Solution: Vocabulary--Searching for Meaning

There are many entries concealed in the word search that Miriam Webster left behind during her crime spree--four "true" categories (one for each of the puzzles in the Language Arts round), and five fakes. Every entry crosses at least one other; this was a deliberate choice to prevent solvers from simply hunting down all of the hidden words and guessing at the answer. What can we say--we like safeguards. :p

The nine hidden lists, and their categories, are as follows:

List One: Pop Divas

-Adele, Aretha (Franklin), Ariana (Grande), Cher, Madonna

List Two: Gemstones

-Amethyst, Iris Agate, Jade, Topaz, Zircon

List Three: Shades of Yellow

-Butter, Canary, Khaki, Lemon, Mustard

List Four: Words in American Horror Story Titles

-Apocalypse, Cult, Hotel, Murder (House), Roanaoke

List Five: Famous Georges

-Costanza, Eliot, Lucas, Patton, Romero, Takei, The Third

List Six: Scientists

-Bohr, Curie, Degrasse Tyson, Euler, Fermat, Lovelace, Planck, Tesla

List Seven: Religious Figures/Founders

-Abraham, Baker Eddy (Mary), Buddha, Confucius, Jesus, Lao-Tzi, Mohammed, Zoroaster

List Eight: Desserts

-Cherries Jubilee, Gelato, Ice Cream, Macaron, Pecan Pie, Tiramisu, Torte, Truffle

List Nine: One-Word Disney Films

-Cinderella, Frozen, Hercules, Mulan, Tarzan

Which categories should you choose? The answers are as follows:

Translation, I WANT TO BELIEVE: Religious Figures ("belief" in a higher power)

Grammar, TURING MACHINE: Scientists (for Alan Turing)

Phonics, SWEET CAROLINE: Desserts ("sweet" treats!)

Literature, BY GEORGE!: Famous Georges (natch)

Solvers should find those entries and highlight the squares where they cross. Doing so will spell the message THE PLACE TO MEET MACBETH. This quote from *Macbeth* appears in Act One, Scene One, wherein the Weird Sisters/Witches exchange the following dialogue:

-Where the place?
-Upon the heath.
-There to meet with Macbeth.

Given the enumeration, the answer to the puzzle is **UPON THE HEATH!** Miriam swiped the entire heath of Scotland for Carmen. How rude.

The completed grid can be found below. The red crossing squares reflect the errata of the puzzle. In the spirit of fairness, we are leaving the grid "as is" to best reflect how solvers the day of BAPHL 21 encountered the puzzle.

BONUS! Because we can't resist a good joke, we had the leftover letters spell the following message:

"Ans--oh, come on, did you actually believe we would use the old 'leftover letters' bit?

Come ON. We may be new at this, but we're not first graders! Hope you're having

fun!...l'm running out of things to write...uh...go BAPHLS?"

		1		1	1		ı		1		1	
Т	L	U	C	A	N	A	R	Y	A	N	\mathbf{s}	Т
E	M	A	Н	A	R	В	A	О	Н	C	A	O
C	О	M	E	Т	\mathbf{S}	Y	Н	Т	Е	M	A	Ι
A	Н	E	R	C	U	L	E	\mathbf{s}	R	E	o	L
L	O	N	R	D	I	D	Y	E	О	U	A	E
E	Т	R	Ι	C	Т	U	F	R	O	\mathbf{Z}	Е	N
V	E	A	E	L	E	Ι	P	N	A	\mathbf{C}	E	P
O	L	L	\mathbf{S}	M	Y	В	E	L	Ι	Ι	A	E
\mathbf{L}	V	E	J	W	O	E	W	Ι	K	Т	О	U
A	L	A	U	В	\mathbf{S}	R	\mathbf{C}	A	Т	U	D	U
O	R	N	В	\mathbf{s}	A	E	Н	O	Т	A	E	Т
Т	E	N	Ι	Н	C	K	N	Т	L	E	О	A
\mathbf{Z}	D	o	L	R	U	E	E	\mathbf{s}	L	A	D	P
Ι	R	D	E	L	L	R	Е	R	N	Е	F	o
Т	U	A	E	E	О	T	V	A	E	R	E	\mathbf{C}
\mathbf{L}	M	M	D	E	Т	Ι	Ι	Т	Т	D	E	A
R	N	A	Т	\mathbf{S}	В	R	Ι	Т	A	\mathbf{C}	D	\mathbf{L}
Т	O	R	Т	E	A	A	О	J	M	E	T	Y
О	\mathbf{S}	R	D	E	M	M	A	Н	O	M	Н	P
J	Y	E	E	О	N	Ι	W	E	U	M	E	\mathbf{s}
A	E	Y	В	Н	E	\mathbf{S}	N	L	G	Ι	T	E
E	E	\mathbf{S}	W	A	\mathbf{C}	U	A	E	R	Т	Н	Т
Н	\mathbf{S}	Ι	U	\mathbf{s}	O	N	L	U	В	U	Ι	Т
A	\mathbf{S}	M	W	\mathbf{S}	\mathbf{S}	A	\mathbf{C}	E	A	R	R	E
L	A	U	N	О	T	M	Т	F	Н	Ι	D	R
L	R	\mathbf{S}	\mathbf{S}	O	A	K	N	Т	Т	N	G	Т
E	G	Т	R	\mathbf{C}	N	A	\mathbf{C}	A	E	О	D	A
R	E	A	A	E	\mathbf{Z}	R	O	N	R	M	\mathbf{S}	K
E	D	R	Н	R	A	В	N	o	A	E	P	E
D	O	D	A	E	U	R	F	Y	О	L	U	I
N	R	Т	E	D	Н	E	U	A	V	L	P	R
Ι	I	N	D	G	F	Т	\mathbf{C}	U	E	N	Ι	I
C	R	H	0	В	R	\mathbf{S}	Ι	R	M	R	U	\mathbf{S}
N	A	N	Ι	U	N	A	U	G	О	Т	U	A
Т	О	F	F	Т	Н	O	\mathbf{S}	Ι	О	N	G	G
\mathbf{S}	Т	F	o	W	R	R	I	P	Т	Е	U	A
Н	L	G	o	В	R	O	A	N	О	K	Е	Т
E	A	P	Н	L	\mathbf{s}	\mathbf{Z}	Ι	R	C	О	N	E