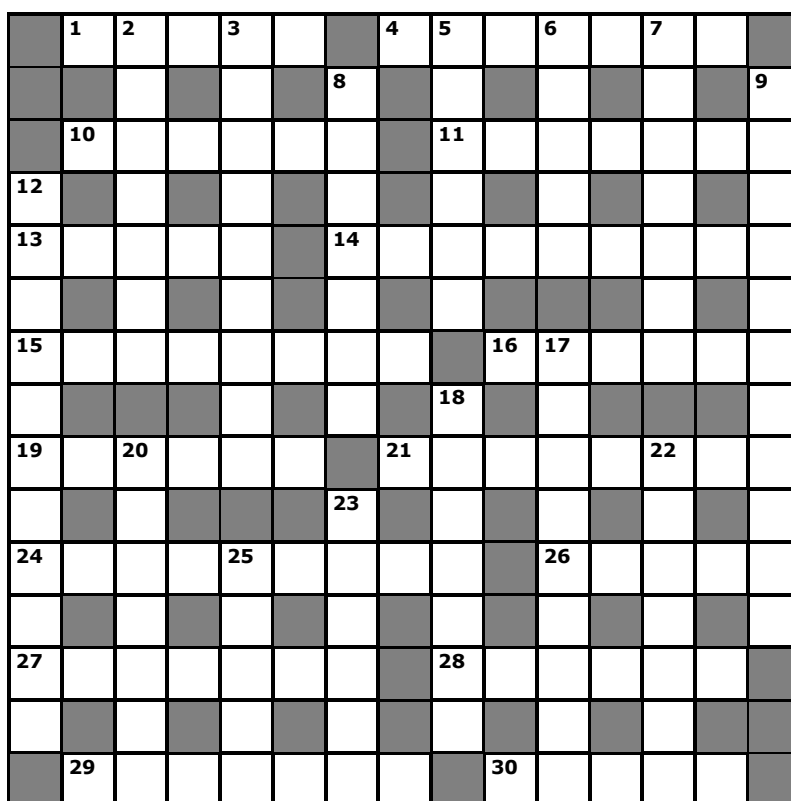


All Down answers have a common property. Each Down clue contains a definition of the answer, but the wordplay (secondary indicator) omits the common property which must be added to match the answer. Across clues are normal.

August 2026 Slot 5 by Crowsman



Across

- 1 Out-of-line question my group rejected (5)
- 2 It closes part of pod (7)
- 3 Former transport bringing sparkling (9)
- 4 Stitch stuff - it's characterful! (7)
- 5 Quizzically question (6)
- 6 Tremendous soldier (5)
- 7 Firm's founder? (7)
- 8 Excessive slope (7)
- 9 Around start of academic year, study matrix calculation (11)
- 10 A sweetheart coming back from old Dubrovnik (6)
- 11 Princess welcomes Chinese in Central Asian realm (7)
- 12 Cook packing direct from freezer (11)
- 13 Overjoy, reversing conclusion of love story (5)
- 14 Bore with superfluous talk about European final (9)
- 15 Guide towards incline (9)
- 16 Compact layer outlaw has covering back (6)
- 17 Country person's pulse (7)
- 18 Mean short sow (7)
- 19 It is pronounced with conviction (6)
- 20 Writer working around identification of figure (8)
- 21 Take back western groups during most of intermission (9)
- 22 Brass knight (7)
- 23 One signing a contract with a letter 'X' (6)
- 24 Tailor only after new fabric (5)
- 25 Limited specific sides (5)
- 26 Falls, knocking back a run a second time (7)
- 27 Antelopes having nasty ends, sadly (6)
- 28 Figure overshadowing the opening act (7)
- 29 Utter panic! (5)
- 30

Down