

SVVeet Nothings

by Ucaoimhu

The subject of this puzzle is something that can go into V-shaped cones. Specifically:

(1) For each pair of Vs in the same grid row, mark off the sequence of squares between them. Each clue whose answer has at least one V contains an extra word, which must be deleted before solving; where the extra word has n letters, circle the n th letter in the marked-off sequence for *each* V in the answer. The circled letters all occur in one singular US name for this puzzle's subject.

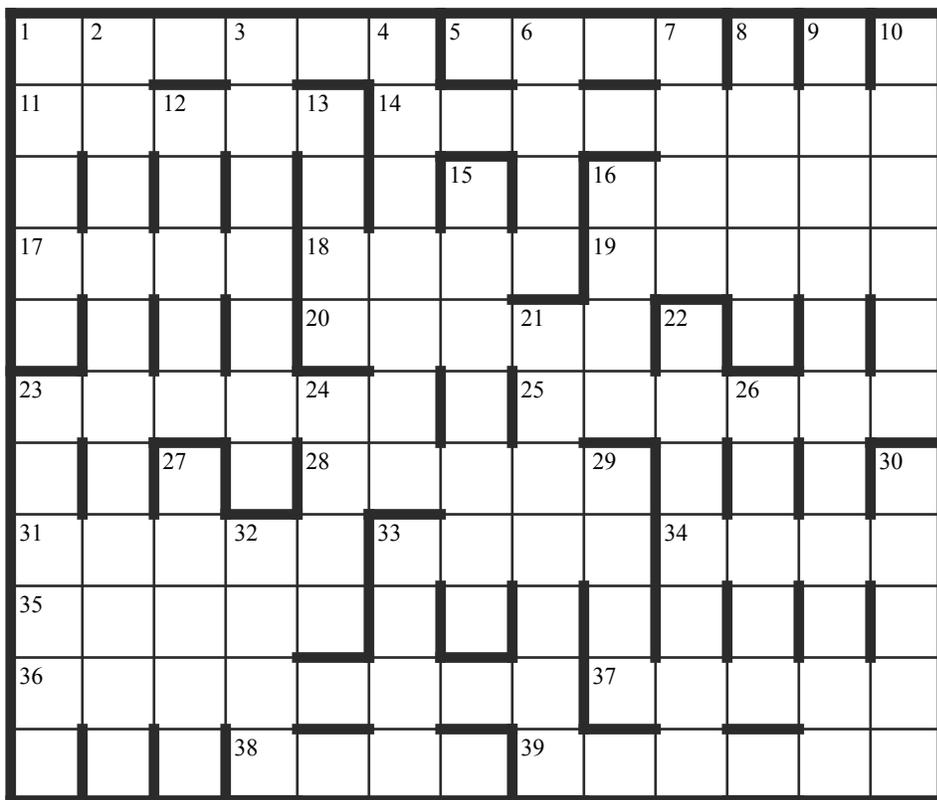
(2) In the sequences from (1), you can replace the uncircled letters with new letters to form an ordered set of six US items that can all be informally called by a different singular US name for the subject.

(3) The extra words as per (1) from Across clues, and those from Down clues, will give cryptic clues for the names from (1) and (2), respectively. There are also eight other clues, for answers containing *no* Vs, that also contain extra words; these words will form a cryptic clue for a two-word singular UK name for the subject.

(4) Where the p th grid column is the only one that intersects all the items from (2), take the p th letter of every clue not used in (1), (2), or (3); these will spell out a plural (and un-singularizable) UK name for the subject, which also applies to all the letters from the items from (2) in the p th column. Carefully log all these letters in an appropriate way to get a sequence of numbers, and write this numeric sequence over and over next to the clues not used in (1), (2), and (3). If the number next to a clue is q , take the q th letter from the *end* of the clue; all these letters will spell out one final message containing a fifth name, for another singular subject entirely.

ACROSS

1. Kevin's assuming gold, violet, and purple hues scatter (6)
5. Suriname's king is a backer of Charles X (4)
11. Dido heard dancer Miller imitate certain watches (5)
14. Just under six lines of verse say "Submerge cart" (8)
16. Smooth French and German from an English county (5)
17. Fey, in *Mean Girls*, can head to Aspen (4)
18. Cookie rocks leaders with metal hoop (4)
19. A wordsmith named Calvino Alito is out of shape (5)
20. To show pride, spun 50-lek ink bottles left in Vlorë (5)
23. Dog ordered, heartlessly, to obstruct someone near Wałbrzych (6)
25. Copies of an epic poem Sid & Ali made shabby (6)
28. Having too much noise interrupting Go Fish, when taking a turn (5)
31. That dude who wrote *The Invisible Man-Weeks* takes wing (5)
33. Ogle someone in the House of Lords (4)
34. An Alaskan city creature that's fantastic, as stated (4)



35. Bear beside out-of-pitch quartet of rovers (5)
36. Drug no pirate that's unworthy (8)
37. Stuff pertaining to collar with wearer (5)
38. Deflect Victor with a poetic term for *always active* (4)
39. Anne Klein — lacking an RV in Spain — is exhibiting anxiety (6)

DOWN

1. Satirizing a show on Fox about Sanders's home block (3 2)
2. Some having prybar to topple Troy and to fight penury (11)
3. Composer Antonio improperly made "la" that vivid (7)
4. Tops overlaid with mufflers son cut (7)
6. Roosevelt refashioned iron box on an obi (4)
7. A lardlike substance coming from Grafton on Tuesday (4)
8. Mentioned indentation in the middle of jam boats (5)
9. Icing six old stories about the first human musician's instrument (5 1'5)
10. Snow that no one can stand is a drag (6)
12. Dance often featuring a rose and orange and drink and ring (5)
13. Toast dessert company adequately (4)
15. Ne'er having to become less lively or less moneyed (7)
16. Herb overturned little top (4)
21. Circumscribe 'em with cloth-armored players up front (7)
22. Family not far from *Topper* actor Greg (7)
23. Tree squirrel's foot touches foot of basenji (6)
24. Mislays the Spanish emperor's head (4)
26. Shun egg-eating, somersaulting Singer machines (5)
27. Splendor chiefly gracing Romeo embraced by actress Myrna (5)
29. Grand range I quietly hold on to (4)
30. *Scream* actress moves Campbell's snow fields (5)
32. Long verses about you beginning to observe a Ukrainian city (1'3)
33. Rest supporting power move by Nureyev (4)