



A number of clues contain a one letter misprint in the definition part; in order the correct letters spell out a quotation from the central unclued down entry. The unclued perimeter, clockwise from 5, exemplifies the quotation, using six examples. The unchecked letters in the perimeter can be reformulated AS ONE GENTLE THEORY. The definition in 20 may be justified in Collins; 24 is in ODE.

### Across

- 9 Half distance to Sun, before function involving Earth is seen (7)
- 10 Historic detail in comment about Tesla (4)
- 11 Ruminant never cornered by drivers (4)
- 12 Sand down stair and cut off duplicated part of newel (9)
- 15 Needed shallow rocks to be rocky (13)
- 18 What's excellent about popular Scot? (4)
- 19 Border worker always interrupted by BBC bigwig (5)
- 20 About to extend payment for Aussie cur (4)
- 21 Tropical plane certainly given to Rwandan Airlines initially (4)
- 25 Bidding system from hereabouts, mostly rejected (4)
- 27 Crustaceans – European with excited, surprised response, seen with one in America (9)
- 28 Old logs, note, among middle of fresh (4)
- 31 Scots always right to be coarse in Scotland (3)
- 33 Article that's stumped leader of Italy is something first twigged by Italians (4)
- 35 Pledge no opening for expressing reluctance (4)
- 36 Cheers accepted by man, one providing Indian music (5)
- 37 Scar resulting from endless use of guns (4)
- 38 Priam here mangled lines from Greek prayer (9)

### Down

- 1 Picked up a soaking in pool – watch (a slip) (8)
- 2 Origin of incredible tall bird soaring (4)
- 3 Upturn in shock bets (4)
- 4 Rule by Communist brought about a source of tension (6)
- 5 Shakespearean thrust I received after tippie (6)
- 6 One has terms for all floating sea material found on beach (4)
- 7 Long time taken over article for Paris Match (4)
- 8 Who goes abroad carrying nothing? Dime to be spent here in Vegas (8)
- 13 Bountiful Nature infested by bane (4)
- 14 Top of Tasmanian expanse (not bottom of it) reveals fern (4)
- 16 Sour apple, cored and pulped (4)
- 17 Love? Good for love – it's lots of work (4)
- 22 Runs to record one paying rest (6)
- 23 Clydesdale dung – shock – found in tin (6)
- 24 Indian clay pit has half-ruined rocks (6)
- 26 Squash plane? Smash a wing to start with (6)
- 29 Smoots in printing-house as ever (4)
- 30 Like a sieve? Not entirely (4, 2 words)
- 32 Dungs from rears of impala and deer, say (4)
- 34 Found out, misbehaving with Queen (4)