtained a large, hollow, crystal cube that she wanted to fill with colored water. She wanted the cube to be precisely one-sixth full, to reflect the symmetry or something. However, she had no tools or measuring devices, and could not measure the amount of water she put in. The cube came with a very small hole on the top. **How did she fill the cube?**

2) The artist also had a cube made of concrete which she wanted to cut into the shape of a hexagon to illustrate... the way urban sprawl... placed a hex on... children. However, it's very difficult to cut concrete, so she was only allowed to make one straight cut entirely through the cube. Despite this handicap, she was able to make a perfect hexagon (all side and angles the same). **How did she cut the cube?**

Even Aristotle could do this.

So what if Freud can do it??

Even Freud could do this.

Even Pythagoras could do this.

Even Aristotle could do this.

Even Kant could do this.

Even Ray Mayer could do this.

Easy

Not easy

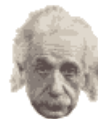
More challenging

This is a hard problem.

Go ask him for help.

Think you know the answer?

For more info on these puzzles, go to
<http://www.reed.edu/~mcphailb/quest/>



Questions? Blitz: puzzles@reed.edu

I'll be back...