

# BUILDING BLOCKS

By Will Shortz

In each of these puzzles, insert the 3-letter “blocks” below the grid into the squares — without rearranging the letters inside the blocks — to complete 8 9-letter words reading across. Each of the blocks will be used exactly once, so you may cross them off as you proceed. When all of the squares in a puzzle have been filled, 3 blocks will be left over. These can be combined to provide a hint to a phrase reading down two of the columns in the completed grid.

1.

A	N	T						
A	C	C						
S	L	I						
I	N	T						
W	A	I						
S	E	X						
B	O	A						
C	O	L						

Puzzle #1

ASS    AST    DLY    ERL  
HOL    HOT    INE    ION  
LET    NGS    OGY    ORD  
ORF    STL    THO    TUP  
UDE    URE    USE

2.

			I	E	G			
			R	E	C			
			L	E	A			
			H	E	T			
			G	H	E			
			A	G	E			
			R	L	P			
			O	M	P			

Puzzle #2

ACC    ANY    ARC    ARD  
COL    GUE    MEN    MOU  
MOV    NTE    OER    OOL  
RIE    SCO    SPA    TNA  
TTI    WHI    YPE

3.

						M	A	N
						O	R	M
						T	R	A
						G	E	E
						C	E	R
						G	I	A
						I	S	E
						A	T	E

Puzzle #3

ANN    EAR    ERW    FLO  
HES    HTS    INU    MOR  
NIF    NOS    ODG    ORC  
ORM    OTH    OUN    TAL  
TGA    THW    YAC