Entertainment

Style Invitational Week 1216: As the word turns – ‘discover’ new words in a grid

Plus the winning neologisms from ScrabbleGrams ‘racks’

*Piglav* and *reggy* are among the words waiting to be coined within this grid for Week 1216. (Grid constructed at puzzle-maker.com)

By Pat Myers  
February 23

(Click here to skip down to the winning ScrabbleGrams neologisms)

L-9: Piglav: A bar’s men’s room by last call.

P-6: Reggy: How you won’t be describing most federal agencies this year.

We’re on our third go-round — or go-up, go-down, go-sideways, go-diagonally — with our contest in which you “discover” brand-new words by tracing a line through letters on a word search grid. The Empress created the grid by feeding 20 randomly generated words — including oddities ranging from “darr” to “quindecemvirate” —
into an online puzzle generator, but lots of other real words showed up as well. **This week:** Create a word or multi-word term that consists of adjacent letters — in any direction or several directions — in the grid above, and provide a humorous definition, as in the examples above. You may also give an especially clever definition for an existing term you find. And you may use the word in a sentence, if that makes your entry funnier. Even with this many possible words, there’s a good chance that many people will send in the same word, and it’ll come down to the description. (If you’re having trouble printing out the grid above, [print it from here](#).)

![Image of a Toilet Tunes mat](#)

**IMPORTANT:** You absolutely must begin each entry with the letter-number coordinates that mark the first letter of your term, as in the examples; no way is your reasonably obliging but got-her-limits Empress going to search the grid for it. Also, please don’t begin the line with numbering, bullets, etc.; they mess up the entry-sorting.

Submit entries at this website: [bit.ly/enter-invite-1216](#) (all lowercase).

**Winner gets the Inkin’ Memorial,** the Lincoln statue bobblehead that is the official Style Invitational trophy. Second place gets a nifty toy called Toilet Tunes: It’s an electronic floor pad with some piano keys drawn on it. Tap your feet and make some melodies while you’re, you know, occupied with other matters. It is a little-known fact that Beethoven worked out his Symphony No. 2 on a primitive version of this instrument. Donated by Loser Nan Reiner, who tried it out and reports that it actually works pretty well.

**Other runners-up** win the yearned-for “This Is Your Brain on Mugs” Loser mug or our Grossery Bag, “I Got a B in Pumphanship.” Honorable mentions get one of our new lusted-after Loser magnets, “No Childishness Left Behind” or “Magnum Dopus.” First Offenders receive only a smelly tree-shaped air “freshener” (FirStink for their first ink). Deadline is Monday night, March 6; results published March 26 (online March 23). See general contest rules and guidelines at [wapo.st/InvRules](#). The headline for this week’s results is by Jesse Frankovich; the honorable-mentions subhead is by Jeff Contompasis. “As the word turns” was an entry by Dave Prevar in a previous contest. Join the lively Style Invitational Devotees group on Facebook at [on.fb.me/invdev](#). “Like” Style Invitational Ink of the Day on Facebook at [bit.ly/inkofday](#); follow [@StyleInvite](#) on Twitter.

**The Style Conversational** The Empress’s weekly online column, published late Thursday afternoon, discusses each new contest and set of results; this week she’ll show the grid with the 20 words used to make it. Especially if you plan to enter, check it out at [wapo.st/styleconv](#).
And from The Style Invitational four weeks ago . . .

RACK-TILE DYSFUNCTION: WINNING SCRABBLEGRAMS NEOLOGISMS

It’s Neologism Central in Loserland this week. Besides the new word-find puzzle, in Week 1212 we presented 40 seven-letter “racks” from ScrabbleGrams puzzles and asked you to come up with new terms of at least five letters. Submitted too frequently: BONKLIT or KNOBLIT as porn, and WHISPAR for that hushed tone golf commentators make.

4th place:

AILOPTV —> TV PAIL: Bucket kept close at hand for reality shows — and, increasingly, for reality. (Mark Richardson, Takoma Park, Md.)

3rd place:

AOOPPRS —> ARSPOOP: Don’t tell me there’s another kind! (Jim Lubell, Hillsboro, Ore.; Frank Mann, Washington)

2nd place and the Vietnamese civet coffee:

AMRRSTY —> SMARTYR: One who vows to live for the cause. (Beverley Sharp, Montgomery, Ala.)

And the winner of the ‘Inkin’ Memorial:

CHILSTU: Two names for the president’s inner circle: HIS CULT and LIC TUSH. (William Kennard, Arlington, Va.)

Clearance racks: honorable mentions

AILOPTV —> POLIVAT: A pork barrel. (Brad Alexander, Wanneroo, Australia)

ALLOPRY —> YAPROLL: A dachshund (Bruce Niedt, Cherry Hill, N.J.)

BGIORTY —> GORYBIT: A particularly graphic scene in a horror movie; ORGYBIT: the same in a porn flick. (Bruce Niedt)

BIKLNOT —> BILKTON: Las Vegas (Jeff Hazle, San Antonio)

CDELMSU —> CLUMSED: Moved less than gracefully. “Fred just clumsed in here and knocked over the TV again.” (Sarah Jay, Churchville, Md.)

CDELMSU —> DE-SLUM: To gentrify, from the point of view of the gentry. (Josh Fedblyum, Philadelphia)

CIILNUV —> LUVNIC: A cute term for a vasectomy. (Drew Bennett, West Plains, Mo.)

AHINRSV —> VARNISH: Somewhat like a varn. (Roger Dalrymple, Gettysburg, Pa.)

AHINRSV —> RAVISH: To carjack a Toyota SUV. (Larry Gray, Union Bridge, Md.)

AHINRSV —> VINRASH: Rosé-cea. (Barry Koch, Catlett, Va.)

AHINRSV —> NRA-SHIV: “Help protect the incarcerated from prison gang violence: Arm inmates.” (Matt Monitto, Bristol, Conn.)
AHI PRSW -> R.I.P. SHAW: A two-wheeled hearse. (Chris Doyle, Denton, Tex.; Jon Gearhart, Des Moines)

AHI PRSW -> RAWSHIP: How to address an inexperienced, crude officeholder. “Your executive orders are working out perfectly, Your Rawship.” (Duncan Stevens, Vienna, Va.)


AII LNOO NO -> LOINAL: The region on a woman most likely to be regulated by the moon, or the GOP. (Marni Penning Coleman, Falls Church, Va.)

AII LNOO NO -> NO-AIL: The health-care system replacing the ACA. It saves money by mandating that all Americans just stay healthy. (Jason Russo, Annandale, Va.)

AIL OPTV -> VAIL POT: The best thing to happen to Colorado tourism since snow. (John Hutchins, Silver Spring, Md.)

AIM MOSS -> MIASMOS: The stinkiest kind of cigars. (Jeff Contompasis, Ashburn, Va.)

AIM MOSS -> IOS-MAS: Holiday in which presents are put under an Apple tree. (Mark Raffman, Reston, Va.)

ALOQRSU -> QUAROLS: Songs from the War on Christmas, like “Violent Night” and “I Saw Mommy Choking Santa Claus.” (Jon Gearhart)

AIL NTUY -> ANNUT: A native Alaskan who’s hit the lottery. (Warren Tanabe, Annapolis, Md.)

AIL NTUY -> NAYNUT: Republican member of Congress, 2009-17; Democratic member of Congress, 2017-. (Mark Raffman)

AL OPRY -> LOL; PRAY: The best advice for surviving the president’s new empire. (Lawrence McGuire, Waldorf, Md.)

AL LOTY -> TALLY OY: Rallying cry at the end of a lox hunt. (Deb Stewart, Damascus, Md.)

AMNNOSW -> MANNOWS: Sperm. “Triplets on the way, bro — my mannows can SWIM!” (Bird Waring, Larchmont, N.Y.)

AMNNOSW -> NO SWAN: Alas, most ugly ducklings stay ugly. (Mae Scanlan, Washington)

AOPPQRS -> SPA-POOR: Bankrupt, but relaxed. (Jack McBroom, Fort Valley, Va.)


BG IORTY -> B.G. RIOT: After the Bowling Green Massacre, there was also this. Or something like that somewhere. Clearly we need to militarize the police. — K. Conway (Jesse Frankovich, Lansing, Mich.)

BNNRSUU -> NUN RUBS: The most awkward massages ever. (Scott Slaughter, Monrovia, Md.)

CEENNOV -> NEONCÉ: This entertainer is inert most of the time, but she really lights up onstage. (Harold Mantle, Walnut Creek, Calif.)

CEIORTW -> EWROTIC: Arousing disgust. “Sending photos of your junk is so ewrotic!” (Perry Beider, Silver Spring, Md.)

AHIPRWSW -> WAR HIPS: Helen of Troy’s real secret wasn’t her face. (Allen K. Robinson)

AIM MOSS -> AM-SO-ISM: Self-esteem movement; counter-philosophy to the You’re-Notcies. (Ellen
ALLOPRY —> **PALLYORY**: The salon the British visit to get that famous pasty skin. (Jeff Brechlin, Apple Valley, Minn.)

ALLOTYY —> **LYALOT**: Knight who said, “I didn’t lay a hand on Guinevere, I swear!” (Mark Raffman)

AMRRSTY —> **MR. ARTSY**: A better hire to teach at your daughter’s school than “Mr. Satyr.” (Mark Raffman)

ALLOPTV —> **PLATO VI**: Thankfully, the last film in the “Western Philosophy’s Excellent Adventure” series. (Barry Koch)

Still running — deadline Monday night, Feb. 27: our contest for jokes in the “X was so Y that ...” format. See [bit.ly/invite1215](http://bit.ly/invite1215).

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**Entertainment Alerts**

Big stories in the entertainment world as they break.

**Sign up**

ALLOPRY —> **Y’ALL-PRO**: A Southern voice coach. “Nicolas Cage needed a y’all-pro in ‘Con Air.’” (Chris Doyle)

BNRNSUU —> **UNBUNS**: Gives birth. (Mark Raffman)

CEELRTU —> **CRULTEE**: De rigueur fashion for haters, paired with stone-washed venim jeans. (Jon Gearhart)

ALLOPTV —> **ILOVPAT**: The vanity plate I chose in a shameless grab at Invite ink. (Jesse Frankovich)
9 Celebrities You Didn't Realize Were on Star Trek
AARP

They Gave Everyone Else at the Golden Globes Serious Relationship Envy
Livingly

How Older Men Tighten Their Skin [Do This Daily]
The Modern Man Today

Bill Paxton’s Cause of Death Revealed
El Online

How to ‘Fix’ Crepey Skin
Health Headlines

How To Fix Your Fatigue (Do This Every Day)
Gundry MD

Most Read

1 Perspective
You need a hug and a good cry, America, and that’s what ‘This Is Us’ was made for

2 Roman Totenberg’s stolen Stradivarius was once lost forever. Now, it plays again.

3 Analysis
‘SpongeBob SquarePants’ creator Stephen Hillenburg to continue on show after ALS diagnosis

4 Review
‘Iron Fist’ packs a punch that occasionally misses

5 Review
‘Nier: Automata:’ A bold and different Japanese role-playing game

Our Online Games
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