

**2020 - BONUS PUZZLE NO 3**

**TEN VARIATIONS**

Thank you for your interest in this, the third Bonus Puzzle I have set to entertain my puzzlers during the time of the pandemic and to provide a challenge during periods of lockdown. In contrast to my Christmas Puzzles the aim is not to raise money for charities, though I have been grateful to those of you who have sent me a cheque or made a donation by bank transfer (SORT CODE: 40-28-12, ACC NO: 51495550, REFERENCE: Your postcode). Instead I hope that if you have enjoyed these Bonus Puzzles you will be generous with your donation for the Christmas entry.

This puzzle was originally set for Christmas 1993 and has, as a theme, different combinations of the letters E, N and T. The puzzle is made up of 40 clues in which punctuation and context cannot be relied upon to be helpful. Each clue leads to three words which form the answers. Each word contains the consecutive letters ENT in some order. The number of letters to be found for each word is indicated by dashes. An example could be as given below:-

	A diet / of sugar / and pepper.	
----- ENT	---- TEN --	--- ENT _

The answers being PARLIAMENT (remember the Diet of Worms?), SWEETENER and PIMENTO, although with markers to show where each definition begins and ends it is a little easier than the actual puzzle.

To help you in your search for the 'book' answers you are given the additional information that the letters of the alphabet which provide the initial letters of the 120 words are to be found in the following numbers.

A-7, B-6, C-12, D-6, E-7, F-6, G-6, H-2, I-7, J-1, K-3,  
L-6, M-6, N-2, O-3, P-10, Q-1, R-3, S-8, T-9, V-6, W-3.

All words, except for 14 proper nouns, are in Chambers – this puzzle was set in the days when I was less rigorous about using foreign names so I will allow alternative spellings. There are no hyphenated words and all the answers are different. Part marks will be deducted for incorrect spellings and I shall, as usual, be reasonable in allowing alternative words to those I am expecting you to find. There are a few elusive words to provide a challenge to everyone.

**DISTRIBUTION TO FRIENDS**

I am happy for you to pass on copies of the Puzzle to friends or relatives – do encourage them to register to receive a copy of the Christmas Puzzle, which will be issued on 8 December.

I do hope you are all staying safe during this strage time. I will send a copy of the Book Answers in mid-August by which time, hopefully, we will be less desperate for challenges with which to pass the time. Depending on the circumstances this may be the last of the Bonus Puzzles this year.

**TEN VARIATIONS**

- 1) An OT book title was hidden...  
\_\_\_ ENT \_\_\_\_\_                      \_\_\_ NET                      \_\_\_ TEN \_
- 2) ...in the stronghold of an oddball military officer...  
\_\_\_ TNE \_\_                      \_\_\_ ENT \_\_\_                      \_\_\_ TEN \_\_\_
- 3) ...on the hundredth anniversary of the coming of shorthand.  
\_\_\_ NTE \_\_\_\_\_                      \_\_\_ ENT                      \_ TEN \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) Her Emma's dwelling places included houses of Lancaster and York;...  
\_\_\_ TEN                      \_\_\_ ENT \_                      \_\_\_\_\_ NET \_
- 5) ...the scullery is often in a mess and...  
\_\_\_\_\_ NET \_\_                      \_\_\_\_\_ ENT \_\_                      \_\_\_ NTE \_\_
- 6) ...little baskets are stained with condiment.  
\_\_\_ NET \_                      \_\_\_ NTE \_                      \_\_\_ TNE \_
- 7) Van Gogh's companion conducted the promenaders, who had...  
\_\_\_ ENT                      \_\_\_ TNE \_                      \_\_\_ ENT
- 8) ...the cheek to unravel the score of...  
\_\_\_\_\_ NTE \_\_                      \_\_\_ ENT \_\_\_\_\_                      \_\_\_ ENT \_
- 9) ...the light song, written ~1600 by African bushmen from the south-west.  
\_\_\_\_\_ NET                      \_\_\_ ENT \_\_\_                      \_\_\_\_\_ ENT
- 10) The Nobel Prizewinner was scornful of the Pope...  
\_\_\_ TEN \_\_\_\_\_                      \_\_\_ NTE \_\_\_\_\_                      \_\_\_\_\_ ENT
- 11) ...he met on the immoral green, famous for runaways.  
\_\_\_\_\_ NTE \_\_\_                      \_\_\_ ENT \_\_\_\_\_                      \_\_\_ ETN \_
- 12) The seraphic doctor is a truant from Alcatraz.  
\_\_\_\_\_ ENT \_\_\_                      \_\_\_ NTE \_                      \_\_\_ TEN \_\_\_\_\_
- 13) L Christie's purpose when troubled by the wind...  
\_\_\_ NTE \_                      \_\_\_ TEN \_\_\_\_\_                      \_\_\_\_\_ ENT
- 14) ...is to stretch out moderately slowly then, running with a map and compass,...  
\_\_\_ TEN \_                      \_\_\_ NTE                      \_\_\_ NTE \_\_\_\_\_
- 15) ...to offer to sketch a lake in London.  
\_\_\_ NTE \_\_                      \_\_\_ NET \_\_                      \_\_\_ ENT \_\_\_
- 16) The Mexican (who had his revenge?) sustained his attraction...  
\_\_\_ NTE \_\_\_\_\_                      \_\_\_ TEN \_\_\_                      \_\_\_ NET \_\_\_
- 17) ...at the same time as Tc linked together...  
\_\_\_ NTE \_\_\_\_\_                      \_\_\_ NET \_\_\_\_\_                      \_\_\_ TEN \_\_\_\_\_
- 18) ...the brilliance of the impressionist puppet and...  
\_\_\_\_\_ TNE \_\_                      \_\_\_ NET                      \_\_\_\_\_ NET \_\_
- 19) ...the showy whirling dance of the Torah.  
\_\_\_ ENT \_\_\_\_\_                      \_\_\_ NTE \_\_\_                      \_ ENT \_\_\_\_\_
- 20) This generous keepsake from a 49er's daughter is...  
\_\_\_ NTE \_\_\_                      \_\_\_ ENT \_                      \_\_\_ ENT \_\_\_

- 21) ...a testimony to the moving, old...  
 \_\_\_ TNE \_\_\_                      \_\_\_ NET \_\_\_                      \_\_\_ ENT
- 22) ...poem securely fixed to the aerial.  
 \_\_\_ NET                              \_\_\_ TEN \_\_\_                      \_ NTE \_\_\_
- 23) India's batting prodigy got through a bottle from...  
 TEN \_\_\_\_\_                      \_\_\_ NET \_\_\_\_\_                      \_\_\_ NTE \_
- 24) ...the wine merchant on devising what Diana did with...  
 \_\_\_ TNE \_                              \_\_\_ ENT \_\_\_                      \_\_\_ NTE \_
- 25) ...ship's ballast this decade. It was insanity!  
 \_ ENT \_\_\_\_\_                      \_\_\_ NET \_\_\_                      \_\_\_ ENT \_\_\_
- 26) By the science of Mendel, King Amenophis IV will...  
 \_\_\_ NET \_\_\_                              \_\_\_\_\_ TEN                      \_\_\_\_\_ ENT
- 27) ...secure the destination of the landlord of the Tabard Inn, lying between Lundy and Irish Sea.  
 \_\_\_\_\_ NTE \_                      \_\_\_ NTE \_\_\_\_\_                      \_\_\_ TNE \_
- 28) It is rash when questioning where one might see 'Miss Saigon' ...  
 \_\_\_\_\_ ENT                              \_ NTE \_\_\_\_\_                      \_\_\_ ETN \_\_\_
- 29) ...to pay attention to a non-Jewish dabbler in the arts.  
 \_\_\_ TEN                              \_ ENT \_\_\_                              \_\_\_\_\_ NTE
- 30) The well-bred small Spanish horse went into...  
 \_\_\_ NTE \_\_\_                              \_\_\_ NET                              \_ NTE \_\_\_
- 31) ...the blue road next to the jail with enough rope...  
 \_ ENT \_\_\_\_\_                              \_\_\_\_\_ ENT                              \_\_\_ NTE \_
- 32) ...for a girl coming out of the Council of Trent in a furniture van...  
 \_\_\_\_\_ NTE                              \_\_\_\_\_ ENT \_\_\_                              \_\_\_ NTE \_\_\_\_\_
- 33) ...to calm a whole number of folk from Albert Square who were...  
 \_\_\_\_\_ TEN                              \_ NTE \_\_\_                              \_\_\_ TEN \_\_\_\_\_
- 34) ...deliberately classified as a Council of Anglo-Saxon nobles.  
 \_\_\_ ENT \_\_\_\_\_                              \_\_\_\_\_ ENT \_\_\_                              \_\_\_ TEN \_\_\_\_\_
- 35) The guardian angels, the most outspoken in heaven,...  
 \_\_\_\_\_ NTE \_                              \_\_\_ NTE \_\_\_                              \_\_\_\_\_ ENT
- 36) ...imparted knowledge to the strict disciplinarian in the quilt.  
 \_\_\_\_\_ TEN \_\_\_                              \_\_\_\_\_ NET                              \_\_\_ NTE \_\_\_\_\_
- 37) The connoisseur, a man invested with full power and skill,...  
 \_\_\_\_\_ NTE                              \_\_\_\_\_ TEN \_\_\_\_\_                              \_\_\_ TNE \_\_\_
- 38) ...was first up in 1953; and when a penguin, gnawing...  
 TEN \_\_\_\_\_                              \_ ENT \_\_\_                              \_\_\_ ENT
- 39) ...the decaying timber over a door sang 'Be my Baby' eleven years later...  
 \_\_\_ TEN                              \_\_\_ NTE \_                              \_\_\_ NET \_\_\_
- 40) ...a game boy penned 'Conscience as a guide to future action.  
 \_\_\_ NTE \_\_\_                              \_\_\_\_\_ TEN                              \_\_\_ NTE \_\_\_\_\_