

EQUIPMENT: 16 letter cubes • letter grid with dome
• 3-minute timer

OBJECT: To list, within 3 minutes, as many words of the highest point value as you can find among the random assortment of letters in the cube grid.

PREPARATION: Each player should have a pencil and a piece of paper. Drop the letter cubes into the dome and place the grid, open, side down, over the dome. Turn the domed grid right-side up, shake the cubes around, and maneuver, the grid until each cube falls into place. As one player removes the dome, another player starts the timer.

PLAYING: When the timer starts, each player searches the assortment of letters for words of three letters or more. When a player finds a word, he/she writes it down.

Words are formed from adjoining letters. Letters must join in the proper sequence to spell a word. They may join horizontally, vertically, or diagonally to the left, right, or up-and-down. No letter, cube, however, may be used more than once within a single word.

Figure 1
OILS (and OIL)

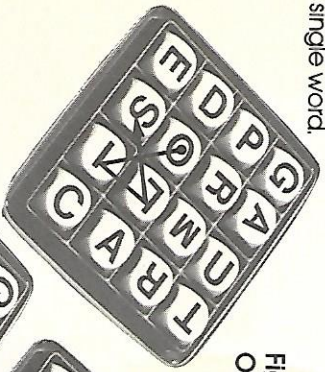


Figure 2
SILO



RIGHT

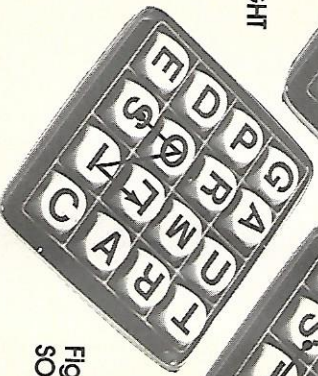
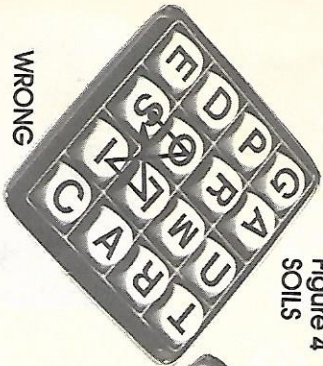


Figure 3
SOIL

Figures 1 through 3 show how words can be formed using the adjoining letters S,O,I,L.

Figure 4
SOILS



WRONG

Figure 5
SOAR



Figures 4 and 5 show two *incorrect* spelling techniques: 1) in "SOILS" (Fig. 4), the one adjoining "s" is used twice; 2) to form "SOAR" (Fig. 5) requires skipping over the letter "i." No skipping is allowed; letters must *adjoin* in sequence.

Try your skill at finding the hidden words in the letter arrangement above. There are more than 70 words, including "molar," "prose," and "turmoil." Can you find more?

TYPES OF WORDS ALLOWED: Any word (noun, adjective, adverb, etc.), plural of, form of, or tense is acceptable as long as it can be found in a standard English dictionary. Words within words are also permissible; e.g. *spare*: *spa*, *par*, *are*, *spar*, *pare*.

SCORING AND WINNING: When the timer runs out, everyone must stop writing. Each player in turn then reads aloud his/her list of words. Any word that appears on more than one player's list must be crossed off all lists, including that of the reader.

After all players have read their lists, each player scores his/her remaining words:

SCORING

NO. OF LETTERS	3	4	5	6	7	8 or more
POINTS	1	1	2	3	5	11

The winner is: 1) the player whose words have earned the most points; or 2) the first to reach 50 points; 100 points or whatever score is considered by all to be a reasonable target.

THINGS TO REMEMBER:

- Neither the cubes nor the grid may be touched while the timer is on.
- Multiple meanings of the same word do not earn multiple credit. The word "year" for example, can mean both "tip" and "cry"; yet it may count as only one word.
- The same word found by a player in different areas of the grid may not be counted for multiple credit.
- The "Qu" cube counts as two letters.
- Both the "W" and the "V" have a line under them.
- The letter "Z" has a line under it and should not be seen as the word "N."
- Full credit is awarded to both the singular and plural forms of a noun—provided that the player has listed them as separate words.
- Common words tend to be found by more than one player. Therefore, if your words are unique and unusual, they are more likely to earn you points.



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