

Wife lacks support to deal with tough mother-in-law



NE PHILLIPS

Dear Abby: I need some advice regarding my mother-in-law. She has hated me since the first time she met me because I'm not from the country but she's from "the city." I have given her gifts for birthdays and holidays but she always refuses. She always makes up lies about me. She claims I have STDs, spend all her money, etc. She lives 500 miles away and, in the five years we have been married, has never once visited her son. I take her to visit her because he can't drive his license because of medical issues. My son and I aren't even allowed in her home. We have to ride in the car. She acts like our son doesn't exist, but she has pictures of her other two grandchildren on Facebook and drives to see them almost weekly. My son and I see nothing wrong with her behavior. I don't know what to do. — Peevied in Pennsylvania

Dear Abby: Please accept my sympathy for your situation. My husband refuses

to recognize there is anything wrong with his mother's behavior, it is off the charts. I hope you realize that most men stand up for their wives and children.

Because you can't change your husband or his mother, and you made no mention of leaving the marriage, you will simply have to adjust to it. Arrange for other transportation for your husband.

Dear Abby: I'm a 24-year-old woman who has been in a relationship with a man for seven years. "Ken" is 27 years older than I am. I love him, but I have always been slightly confused about my relationship with him, and he knows this. My heart knows that my love for Ken isn't enough for what he deserves.

Recently I have realized that I want to be on my own, alone, and not in a relationship. I feel a strong desire to focus on me and only me, so I can grow into the person I envision myself being. Any advice besides the obvious — my leaving the relationship? — Wanting More in Wisconsin

Dear Wanting: Many women would be glad to live their life in a relationship like yours. However, since you asked my advice, talk this through with a licensed relationship counselor.

Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Boggle BrainBusters!

by David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

1-15-22

INSTRUCTIONS: Find as many words as you can by linking letters up, down, side-to-side and diagonally, writing words on a blank sheet of paper. You may only use each letter box once within a single word. Play with a friend and compare word finds, crossing out common words.

BOGGLE POINT SCALE	YOUR BOGGLE RATING
3 letters = 1 point	151+ = Champ
4 letters = 2 points	101-150 = Expert
5 letters = 3 points	61-100 = Pro
6 letters = 4 points	31-60 = Gamer
7 letters = 6 points	21-30 = Rookie
8 letters = 10 points	11-20 = Amateur
9 letters = 15 points	0-10 = Try again

Boggle BrainBusters Bonus
We put special brain-busting words into the grid of letters. Can you find them?
Find AT LEAST FIVE MAMMALS STARTING WITH "L" in the grid of letters.

Answers to Friday's Boggle BrainBusters:
MARS VENUS EARTH SATURN NEPTUNE

7 LITTLE WORDS

Find the 7 words to match the 7 clues. The numbers in parentheses represent the number of letters in each solution. Each letter combination can be used only once, but all letter combinations will be necessary to complete the puzzle.

CLUES	SOLUTIONS
1 having a little wordplay fun (7)	_____
2 Bambi's love interest (6)	_____
3 like a solid alibi (8)	_____
4 it's lazy when "couched" (6)	_____
5 little (10)	_____
6 they give you flours (7)	_____
7 cold turkey (8)	_____

HT	PUN	DIM	INE	IVE
MI	IN	NG	TLY	POT
NI	AB	LLE	ATO	AIR
RS	FAL	UT	TIG	RUP

Friday's Answers: 1. UPSCALE 2. COLLAPSED 3. GUIDEBOOK 4. CLEARY 5. PHILLY 6. FELIX 7. NOSINESS 1/15

SUDOKU

Directions: Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.

6				3		4		
	3					5		9
				1		8		
				8		9		3
	6			9			2	
1	3			5				
				5		3		
2	4							5
								1

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

SCRABBLE GRAMS

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E ₁	O ₁	U ₁	P ₃	P ₃	T ₁	M ₃		
A ₁	E ₁	I ₁	L ₁	V ₄	V ₄	R ₁		
A ₁	I ₁	O ₁	Z ₁₀	R ₁	L ₁	D ₂		
A ₁	E ₁	I ₁	W ₄	D ₂	R ₁	B ₃		

PAR SCORE 175-185
BEST SCORE 238

FOUR RACK TOTAL
TIME LIMIT: 20 MIN

DIRECTIONS: Make a 2- to 7-letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word, using scoring directions at right. Finally, 7-letter words get 50-point bonus. "Blanks" used as any letter have no point value. All the words are in the Official SCRABBLE® Players Dictionary, 5th Edition. SOLUTION TOMORROW

For more information on tournaments and clubs, email NASPA-NorthAmericanSCRABBLEPlayersAssociation@scrambleplayers.org. Visit our website www.scrambleplayers.org. For puzzle inquiries contact scramgram@gmail.com

WORD GAME

Directions: 1. Words must be of four letters. 2. Words that acquire four letters by adding a "d" or an "s" may not be used, but "baked" is not allowed, but "bake" is admissible. 3. Proper nouns, slang words and explicit words are not allowed.

Today's word:
MANTILLAS

(MANTILLAS: mantilla - Lightweight scarves worn over the head and shoulders.)

Average mark 40 words. Time limit 60 minutes.

Can you find 63 or more words in MANTILLAS?

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JUMBLE

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

YBGAB

OTDSO

TWREET

FAINTN

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“ ”

Yesterday's Jumbles: HONOR PLAID
Answer: His craftsmanship appears was a — PO

PREVIOUS PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

9	7	1	5	4	8	2	3	6
3	5	6	1	7	2	4	8	9
2	8	4	6	3	9	7	5	1
5	4	8	2	1	3	9	6	7
6	9	2	7	8	5	3	1	4
7	1	3	9	6	4	5	2	8
8	6	9	3	2	7	1	4	5
4	3	7	8	5	1	6	9	2
1	2	5	4	9	6	8	7	3

SCRABBLE GRAMS SOLUTION