Cryptic Logic Untangled (CLU)

This is a do-it-yourself course for anyone interested in learning how to solve cryptic crosswords. Each module in the list below looks at a particular cryptic clue-type with:

- An explanation of how it works;
- A crossword where all the clues are of that type;
- Answers.

Taken together, they form a complete course on solving cryptic crosswords to a competent level.

While each module is intended to be self-contained, it is best to do them in order. Most of the later modules do assume knowledge of earlier topics.

There are 12 topics in the full set, covering:

1. Double Definitions
2. Anagrams
3. Charades
4. Homophones
5. Reversals & Hiddens
6. Codes
7. Containers
8. Manipulations
9. Hybrids
10. Puns & Rebuses
11. Punctuation
12. All Types – Revision

Plus:

13. The 10 Minute Lesson

One aim in making these modules was to keep the theory to a single page for each topic. Another was to use different examples and explanations from the original course that ran in 2021.

Consequently, the original course notes are a much more detailed resource that can be used to supplement these modules if required. They also have lots of pictures and spend considerable time explaining and exploring the underlying concepts of the cryptic process. These online modules, on the other hand, are just the bare facts in concise summary form.

If you want an even shorter road to cruciverbal mastery, go directly to Topic 13 – The 10 Minute Lesson. (Do not pass GO; do not collect $200.) But remember, the number 13 is unlucky for some. This PDF covers all clue types very succinctly in just 2 pages.

Any members who would like more detailed notes or have any questions at all about this course, please contact John McKinnon at jmc33466@gmail.com .