

# Evil Genius Teenage Cubists

## by Dan Katz and Jackie Anderson

The grid can be divided into tetrominoes (matching the ones given below the grid), each of which contains three related items and a fourth unrelated item.

FALDO	CARDIAC	LACHEY	MR. BURNS	MR. SLATE	MAPLE	NIAGARA	ANGEL
YEARLY	NOLTE	MR. GRAHAM	MR. SPACELY	NOLAN RYAN	ELM	OAK	VICTORIA
SNOUT	PROBOSCIS	SCHNOZ	SUPREME	ARROW SHOOTER	PRESENT ADORNER	VIOLIN PLAYER	BEELZEBUB
HEROD	SCOTTIE PIPPEN	DENNIS RODMAN	SANDALS	DISTRICT	SMOKING	LENTIL	GRANDE
ALBERTA	KARNAK	MICHAEL JORDAN	APPELLATE	DEMAND	DRINKING TO EXCESS	VENTI	XEROX
LEAR	THE ONE THAT STAYED HOME	VINOGRADOV	THE ONE THAT HAD NONE	NAIL-BITING	ROGER	CHRISTMAS CANDY	TALL
TUTANKHAMUN	THE ONE THAT WENT TO MARKET	CASHEW	FILBERT	PRINCE PHILIP	MACADAMIA	WALKING AID	SUGAR SOURCE

For each piece, the three related items can all be described by a single word. The unrelated items all start and end with the same letter, suggesting that letter is important. The diagram below the grid suggests combining something short (the letter) with something longer (the descriptive word). If you do this *phonetically*, each letter and word can form another word, which has length equal to the denominator of the fraction next to that piece. The numerator tells which letter to take from the resulting word.

- |   |         |         |   |
|---|---------|---------|---|
| C | aching  | A-KING  | HEROD, LEAR, TUTANKHAMUN (ALBERTA)  |
| A | befalls | B-FALLS | ANGEL, NIAGARA, VICTORIA (BEELZEBUB)  |
| R | arcane  | R-CANE  | CHRISTMAS CANDY, WALKING AID, SUGAR SOURCE (ROGER)  |
| P | peanut  | P-NUT   | CASHEW, FILBERT, MACADAMIA (PRINCE PHILIP)  |
| E | cable   | K-BULL  | SCOTTIE PIPPEN, MICHAEL JORDAN, DENNIS RODMAN (KARNAK)                                    |
| E | scenic  | C-NICK  | FALDO, LACHEY, NOLTE (CARDIAC)  |
| L | elbow   | L-BOW   | VIOLIN PLAYER, PRESENT ADORNER, ARROW SHOOTER (LENTIL)                                    |
| O | escort  | S-COURT | SUPREME, DISTRICT, APPELLATE (SANDALS)  |
| R | entry   | N-TREE  | ELM, OAK, MAPLE (NOLAN RYAN)  |
| E | veto    | V-TOE   | THE ONE THAT STAYED HOME, THE ONE THAT WENT TO MARKET, THE ONE THAT HAD NONE (VINOGRADOV) |

O	emboss	M-BOSS	MR. SLATE, MR. SPACELY, MR. BURNS (MR. GRAHAM)
C	excise	X-SIZE	TALL, GRANDE, VENTI (XEROX)
O	winos	Y-NOSE	PROBOSCIS, SCHNOZ, SNOUT (YEARLY)
D	device	D-VICE	EXCESSIVE DRINKING, NAIL-BITING, SMOKING (DEMAND)

Together, the extracted letters spell CARP EEL OREO COD. Three of these are FISH and the other starts and ends with the letter O, so interpreting this foursome the same way as the others gives the answer, **OAFISH**.

By the way, in case you're wondering, the title of the puzzle comes from four words that begin phonetically with four of the letters we didn't end up using (E, G, T, and Q).