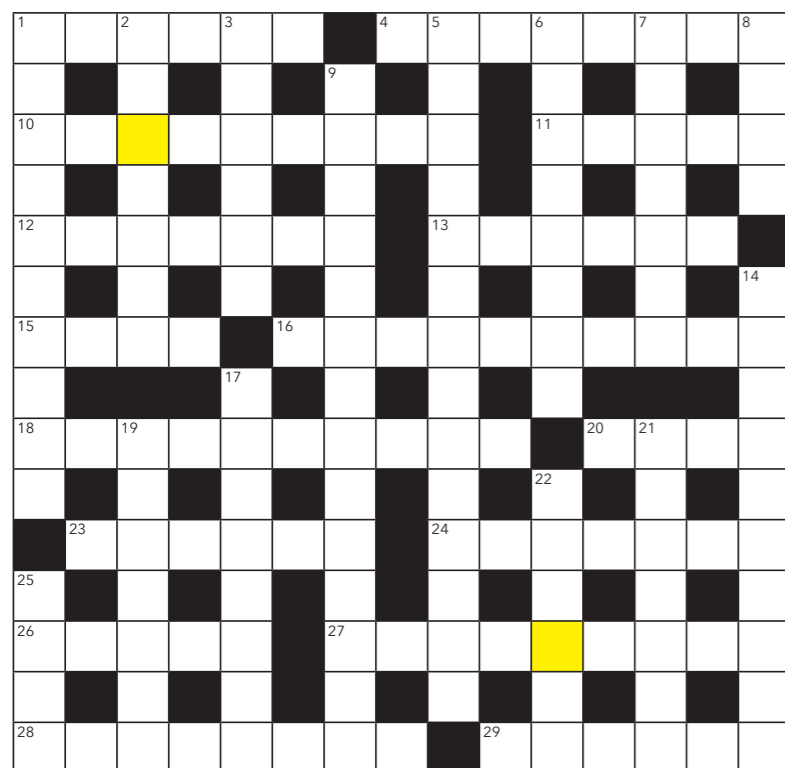
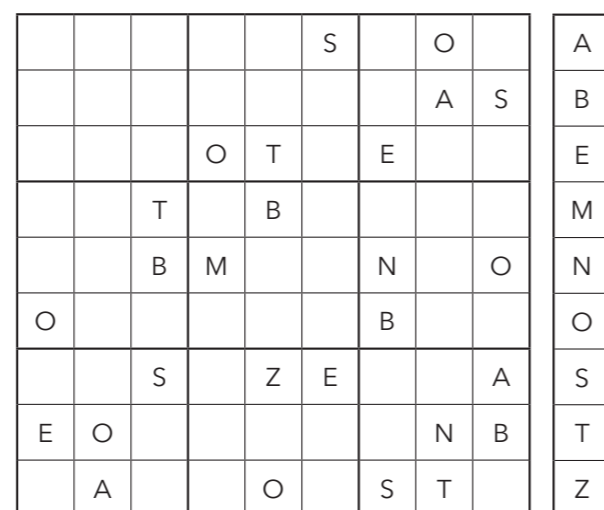


May 2026 crossword



May 2026 wordoku



Solve this wordoku in the same way as a sudoku with letters instead of numbers (each of the nine letters in each row, column and nine-square cell). Once solved, one of the overall diagonals can be rearranged to give the name of a popular material in solar cell technology.

Win £50 with GPE Scientific

This is the penultimate puzzle in our special competition. Collect the letters in yellow squares to find the chemistry term hidden throughout January-June's cryptic crosswords and you could win one of ten £50 prizes. Find all of the crosswords and full details of how to enter at chemistryworld.com/puzzles.

Cryptic

Across

- Broadcasted crude language finally cut back (6)
- Man of steel seems right about edges of blade (8)
- Element found in most brine, perhaps? (9)
- Gives out new times (5)
- All extremely upset about Foreign Office outcome (7)
- Latent sort of ability (6)
- Doesn't take away any discarded dustbin scraps to begin with (4)
- Muriel left out a rice concoction for the Nobel scientist (5, 5)
- Element discoverer kinda odd about actinium (3, 7)
- Takes advantage of Sue's confusion (4)
- Recover secure order (6)
- Offer Victor a dance arrangement (7)
- Wise men developed first ever photo (5)
- Sappers designing nice greens without Charlie (9)
- Steel men making parts for kettles (8)
- See 6 Down

Down

- Bolivian border farmer ordered this vitamin (10)
- Bored doctor lied about learner (7)
- Something universal found in Cuzco's mosaics (6)
- Utilities bill which could well be shocking? (8, 6)
- 29 Across Super sleuth restated 'Hemlock? Her loss!' (8, 6)
- See 25 Down
- Corrosion spotted in returning test surface (4)
- Conmen prattled about the building material (8, 6)
- Reconsiders with some more asses escaping (10)
- Form of 9 down on criminal island? (8)
- Mean to have raged a little (7)
- Ray bans me wearing uniform abroad (7)
- Nevertheless held in Steven's outhouse (4, 2)
- 7 Down I transmute 28 Across with iridium for the radiochemist (4, 7)

Quick

Across

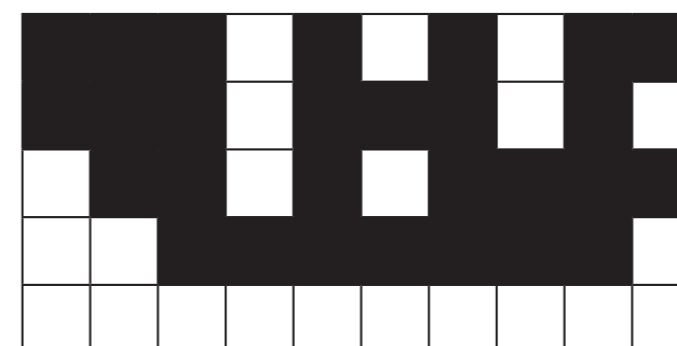
- Steroid-like biomarker (6)
- Toxic salts containing the -C≡N group (8)
- German physicist remembered in a type of spectroscopy (9)
- Fulcrum (5)
- Italian astronomer, artist and physicist (7)
- C₈H₁₈ (6)
- Space agency responsible for the Apollo missions (acronym) (4)
- Poisons found in peanuts infected with the fungus *Aspergillus flavus* (10)
- Not completely separated (as in chromatography peaks) (10)
- Capable (4)
- Gold-coloured alloy of copper, zinc and tin used for ornamental purposes (6)
- Smallest bone in the human body (7)
- African quadruped related to the giraffe (5)
- _____ number, *i* the square root of minus one (9)
- Hand out, like a pharmacist (8)
- Enzyme involved in phosphorylation (6)

Down

- Of the same kind (10)
- Grinding objects used with mortars (7)
- A cloud of gas and dust in space (6)
- Namesake of element 118 (4, 10)
- C₁₀H₇OH (8)
- Italian Renaissance polymath (2, 5)
- Groups (4)
- German physicist and one of the founders of thermodynamics (6, 8)
- Bone spur (10)
- Cinnamon stone (8)
- Studies again (7)
- _____ McClintock, American scientist and Nobel Prize winner (7)
- _____ Atoll, nuclear weapons testing site (6)
- Precious metal (4)

May 2026 elements grid

For this puzzle, use the clues to assign each column of the grid a unique element symbol (with T standing for tritium), so that each row spells out a solution to its own clue, and the final row includes all eight symbols.



Clues:

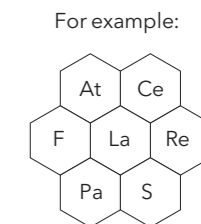
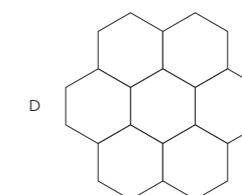
- Hindu deity (5)
- Country (4)
- Discover (4)
- Plant (4)
- German physicist, inventor and Nobel laureate (9, 5)

May 2026 coronene puzzle

Place each of the seven elemental symbols in one hexagon of coronene to spell three words, one horizontally and two diagonally. Plural words are allowed, but you may not switch the order of the letter in any two-letter symbols (eg, sodium must be Na, not aN). The four symbols in the central hexagon of each of this month's coronenes can be combined to spell out the name of a triglyceride.

Elements:

- A. Al, Ba, In, Ne, S, Si, Ts B. As, At, Nd, Ra, Rn, S, Te C. Ar, Fe, He, Ho, S, Ts, Y D. Am, Dy, Er, Es, F, In, W



For example: Answers: Atlas Flare Palace

Entry form

There are four prize puzzles on this page: cryptic crossword, quick crossword, wordoku and coronene. For each puzzle, a winner will be selected from all the correct entries received and awarded a £25 UK book voucher.

You can enter any or all of the prize draws, but each entrant is only eligible to win one of the individual puzzle prizes each month.

Please enter your details below and email a scan or photograph of this page with your completed entries to us by **22 May 2026**. The winners of this month's puzzles will be published online at chemistryworld.com at the beginning of May, along with the solutions.

Email: chemistryworld@rsc.org

Name

Address

Participants are advised that any personal information supplied will be processed in connection with this competition and only in accordance with our privacy statement (www.chemistryworld.com/privacy).

GPE Scientific is your specialist provider of chemistry and life science equipment. Our technical specialists visit labs across the UK and Ireland to understand your science and recommend the right equipment for your research, while our globally supplied J Young® air-free chemistry apparatus is designed and manufactured in-house.

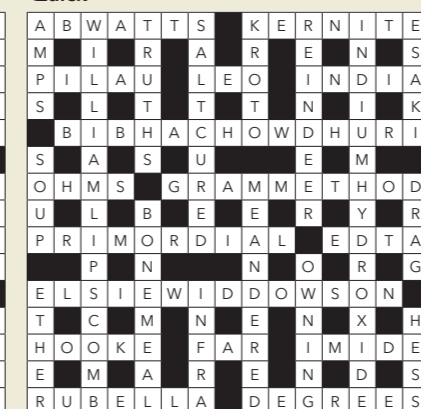


April 2026 solutions and winners

Cryptic



Quick



Wordoku

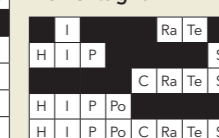
The US chemist specialising in inorganic and organometallic chemistry was (Jacqueline KIPLINGER).

Coronene puzzle

- Esker, Inks, Okra
- Nerdy, Sierra, Verse
- Baths, Coati, Satin
- Hints, Sink, Winds

The protein running across is Keratin.

Elements grid



March winners

- Coronene**
Andrzej Zieleniewski
Salisbury, UK
- Wordoku**
Roslyn Shapland
Ilkeston, UK
- Cryptic crossword**
Kevin Bailey
Altrincham, UK
- Quick crossword**
Peter Ham
Cardiff, UK