

## Cryptic Logic Untangled – #7 Containers for Inserting & Deleting

One word sometimes contains another word (or symbol), e.g. SCATHE can be seen as:

SHE outside CAT or CAT inside SHE => S/cat\HE

which is really just two different ways of saying the same thing. Likewise SHE can be:

CAT exiting from SCATHE or SCATHE discarding CAT => S/eat\HE

This sort of CONTAINER relationship can yield clues for INSERTION or DELETION.

### INSERTION where one word/symbol goes OUTSIDE another:

**Sow gets around wall to eat** (7) => S/wall\OW => SWALLOW [Sow and wall are literal]

**Iron shackles sheep boundary** (5) => F/ram\E => FRAME [Chemical symbol Fe]

**Inmates surround tepee to get ingredients** (8) => CON/tent\S => CONTENTS

### INSERTION where one word/symbol goes INSIDE another:

**Smother foxtrot in fence steps** (6) => STI/f\LE => STIFLE [F in NATO alphabet]

**Stop inhaling oxygen to bend over** (5) => ST/o\OP => STOOP [Chemical symbol O]

**Hold Greek letter fed into ruckus** (6) => D/eta\IN => DETAIN

### DELETION where one word/symbol EXITS another:

**I exit, going for a clanger** (4) => GO/\NG => GONG [I and going are literal]

**Foxy quarrel escapes sternly** (3) => S/\iff\LY => SLY

**We leave interrupt to waste** (5) => S/\tt\S\PEND => SPEND

### DELETION where one word/symbol DISCARDS another:

**Ornate sheds tail in action** (4) => DE/tail\ED => DEED [Tail is literal]

**Adjoining stomach eliminates a cubit** (2) => B/e\H\Y => BY [1 ell = 1 cubit]

**Surrender dumps me as a friendly gesture** (4) => WA/i\VE => WAVE

Container clues have 4 parts:

- A **straight definition** of the answer (at either the start or end of the clue);
- A **signpost** that indicates a container relationship for inserting or deleting, e.g.
  - about, astride, embrace, pockets, skirt, swallow, encase, outline, stifle, clasp
  - in, invested, lining, plugged into, visits, cracking, boring, accesses, fits into
  - abandons, leaves, departs, quit, drops out of, withdraws from, takes leave
  - Discharges, casts out, banish, revoke, turfed, demobbed, divest, evict, erases
- 2 pieces of fodder (can be literals but they're usually synonyms to make it harder):
  - **Container**
  - **Content**

*Container signposts are many and varied but you'll see a reasonable selection of them in the crossword below, where all clues are of Container types with Insertion and Deletion.*



## Cryptic Club

This is an ongoing course that was founded by members in 2021. We share cryptic crosswords from various sources via email on a weekly basis. We also meet informally once a month to chat and solve a crossword interactively.

If you wish to join the Cryptic Club, please contact John McKinnon at [jmc33466@gmail.com](mailto:jmc33466@gmail.com)

## Answers - #7 Containers

*If you have any questions, or would like to receive more detailed notes on this topic, please contact John McKinnon at [jmc33466@gmail.com](mailto:jmc33466@gmail.com)*

S	S	E	R	D		D	N	L	A	N	L	A	P	L	A	S
E		S		E		E		N		A						A
S		N	I	A	I	N	S			E	A	R	E	D		R
U			R		A		E					T				R
				D	E	R	E	D		E	R	A	N	G		E
T			E		R		L		A		N					H
S			S	I	S		S		T	A	R	M	S			T
E			S		E		E		R		S					E
S			O	R	I	O			V	I	C	T	O	R	I	O
S			R				A		A		A					E
A			R				A		A		A					S
R			A		L		E		E		A					L
C			L		L		A		S		T	E	R			E