

The theme entries in Grid Six told you to FIND SIX HINTS IN THIS NEWSPAPER LEADING YOU TO KEYWORDS AND A SEVENTH HINT ON WHERE TO SEARCH FOR THE ANSWER. The six hints leading to keywords were located in a Starbucks advertisement in the main news section.

- **Hint #1:** The first grid on the right depicted Puzzle #3, with the numbers 1-5 in certain squares. The letters occupying these squares in the completed Puzzle #3, taken in order from 1 to 5, spelled BREAK.
- **Hint #2:** The second grid on the right showed the message “A to B, B to C, C to D, etc.” reading down the main diagonal of Puzzle #2. The message described a substitution code in which each letter was replaced by the letter following it alphabetically. Applying this code to the letters occupying the main diagonal of Puzzle #2 yielded the phrase “twenty-seven down.” The word at 27-Down in Puzzle #2 was TABLE.
- **Hint #3:** The third and fourth grids on the right showed Grid #4 with its square piece missing, and Grid #2 with the missing square placed over its center. If the square piece from Grid #4 was placed over the center of Grid #2, the central entry became HAUNTED.
- **Hint #4:** The empty sets of blanks in the center of the ad were the correct lengths for the answers to the trivia questions from puzzles #1-5. When the five answers were entered, the shaded column spelled FIELD.
- **Hint #5:** The Morse code letters at the bottom of the ad spelled SHADE IN EVERY E, S, AND T IN PUZZLE THREE. Shading in every instance of these three letters in Puzzle #3’s grid spelled the word CAN in shaded blocks.
- **Hint #6:** “Read the first syllables of the long Across entries in Puzzle Five” was written in small text near the bottom of the ad. The four longest Across entries in Puzzle #5 were ESTIMATING, EIGHTY-SIXES, EFFERVESCES and EAGLE SCOUT. The first syllables of these entries all sound like letters: S, A, F, E, spelling SAFE.

The “seventh hint” mentioned in the instructions could be found by individually comparing each square in Puzzle #6 with its corresponding square in March 26’s Sunday New York Times puzzle, appropriately titled “For Purposes of Comparison.” The squares that the two grids shared in common revealed where to “search for the answer”—STARBUCKS DOT COM.

This instruction was meant to be taken very literally: you were supposed to go to [Starbucks.com](https://www.starbucks.com) and enter “the answer” into the search field. This led to a new page that asked for the “magic word.”

Puzzle #1 had a shaded entry across its center that was clued as “The magic word” (WRONG), but the instructions to that puzzle warned you that the word was incorrect, and suggested that you “make some bold changes to it.” These “bold” changes were to be found in Puzzles #1 through #5: each grid contained a single boldfaced number. The answers corresponding to these numbers were FORE, GIANT, AXL, SPIES, and KIND. Each of these entries differed by only one letter from the Down entries crossing the magic word in Puzzle #1—WORE, GRANT, AOL, SPINS, and KING. Replacing these old answers with the “bold” answers changed the magic word from WRONG to FIXED.

After entering the word FIXED and then proving that you’d found all six keywords, the following instructions appeared:

Three of the six keywords form two-word phrases if preceded by word A. The other three keywords form two-word phrases if followed by Word B. To get the final answer, simply combine words A & B.

Word A was COFFEE (coffee BREAK, coffee CAN, coffee TABLE); word B was HOUSE (FIELD house, HAUNTED house, SAFE house). Thus the final answer was COFFEE HOUSE.