

DIVERSIONS

THE STYLE INVITATIONAL

Deftinitions: Add-a-letter neologisms

BY PAT MYERS

In the neologism contest of **Week 1491**, the Empress asked the Loser Community to choose any word, name or phrase beginning A through E, then add a letter — or the same letter more than once — and define the result.

4th place:

Chompulsion: The deep urge one has to fight while the dentist is jabbing you in the mouth. (Joanne Free, Clifton)

3rd place:

Adultery: Sneaking away to have extramarital sex and compare Spelling Bee lists. (Lee Graham, Reston)

2nd place and the alligator-hand back-scratcher:

Bad Moron Rising: "I see the bad moron risin'/ I see trouble on the way/ I see democracy a-dyin'/ If he comes back again someday." (Jesse Frankovich, Lansing, Mich.)

And the winner of the Clowning Achievement:

Choward: Someone afraid to try new food. Not to be confused with a **chowhard**, one who eats anything. (Bird Waring, Larchmont, N.Y.)

Nearly risers:

Honorable mentions

Carcophony: "Are we there yet?" "It's my turn to sit up front!" "Are we there yet?" "I need to use the bathroom!" "She pushed me!" "Are we there yet?" "Did not, he pushed me first!" "Are we there yet?" (Karen Lambert, Chevy Chase)

Gastonishment: What I feel every time I fill my tank these days. (Michael Stein, Arlington)

Endunciate: To express one's ignorance via pronunciation, e.g., "Gazpacho police," "peach tree dish." (Sam Mertens, Silver Spring)

Adiprose tissue: Verbiage. Hemingway's writing didn't show an ounce of adiprose. (John Bradley, St. Louis, a First Offender)

Abhortionist: One who uses personal biases to orchestrate a miscarriage of justice. (Byron Miller, Cobble Hill, B.C.)

Abiden: Waiting patiently for the other party to come to the table in good faith. (Donald Norum, Charlottesville)

Bowel America: Full-service proctology clinic. "Our colonoscopies are right up your alley!" (Kevin Tingley, Vienna, Va.)

Children of the Corny: Kids who suffer through dad jokes. (Duncan Stevens, Vienna, Va.)

Enfoold: To surround oneself with "all the best people." (Gary Crockett, Chevy Chase)

Acrimony: Many a divorce settlement. (Karen Golden, Prince Frederick, Md.)

Adrian Monkee: In "The Case of the Believer," Adrian joins the madcap band with his clarinet as he tries to decipher the rock and the roll. (Joanne Free)

Afictionado: A hardcore QAnon supporter. (Lee Graham)

Ain'tartic: The South Pole, before too long. (Bruce Carlson, Alexandria)

Amazone: An online shopper's state of euphoria. "Sorry for buying all that Wizards stuff, dear — I was in the Amazone." (Neil Kurland, Elkridge, Md.)

Bald, Bald Leroy Brown: Does not compare with ol' King Kong in the hair department. (Jesse Frankovich)

Apooleptic: So angry that you lose your ... temper. (Frank Mann, Washington)

Axel murderer: A particularly inept figure skater. (Frank Mullen III, Aledo, Ill.)

Aromageddon: Cataclysmic event that occurs when you enter your teenager's room. (Duncan Stevens)

Borisk: "Let's have a party right here in 10 Downing Street! Just don't say anything!" (Bruce Alter, Fairfax Station)

Brodacious: Marvelously reckless, at least to one's admirers: "We dangled Pete by his legs outside a 10-story window! It was brodacious!" (Pam Shermeyer, Lathrup Village, Mich.)

Bullshift: Tucker Carlson's 7-to-8-p.m. slot on Fox News. (Jonathan Jensen, Baltimore)

Barftender: Your new job title if you don't cut off patrons who've had too much. (Tom Witte, Montgomery Village)

Bassault: "The car's stereo was so loud, the thudding was a bassault on all ears within a block." (Pam Shermeyer)

Bawdminton: The shuttlecock



BOB STAAKE FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

has a different function in this party version. (Diane Lucitt, Ellicott City)

Benevolent: Disruptive for a good cause. "His benevolent sneezing fit provided a solid reason for leaving the HR meeting." (Pam Shermeyer)

Biggots: People who discriminate against tall and large folks; they mostly gravitate to the airline industry, but some work in clothing retail. (Duncan Stevens)

Blaséball: Nine innings, four hours, 79 crotch scratches. (Jon Gearhart, Des Moines; Jeff Rackow, Bethesda)

Board of Selections: The GOP's plan for who decides the 2024 presidential winner." (Chris Doyle, Denton, Tex.)

Carfé: When there's no time for dinner between work and Back to School Night, it's one more meal in the Toyota Carfé. (Leif Picoult, Rockville)

Chainslaw massacre: A rash of food poisonings from tainted supermarket salads. (Tom Quinn, Herndon, a First Offender)

Chat on a Hot Tin Roof: "OMG, this tin roof is hot!" "LOL, I know, right?" (Jesse Frankovich)

Corvid-19: Five birds short of a pie. (Sarah Walsh, Rockville)

Crapacity: Ability to accept total nonsense. "The crapacity of QAnon members is immeasurable." (Ann Martin, Brentwood)

Customer > **Cupstomper:** An ill-mannered Starbucks patron who throws a tanty when mistakenly served a latte instead of a mocha. (Karen Lambert)

Dearthquake: A violent shudder after seeing your low bank balance. (Lawrence McGuire, Waldorf)

Deshpotic: What Daffy Duck will be if we don't stop his inordinate lust for power. (Roy Ashley, Washington)

Diet Hard: In this sequel, Detective McClane decides to change his lifestyle after getting stuck in an air vent. (Jesse Frankovich)

Diss-member: "Did you just get out of a cold pool or something? Really? That's it?" (Mark Raffman, Reston)

Econ artist: "Absolutely, these tax cuts will pay for themselves!" (Neil Kurland)

Embrattled: Describing a parent who takes the two preschoolers to the grocery store. "Ethan, put all those cans back! Molly, what did I just tell you about screaming?" (Pam Shermeyer)

Exaggerbate: Overstate one's need for sex. "But if I can't, I'll turn blue ..." (Wendy Shang, Falls Church)

Haffable: Friendly, to a point. (Sarah Walsh)

He-mancipation: The return of the effete, emasculated American male to his red-meat-eating, gun-packing, butt-punching birthright. (Jonathan Jensen)

Jelloopardy: The risk in having a brand closely associated with Bill Cosby. (Kevin Dopart, on vacation in Naxos, Greece)

Karmadillo: Someone whose fate is to never quite make it

across the road. (Beverly Sharp, Montgomery, Ala.)

Laudacious: Outrageously overhyped. "Isn't 'This generation's Olivier' a little laudacious for Taylor Lautner?" (Frank Osen, Pasadena, Calif.)

Malice's Restaurant: They won't let you have a single thing you want. (Ann Martin)

Nevergreen: A landscape shrub that's always a lovely shade of burnt match. (Lawrence McGuire)

Tautopsy: It lists the cause of death as "heart stopped beating." (Frank Osen)

Texorcist: When your state is possessed by Cruz and Abbott, who you gonna call? (Frank Mann)

The Blight Brigade: NIH's 600-doctor pandemic team. (Allan Zackowitz, Brookeville)

Capital None: A bank that'll put nothing in your pocket. (Jeff Contompassis, Ashburn)

Cheerlots: Favorite breakfast of the Oat Keepers. (Jonathan Jensen)

BasketbaLOL: What the Wizards play. (Mark Raffman)

Fartifact: Unpleasant, invisible evidence of a rude event, especially in an elevator. (Jon Ketzner, Cumberland, Md.)

And Last: Agonym: That short Style Invitational entry that's a sure winner if you can just get the wording right, though maybe, if you change the — no, that'd be too abstruse, it needs to be more obvious, but — hey, how about — no, you already tried that, so ... (Frank Mullen III, whose 49 blots of ink date back to 2002)

Still running — deadline Tuesday night, July 5: Our contest for funny poems using words from this year's National Spelling Bee. See wapo.st/invite1494.

Since there's no fine-print blahblah this week with the new contest, we have room for a fine parody of our contest for current-events songs. See the rest at wapo.st/invite1494.

To "If I Only Had a Brain," as sung by Vladimir Putin I'll erase each Euro border To make a new world order, Where I alone will reign. Then the troops I'm stackin' inland Will begin attackin' Finland Once I subjugate Ukraine.

First I need to show Zelensky That there's no commonsense-ky To savin' his domain. I'll be leavin' him a mess o' New cadavers in Odessa All resistance is in vain!

Oh, I have nukes galore, So many than before. I could wage a war like never waged before, But here's a fear I can't ignore:

Russian poets might be pennin' More odes to me than Lenin While the obit scribes explain: "Putin should've been suspicious Drinking black tea that delicious, But he didn't have a brain!" (Chris Doyle)

Week 1495: We all need a break

It's been a heck of a week, hard upon many previous hecks-of-weeks. So relax, cue the fireworks, and enjoy this week's inking add-a-letter neologisms: There's no new contest this week — our first skipped contest since August 2019 — so that the Empress can take a week off four weeks from now, when the results would have run. (But it's not even a vacation from Loserdom: She and the Royal Consort will be joining a dozen or so Style Invitational types on a trip to Niagara Falls in Ontario; Longtime Loser Kyle Hendrickson has arranged a number of "Loserfest" trips over the years, and this is the first post-pandemic one.) So in the last week of July, the Invite will feature lots of fresh ink from recent contests.

The headline for this week's results is by Jon Gearhart; Kevin Dopart wrote the honorable-mentions subhead.

● **The Style Conversational:** The Empress's online column this week discusses this week's results — what worked and what didn't. See it at wapo.st/conv1495.

L.A. TIMES SUNDAY PUZZLE

EDITED BY RICH NORRIS AND JOYCE NICHOLS LEWIS

1 Pretend	6 Came down	10 Sweets	13 Playwright	18 Jetson canine	19 Actor	20 MacFarlane	21 92-Down base	22 Timid	23 Cleaner who doesn't bother with comers?	25 Celeb's entourage	26 Epic journey	27 Long skirt	28 Director	30 Ad	31 Signature piece?	32 Encore presentation	33 Nullify	35 Army bigwigs: Abbr.	38 ___ Jima	40 Nursery purchase	42 Occasion	44 Terre Haute sch.	45 Soft sounds from the barnyard?	49 Urgent-care pro	51 Cotton thread	53 Rosary unit	54 Sporty Chevy	56 Self-image	57 Some D.C. pros	59 Many a middle schooler	61 Family man	62 Head-scratcher	63 Fencing sword	65 Mortise inserts	67 Expert	68 Gardeners who can tend a plot really, really fast?	72 ___ de cologne	74 Deletes	76 Farm tower	77 Accommodate	80 Loving murmur	82 Trio-quartet combos	84 Rainy day gear	87 "Walk me!"	88 More faithful	89 "The Checklist Manifesto" surgeon/author	90 Besmirch	91 D.C. subway	93 Words on a sale poster?	97 Confidentiality contract: Abbr.	98 "Keep your ___	101 ___ Dhabl	102 Thickener used in molecular gastronomy	103 Prose pieces	106 Cybersales	108 Helena hrs.	110 Tit for tat, say?	112 Furry friend	113 Broadcasts	114 Lactose-free coffee additive	118 Literature	120 Squabble over whose turn it is to get the car fixed?	123 Hard-to-handle plants	124 Goes astray	125 Alaskan seaport	126 Earning in a Vermeer painting	127 Creme-filled cookies	128 Surname separator	129 Short "So long!"	130 Common ___	1 DOWN	1 Burkina ___: West African country	2 Cornerstone abbr.	3 "It was nothing"	4 Understands	5 ___cancing headphones	6 Like a used firepit	7 Allowed	8 Personal identification?	9 Scuppered	10 With it	11 "On Earth We're Briefly Gorgeous" novelist Vuong	12 Audacity	13 Troublemaking kid	45 Math sub.	46 Shined a light on?	47 "The best is ___ come"	48 Dutch painter	Jan	17 Russian "no"	20 "The Princess Bride" director	23 Fabled wish-granter	24 Outlying community	29 Info requested by winery websites	32 Canned tomatoes brand	34 Active Naturals skin care brand	35 Writer who created Pooh and Roo	36 Seoul airline	37 Race official?	39 Org. whose 2021 MVP was Jonquel Jones	41 Roof overhang	43 Easily improvised costume	45 Math sub.	46 Shined a light on?	47 "The best is ___ come"	48 Dutch painter	Jan	50 ___ liver oil	52 Hybrid big cat	55 Stretching muscle	58 Lake on the Nile	59 Mani-__: spa treatments	60 Fishing line holder	64 Irksome one	66 Harlem	69 Renaissance novelist Larsen	69 Caffeinate, perhaps	70 Flower that sounds like a furrier	71 River delta area	73 Kenya neighbor	75 Furriers who sound like flowers	78 ___noire	79 Basic Spanish infinitive	80 GoPro product, briefly	81 Mined finds	83 Stonestreet of "Modern Family"	85 Big picture?	86 Spill the beans	89 Plain to see	92 Ristorante dish	94 Spruces up	95 Totally face-plant	96 Poison ___	99 Faucet	102 Money paid to get money	104 Oman neighbor	105 Fixed gaze	107 Immature comeback	109 Dance moves	110 Bygone name in toys	111 Wine label number	114 Turou book	115 Setting of the memoir "Reading Lolita in Tehran"	116 Metallica drummer Ulrich	117 "Friday Night Lights" actor	118 Chandler	119 "___boom-bah!"	121 Anger	122 Minnesota senator	Klobuchar
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7/3/22

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Answers to last week's puzzle below.

HOROSCOPE

BY GEORGIA NICOLS

Happy Birthday | July 3: You are a perfectionist who sets high standards for yourself. You are versatile, charismatic and intelligent. You are private, even shy about your personal life. This year is the last year of a nine-year cycle, which means it's time to wrap things up and let go of what is no longer relevant.

Moon Alert: Avoid shopping and important decisions from 5:45 until 8:45 a.m. today. After that, the Moon moves from Leo into Virgo.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Today you want to get things done. You want to be efficient, practical and productive. This attitude alone could help you resolve loose ends that have been a challenge this week. With your ruler, fiery Mars, in your sign, you're all systems go.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Make today a day of rest, because you need it. Take time to replenish and restore yourself with recreational activities and a fun escape. Social diversions and playful activities with children will delight you.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) You have been busy socializing. Today you want to escape the busyness around you and cocoon at home. Find ways to kick back and relax.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) With the Sun still in your sign, you make a fabulous impression on others. Today you're eager to communicate at a gut level. You don't want to waste time on superficial chitchat.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Today it's easy to identify with your possessions, which is why you will like to be surrounded by the things that you own and enjoy. (You might not want to lend something.) Nevertheless, relations with younger, creative people are positive. Your desire to travel is still strong.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Because the Moon is in your sign, your luck will tend to be better. You can use the advantage you have when talking to bosses, parents and VIPs, because they

will be ready to listen to you.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) You're happy to keep a low profile today. Note: You might not pull this off, because the Sun at the top of your chart is casting you in a flattering spotlight, which will attract others to you.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) You're doing your best at work. Give yourself a pat on the back. Too often, we think of our faults instead of our accomplishments. Today a conversation with a woman might make you change your goals.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) Something to do with your professional or business life might be tested today. Be careful not to blur the lines of authority because you feel friendly with a boss. This is a tricky situation. Friendly is

good; chummy, not so much.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Do something to "get away from all this" if you can, because you need to escape. You need a change of scenery so you can emotionally kick-start yourself.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) You want to work hard and get better organized. This means you have the motivation. In addition, the placement of Mars and Jupiter in your chart will give you the positive energy and follow-through that you need.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) Today you have to go more than halfway when dealing with others. This is no biggie. It simply means you have to be cooperative, accommodating and ready to listen. You can do this.

Answers to last week's puzzle.

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