# Solving Quadracrostics

A Quadracrostic puzzle, like other acrostics, consists of a grid containing a quote from some literary work, and a set of clues whose answers are written in a series of spaces, each with a number corresponding to a numbered place in the grid. Working in both directions, the solver gradually solves all of the clues, and by transferring their letters into the grid, will unearth the hidden quotation. So far, so good. But with Quadracrostics, for each clue, there are ***two*** possible answers, each with the same number of letters, and ***two*** grids to be filled in. And herein lies the Quadracrostic madness: the solver must determine which answer goes into which set of spaces, and then must determine how to transfer the answers: one answer will go into one grid, and the other into the other grid. On the following pages, we provide an instructive example.

**Some other points:**

- If the clue contains underlines, the two answers will be part of a name, a quote or phase, or some comparable construct. If the clue has no underlines, the answers will be independent, two of possibly many acceptable answers.

- Like the traditional acrostic, the list of clues is numbered alphabetically. These alphabetic references are placed in the grid as top-justified reference letters allowing the solver to easily locate the two clues whose answer might map to that space.

- Given the difficulty of creating these puzzles, we were unable to keep the “Double” aspect of most acrostics (i.e. where the first letter of each answer spells out the source for the quotation and the author). But since this is a very desirable property of acrostics, we preserve it in spirit: beneath the bottom grid, there are numbered blanks that, when filled in, will give the source and author. The numbers under the blanks correspond to spaces in the filled-in grids. (Needless to say, the solver has to decide from which grid each letter is derived;)

Finally, some early solvers suggested that they needed a little more help in doing these puzzles. To that end, we gave some additional hints, in the form of an occasional free letter or two, either in the clues or in the grid (or both).

# *Example of a Solution*

## The Traditional Acrostic Puzzle: One Clue, *One* Answer and *One* Quote.

**Clue:** __ __ __ __ -- **Sensory organs found on the head. (Len: 4)**
6 12 9 2

**Quote:**

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | ■ | | | | | | | | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |

**When you answer the clue and transfer the letters, the quote will look like this:**

**Clue:** E Y E S -- **Sensory organs found on the head. (Len: 4)**
6 12 9 2

**Quote:**

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | S | | | | E | ■ | | | E | | | Y | | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |

## The Quadracrostic Puzzle: One Clue, *Two* Answers and *Two* Quotes!

**Clue:** __ __ __ __ ■ __ __ __ __ -- **Sensory organs found on the head. (Len: 4)**
6 12 9 2 1 4 11 9

**Quote 1**

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | ■ | | | | | | | | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |

**Quote 2**

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | ■ | | | | ■ | | | ■ | | | | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | | 4 | 5 | 6 | | 7 | 8 | | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |

### *This is where it gets really interesting!*

**The clue's two answers can be placed in any order, and can be directed to either quote.**

**See the next page for the 4 possible combinations,**
**Only one of which can be correct!**

## The 4 Possible Combinations *(Only one can be correct!)*

***Possibility 1:*** **E Y E S ■ E A R S** **(EYES goes to Quote 1)**
**6 12 9 2 1 4 11 9** **(EARS goes to Quote 2)**

**Quote 1**

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | S | | | | E | ■ | | | E | | | Y | | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |

**Quote 2**

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| E | | | ■ | A | | | ■ | | | ■ | S | | R | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | | 4 | 5 | 6 | | 7 | 8 | | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |

***Possibility 2:*** **E Y E S ■ E A R S** **(EYES goes to Quote 2)**
**6 12 9 2 1 4 11 9** **(EARS goes to Quote 1)**

**Quote 1**

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| E | | | A | | | ■ | | | S | | R | | | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |

**Quote 2**

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | S | | ■ | | | E | ■ | | | ■ | E | | | Y |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | | 4 | 5 | 6 | | 7 | 8 | | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |

***Possibility 3:*** **E A R S ■ E Y E S** **(EARS goes to Quote 1)**
**6 12 9 2 1 4 11 9** **(EYES goes to Quote 2)**

**Quote 1**

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | S | | | | E | ■ | | | R | | | A | | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |

**Quote 2**

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| E | | | ■ | Y | | | ■ | | | ■ | S | | E | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | | 4 | 5 | 6 | | 7 | 8 | | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |

***Possibility 4:*** **E A R S ■ E Y E S** **(EARS goes to Quote 2)**
**6 12 9 2 1 4 11 9** **(EYES goes to Quote 1)**

**Quote 1**

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| E | | | Y | | | ■ | | | S | | E | | | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |

**Quote 2**

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | S | | ■ | | | E | ■ | | | ■ | R | | | A |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | | 4 | 5 | 6 | | 7 | 8 | | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |