

Contents

NUMBERS 1

1. It Figures **M** 1
2. By the Numbers **M** 2
3. Number of . . . **M** 3
4. Say it with Numbers **D** 4
5. Speaking of Mathematics **D** 5

LETTERS AND SOUNDS 6

1. From A to Z **M** 6
2. Burst of Energy **M** 7
3. On the Edge **M** 8
4. Tailor-made **M** 9
5. On Easy Street **M** 10
6. "Q" Me In **D** 11
7. On a Short Leash **D** 12
8. It's a Treat **D** 13
9. Without a Sound **D** 14
10. In Style **D** 15

LETTER PLAY 16

1. In a Second **M** 16
2. A Few Special Words **M** 17
3. Some Important Words **M** 18
4. Scrambled Words **M** 19
5. Add a Letter **M** 20
6. Add a Letter 2 **M** 21
7. Drop a Letter, Add a Letter **M** 22
8. In a Minute **D** 23
9. Who Did What? **D** 24
10. A Mixed-up World **D** 25

WORD PLAY 26

1. Up or Down **M** 26
2. And So It Went . . . **M** 27
3. A Fair Fare **M** 28
4. As One Is to the Other **M** 29
5. One or the Other **M** 30
6. One or the Other - 2 **M** 31
7. Let's Get Together **D** 32
8. A Breeze in the Trees **D** 33
9. Double Meaning **D** 34
10. Two for One **D** 35

TOPICS 36

1. As Time Goes By **M** 36
2. Right on Time **M** 37
3. Down on the Farm **M** 38
4. All in a Day's Work **M** 39
5. Clothes Closet **M** 40
6. Driving Exam **M** 41
7. Food for Thought **M** 42
8. Let's Eat **M** 43
9. Sing Along **M** 44
10. Sports Report **M** 45
11. Words of Wisdom **M** 46
12. Where in the World **M** 47
13. Alphabet Soup **D** 48
14. Bag of Bones **D** 49
15. Bird Watching **D** 50
16. Let's Celebrate **D** 51
17. U.S. Presidents **D** 52
18. Red, White, and Blue **D** 53
19. Color Wheel **D** 54
20. Hold It! **D** 55
21. Household Words **D** 56
22. Moving On **D** 57
23. Postal Letters **D** 58
24. Shape Up! **D** 59
25. Weather Report **D** 60

ANSWERS 61 - 90

M Moderate
D Difficult

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Introduction

*At Pro Lingua
our objective is to foster an approach
to learning and teaching that we call Interplay,
the interaction of language learners and teachers
with their materials, with the language and culture,
and with each other in active, creative and
productive play.*

This photocopyable collection of crosswords gives English language learners and native speakers in literacy programs the opportunity to play with the language, and in doing so, learn about the language and discover the enjoyment of language play.

A crossword puzzle is also a challenge to solve a problem — to figure things out. Each puzzle is a learning experience. The solver confronts a challenge, uses what they know to discover the unknowns, overcomes frustrations, and experiences the pleasure of success.

The puzzles in this book are best used by intermediate and advanced level students. They are arranged in five categories. The first four focus on linguistic form — letters, sounds, and words — excellent practice for spelling and literacy development. The last section of topics focuses on semantic fields — time, food, work, sports, etc. This section can be used to review and even discover new vocabulary.

The puzzles are graded as moderate (**M**) and difficult (**D**). When working through one of the categories, it is best to start with the moderate puzzles and proceed to the difficult.

Although crosswords are typically done alone, they can also be used very effectively by pairs of students working together, using the language to share what they know and solve the problem. And yet another good use of the puzzles is in a tutorial situation where the tutor and the student work together.

The answers to the puzzles are in the back of the book.

About the Author

Emma Iulo has been involved in adult literacy for 20 years, as tutor, puzzle-maker and literacy office librarian. Nearly 500 of her puzzles have been published by New Readers Press, and over 200 by ProLiteracy International (formerly Laubach Literacy Action).