

Basic Training

Author: Eshan Mitra

The stations and resulting letters are, in order:

- *SOUTH STATION* (South Station): Write nothing down.
- *BACK BAY* (two words that start with the same letter...): B becomes E.
- *RUGGLES* (rhymes with a plural term...): “Muggles” starts with M.
- *HYDE PARK* (you might find Dr. Jekyll there): The 4th vowel is O.
- *ROUTE 128* (bigger than 11 and smaller than 12): The square root of 128 is approximately 11.3, and the 3rd letter of the alphabet is C.
- *CANTON JUNCTION* (a word for a bug...): CANTON JUNCTION is ANT inside CONJUNCTION. ANT is a letter change of AND; the letter midway between D and T is L.
- *SHARON* (You can remove its first letter...): The letter in HERON but not SHARON is E.
- *MANSFIELD* (If you change its last letter...): There are four players or teams in a SEMIFINAL, and the 4th-to-last letter of the alphabet is W.
- *ATTLEBORO* (If you move the sixth letter...): The letter after L is M.
- *SOUTH ATTLEBORO* (two words, both of which you have seen...): SOUTH was nine stops ago and ATTLEBORO one. $2*9*1 = 18$, giving the letter R.
- *PROVIDENCE* (capital of a US state): The state in question is Washington (WA).

Reading the sequence E, M, O, C, L, E, W, M, R, WA backward gives the answer **WARM WELCOME**.

Finding Your Way

Author: Eshan Mitra

Each of the clues at the bottom of the page has two answers hidden in the word search, depending on whether you seek an answer associated with Massachusetts or with Rhode Island. Furthermore, the two entries for each clue intersect in a single letter.

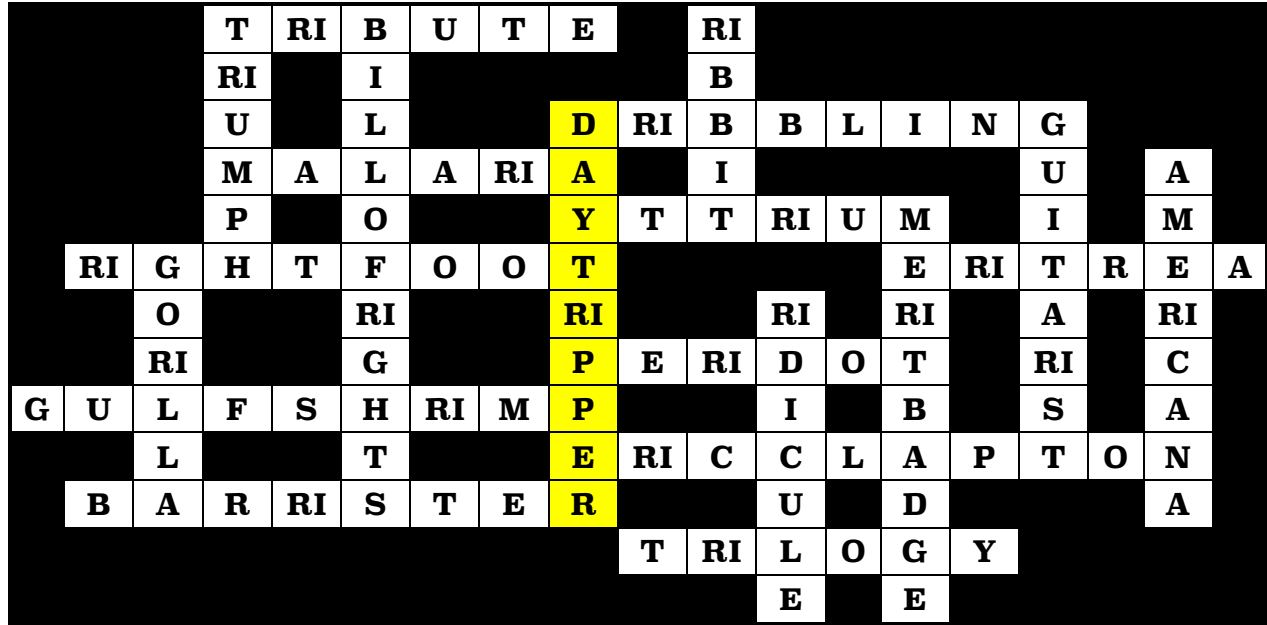
- Airport: LOGAN/TFGREEN = G (10th row, 10th column)
- Beverage: CRANBERRY JUICE/COFFEE MILK (7th row, 10th column)
- Bird: CHICKADEE/RHODE ISLAND RED = D (16th row, 15th column)
- Capital: BOSTON/PROVIDENCE = N (1st row, 7th column)
- Flower: MAYFLOWER/VIOLET = L (13th row, 5th column)
- Governor: PATRICK/CHAFEE = A (14th row, 8th column)
- Hall of Fame: BASKETBALL/TENNIS = E (3rd row, 6th column)
- Island: NANTUCKET/AQUIDNECK = N (15th row, 14th column)
- Puzzlehunt: MYSTERY HUNT/BAPHL NINE = N (8th row, 5th column)
- Senator: WARREN/WHITEHOUSE = W (3rd row, 17th column)

Reading these intersection letters left to right, row by row from top to bottom, spells out the answer **NEW ENGLAND**.

Going Postal – Solution

Author: Dan Katz

Each of the clue answers can be entered in to the grid, with the outline of Rhode Island representing the two-letter sequence RI.



- a) AMERICANA
- b) BARRISTER
- c) BILL OF RIGHTS
- d) DRIBBLING
- e) ERIC CLAPTON
- f) ERITREA
- g) GORILLA
- h) GUITARIST
- i) GULF SHRIMP
- j) MALARIA
- k) MERIT BADGE
- l) PERIDOT
- m) RIBBIT
- n) RIDICULE
- o) RIGHT FOOT
- p) TRIBUTE
- q) TRILOGY
- r) TRIUMPH
- s) YTTTRIUM

One of the entries in the grid is unclued, but every one of that entry's letters is determined by crossing entries (and the given RI). This entry, the answer to the puzzle, is **DAY TRIPPER**.

A Little Puzzle For You – Solution

Author: Dan Katz

Each of the words and phrases on the left is a type of object that can be ranked in size, with a Caesar shift applied. For example, the tenth item on the list is STATE with a +1 shift applied. The blanks on the right fit the smallest example of this object; although the example should have the same Caesar shift applied (as is shown for RHODE ISLAND). The items are sorted alphabetically by right column entry.

The categories and smallest examples, along with the shifts applied and the resulting shaded letters, are:

- CONTINENT: AUSTRALIA (-3, R)
- BIRD: BEE HUMMINGBIRD (+6, T)
- DOG BREED: CHIHUAHUA (+3, L)
- GREAT LAKE (VOLUME): ERIE (-4, A)
- MONTH: FEBRUARY (-5, T)
- NATIONAL PARK: HOT SPRINGS (+2, U)
- BEST PICTURE: MARTY (+4, E)
- CHEMICAL ELEMENT: HYDROGEN (+5, L)
- PLANET: MERCURY (-6, S)
- STATE: RHODE ISLAND (+1, S)
- SHAKESPEARE PLAY: THE COMEDY OF ERRORS (-2, A)
- COUNTRY: VATICAN CITY (-1, M)

Placing these letters in the boxes marked with the appropriate shifts spells out the answer, **SMALL STATURE**.

Final Stop – Solution

Authors: Dan Katz and Eshan Mitra

The seven-letter words in the answers are ENGLAND, STATURE, TRIPPER, and WELCOME. Placing them in the order TRIPPER, STATURE, WELCOME, ENGLAND (this order was unclued in order to make it a bit more difficult to guess the answer after solving one or two puzzles) causes the numbered squares to spell out the final answer, **PERPETUAL OCEAN**.