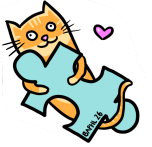


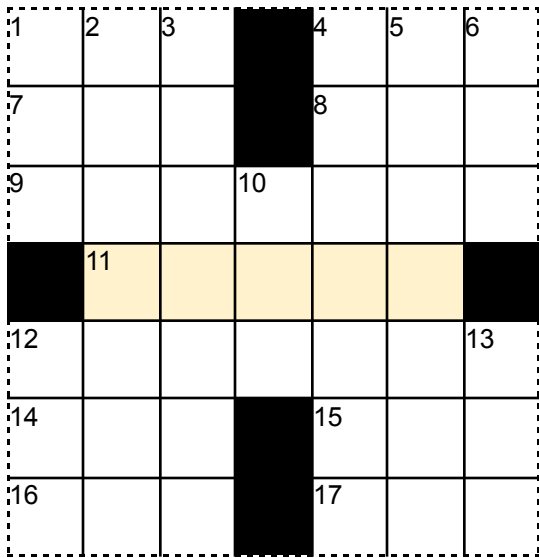


Th Arbo?etum



The forest felines love to climb, but it's up to you to **stack the trunks**—shifting the layers as needed—so that they can ascend. Using the **overlapping leaves** (perhaps looking through the foliage at the **sunlight**), what does it take to get from bottom to top?

(Note: Scissors may be helpful for extracting this puzzle's answer.)

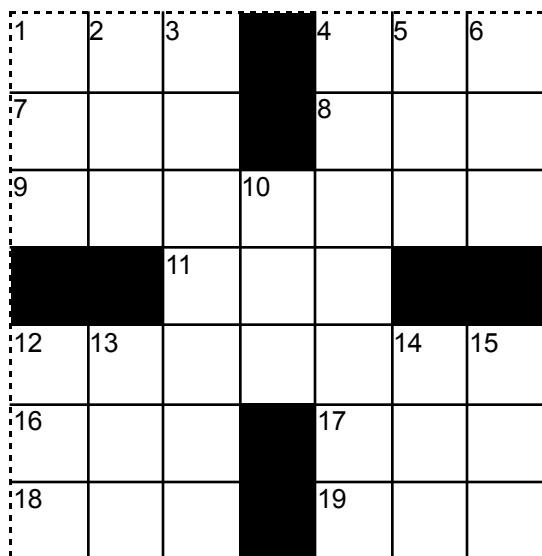


Across

1. Consumed
4. High times
7. Sheepish
8. Easy as ____
9. Tiny start of a plant
11. Elevator stop (*A ways to go!*)
- 12. Memorization tool**
14. Fish eggs
15. Traffic cops, briefly?
16. Brief follower of special or photo
17. 1040 fig.

Down

1. Jerk
2. Trio in Texas Hold 'em (or a dance everyone is encouraged to do in the asdf movies)
- 3. They can be batted**
4. Shares online, maybe
5. General store in Stardew Valley
6. It typically precedes a spike
10. "What's up, ____?"
12. Partner of to
13. Brown who wrote "The Da Vinci Code"

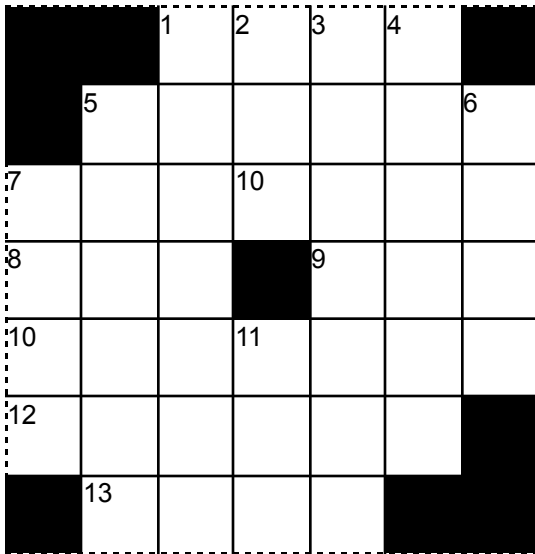


Across

1. Seasonal ailment
4. Texter's agreement
7. Alley-____
8. Zoo ____ Mama (Diary of a Wimpy Kid catchphrase)
- 9. Like some stiff mattresses**
11. Cozy evening stop
12. Cancels out
16. "____ humbug"
17. Union statement?
18. Museum of Bad ____ (Boston's own!)
19. Character in "Sister Act"

Down

1. Opposite of friend
2. Fishy bagel topper
3. Tense
4. "Meow" or [Scratch]
- 5. Fermented milk drink**
6. Dream stage of sleep
10. It has messenger and small interfering varieties
12. Jazz group, for short?
13. Floppy part of a beagle
14. College email ender
15. "____ of a gun!"

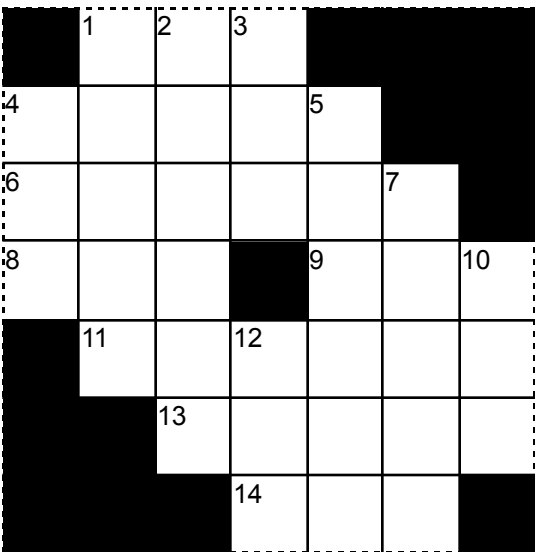


Across

- 1. Famous Astaire or Rogers
- 5. Ukrainian peninsula whose largest city is Sevastopol
- 7. Rinsed clean with water**
- 8. High card
- 9. Aunt, in Acapulco
- 10. Above all else, in gaming terms
- 12. Acts like a superfan, maybe
- 13. Air pollution portmanteau

Down

- 1. One of five guaranteed by the First Amendment
- 2. Purge
- 3. Using character animations to celebrate after a Fortnite W, maybe
- 4. Stands up to
- 5. Major money makers**
- 6. Distant
- 7. Shows excitement, as a dog's tail
- 11. Also

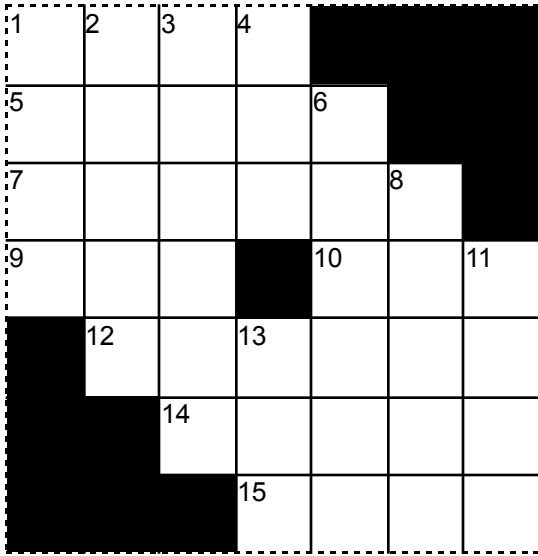


Across

- 1. Keanu Reeves's role in "The Matrix"
- 4. Groundbreaking Miami Marlins GM (first woman in any Big Four league!)
- 6. Part of an Indiana Jones or Blues Brothers outfit
- 8. Something between clans, perhaps**
- 9. Traffic cops, briefly?
- 11. Begins to burn, as Adele does to the rain**
- 13. Cheeky or fresh
- 14. Long-standing XW source

Down

- 1. Physics Nobel Laureate Bohr
- 2. Punctuation overused by LLMs (that I will still use anyway—sue me)**
- 3. Musician Yoko
- 4. Fast food chain selling "finger-lickin' good" buckets
- 5. Like meadows or some knolls
- 7. Near the start**
- 10. Tina of "30 Rock"
- 12. Light brown

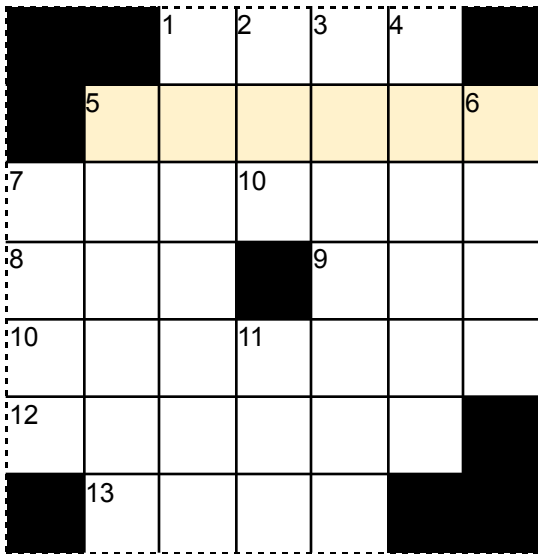


Across

- 1. Haves and have ____
- 5. Portrayer of Andy in "The Office"**
- 7. Squid Game or Queen of Tears, for example
- 9. Chant heard at a fútbol game
- 10. No ____, ands, or buts
- 12. You can't do it in a crowded building**
- 14. Frightening note at the top of an assignment
- 15. Texter's note of appreciation

Down

- 1. Japanese word for cat
- 2. Abnormally
- 3. Long-range shots in basketball
- 4. 1965 Alabama civil rights march location**
- 6. :)
- 8. Endorses or empowers**
- 11. Appear
- 13. " ____ It Be"

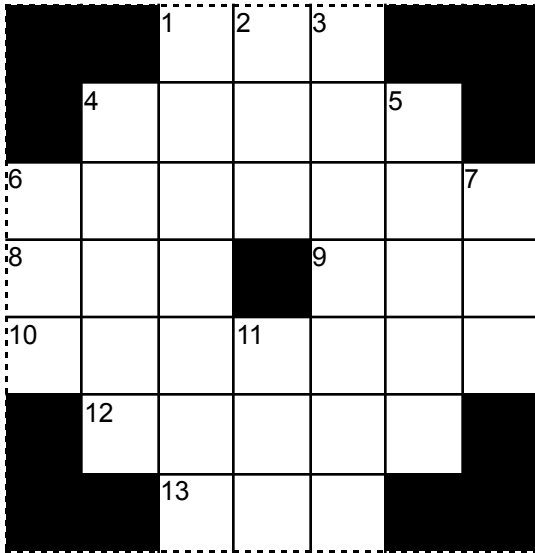


Across

- 1. Friends
- 5. It can throw shade (*Check out the view!*)
- 7. Harambe, e.g., (never forget)
- 8. Lawyers' grp.
- 9. "Iron Man" Ripken of baseball
- 10. Olivia Rodrigo, to BTS and Nirvana, for example**
- 12. Earmarks
- 13. " ____ of the D'Ubervilles"

Down

- 1. "The Good Samaritan" or "The Prodigal Son"
- 2. Alex and ____ (jewelry company)
- 3. Memes with text over feline pictures, such as "I can has cheezburger?"
- 4. Food fight sounds
- 5. Metal used in blue pigments
- 6. Harvard's rival
- 7. Met's ball?
- 11. St. ____ Fire**



Across

1. Sketchy show, for short?
4. MIT's business school
6. Asked for a feeder to be restocked, maybe
8. Long time
9. **Fudd who's "huntin' wabbits"**
10. Amusement park attraction that's a splash?
12. "___, can't you see, you're just not the girl for me" (why is this song so popular)
13. Some corporate bigwigs, for short

Down

1. Streaming service that is a subsidiary of Dish Network
2. Neither's partner
3. **Hands-free audio devices attached to your jacket**
4. Tries to swat away a fly, maybe
5. Demanding attention and effort
6. Animation frame
7. Dr. ___ of the album "The Chronic"
11. Genre of music for 7-Down

Your Final Tree:

