

1	2			3	4	5	6	7		8	9
10		11					12				
			13					14			
15									16		
17			18			19					
20		21				22		23			
24	25			26	27						28
29					30		31		32		
33						34				35	
36				37							
38					39						
40						41					

In Black and White by Phi

D	E	R	M	A
T	O	G	L	Y
P	H	I	C	S
B	F	K	N	Q
U	V	W	X	Z

In a 'Playfair' code-square, letters of key word or phrase, in which no letter recurs, precede rest of alphabet in order: I does duty for I and J. To encode a word, split it into pairs of letters thus: PE RV ER SI TY. If letters of a pair occur in same rank in square, use letters to right of each (for last letter of rank use first letter); if in same column use letters below each bottom letter of column use top letter): otherwise treat them as limits of diagonals of a rectangle and use limits of opposite diagonals (PE = HD, not DH, which = EP). Result: HD EW RM PC OT; then join into one word HDEWRMPCOT.

The Playfair code is governed by a common 2-word 13-letter phrase (not in *Chambers*) with three components A, B and C. There are three unclued variations on each of A and B. The four words entered in Playfair code are clued by wordplay only and share a common definition associated with C, and indeed the phrase as a whole. 22 down is an uncommon proper noun, verifiable through Wikipedia.

ACROSS

- 1 Have a ride after college (6)
- 5 One joking about hairpiece gives a signal (6)
- 10 A court case in America ignoring large European country (7)
- 12 Singular recall of offhand state (5)
- 13 New start in America, say, backing on leaving African republic (5)
- 14 Mother welcoming Queen - with this? (4)
- 15 *Variation on A* (6)
- 17 Thematic figure has a link in music (5)
- 19 Calm and rational before replacing one (6)
- 20 Racing initially to home key? (7, 2 words)
- 23 One past villain of the Elizabethan stage (4)
- 24 Independent rule: solution for Middle East state (4)
- 27 Friend of Charlie's seen around court with medicinal substance (7)
- 29 Metal especially good as a muscle relaxant (6)
- 31 Rain at Loch Ness? A blow when touring Loch (5)
- 34 *Variation on A* (6)
- 36 Fuddled, having polished off whiskey? Mac's having a nap (4)
- 37 French level in game in middle of week (5)
- 38 Learned man seen with a lot of experienced gents? (5)
- 39 Ambassador receiving little space for logical responses (7)
- 40 Glassblowing aid beginning to moderate a fluid motion one suppressed (6)
- 41 Queen is surrounded by endless money (6)

DOWN

- 1 Those agreeing to enter street spoke once (6)
- 2 Most of check up is enthusiastic (4)
- 3 Rubber or corded material used in church (5)
- 4 American unit almost entirely seen as typographical error (7)
- 5 *Variation on B* (5)
- 6 Radical invoking constitutional change, one supported by a remarkable King (6)
- 7 Subversive change of government applied to Ireland (8)
- 8 Broadcast excellent collection of operas (6)
- 9 *Variation on B* (4)
- 11 Group eyes switching ends (4)
- 16 Ingeniously constructed below, height being excluded (4)
- 18 School getting to heart of adolescent development (8)
- 21 King demoting foremost nobleman (4)
- 22 Australian anthropologist having obligation to go round rocky land (7)
- 25 Regret abandoning energy drink for salad plant (6)
- 26 Old sheriff continually upset about one after end of rustling (6)
- 28 Hearts in sacks upset Sultan (6)
- 30 *Variation on A* (5)
- 31 Put decoration on for one, bringing medal round (5)
- 32 Experts putting down Conservative character from former days (4)
- 33 *Variation on B* (4)
- 35 Covering up a weaver bird (4)