



SOLUTION: A REAL Problem



This puzzle is a word search with a specific transformation—as clued by the title “REAL problem” (referring to REAL IDs) and flavor text about seemingly missing a way to identify yourself, **the items in the grid are missing their IDs!**

Each answer to the clues on the bottom include an ID, and these can be found in the grid with one letter in place of the ID. The clued words are in alphabetical order in the order of clues on the bottom, suggesting a new ordering is needed to extract.

Reading the extra letters which replaced ID (as clued by “grabbed something else instead” in the flavor), in reading order in the grid, gives the answer VERIFICATION.

S	A	S	I	T	X	D	S	A	E	I	V	F	E	G	N
L	J	A	E	O	G	H	L	N	T	P	U	A	O	I	R
K	P	L	U	V	I	Z	V	W	E	R	S	C	O	K	N
I	S	N	R	M	L	S	E	B	R	O	F	T	Y	S	D
E	O	M	F	E	S	A	M	O	A	X	E	O	J	R	B
R	M	Y	E	Q	U	V	H	E	R	S	T	R	A	H	F
L	I	I	T	A	T	K	L	A	R	L	I	T	I	E	A
C	M	F	S	U	F	L	I	N	G	S	R	B	M	I	O
I	H	A	E	T	R	O	E	D	O	E	S	I	Z	L	W
T	B	E	J	G	E	F	P	T	C	N	N	C	O	L	M
R	A	G	E	P	S	Y	H	A	Y	U	O	R	D	O	M
A	W	H	K	A	T	A	R	Y	T	E	W	C	I	C	K
I	B	H	T	O	I	G	N	E	B	H	C	S	I	R	I
P	R	D	U	X	N	F	M	P	R	E	A	J	T	E	T
S	F	E	W	Z	G	A	L	S	G	N	I	Y	O	T	T
E	M	N	S	T	N	C	R	F	C	K	O	V	A	D	S

Clue	Answer	Word in Grid	Extracted Letter
Crash together	COLLIDE	COLLIE	I
Trivial note	FACTOID	FACTOR	R
Prohibits	FORBIDS	FORBES	E
Compounds containing a Group 17 element	HALIDES	HALVES	V
Vegetating	IDLING	FLING	F
Actor Elba	IDRIS	IRIS	I
Center (of)	MIDST	MIST	I
Lemonade brand	MINUTEMAID	MINUTEMAN	N
Las Vegas NFL players	RAIDERS	RACERS	C
Inhabiting	RESIDING	RESTING	T
Narrow hilltop	RIDGE	RAGE	A
Neatening	TIDYING	TOYING	O