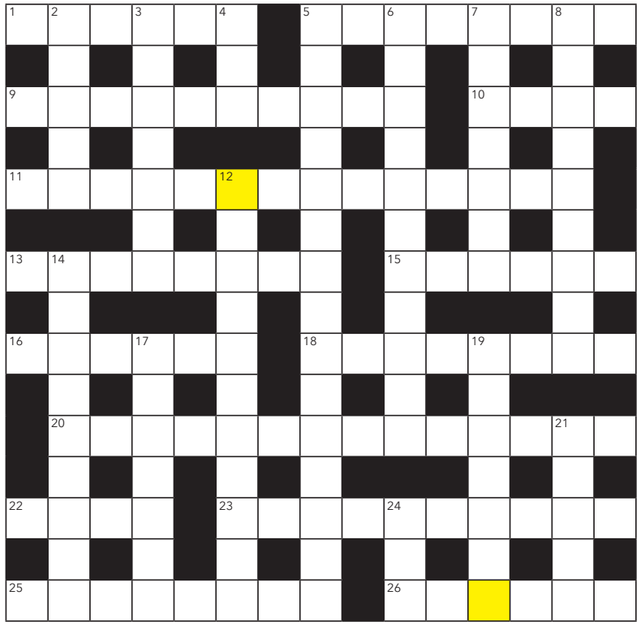
June 2026 crossword



June 2026 wordoku

	S		I	T	N			
				L	M		A	N
A	T				C	E		
		S				M		
		E	L				T	C
L	C		N	M				
			S	A	T		I	

A
C
E
I
L
M
N
S
T

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 chemistry Nobel Prize Winner.

Win £50 with GPE Scientific

This is the final 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

1 Alice capable but something very cold inside (6)
5 Managed extremely studious choral students (8)
9 Run article about clusters perhaps? (10)
10 Mean sort of thing to call someone! (4)
11 A deathly letter about a toxic compound (10, 4)
13 Enzyme working in both muscular extremities (8)
15 Maybe sank as in a state (6)
16 Regulation redesigned the old tungsten lab (6)
18 Wild bees into rubbers (8)
20 Chemist borrowed toward treatment (6, 8)
22 Catch the inventor (4)
23 Mom rallies around for chemical phenomenon (10)
25 On order I left fickle spy with something small (8)
26 Not all cars in Europe have gas (6)

Down

2 Dog that is following the radiochemist (5)
3 I break bronco with spirit (3, 4)
4 Prince even ignored the photo (3)
5 Hope weakest link stirred the chemist (9, 6)
6 Chemist right to look hard abroad (6, 5)
7 Doctor left in an extremely noble society (7)
8 Pole ran away from mixed-up Mediterranean remedy (9)
12 Joint musical can be hard work! (5, 6)
14 Hardy heel designed for sailor (9)
17 Surprisingly solid bismuth drives (7)
19 Entering fancy drawings lacking gravity (7)
21 Some cultures into amber (5)
24 Initial memories of an old bird (3)

Quick

Across

1 Quadrupeds related to giraffes (6)
5 Nobel-prize winning physicist who wrote a book on the early universe, *The First Three Minutes* (8)
9 Pigment used since antiquity, for example in Chinese porcelain and stained glass (6, 4)
10 Essential _____ are concentrated plant extracts used in aromatherapy (4)
11 Nobel-prize winning physicist who determined *e* and *h* accurately for the first time (6, 8)
13 Transition metal named after the Greek word for colour (8)
15 The odour of arsine gas is likened to this kitchen staple (6)
16 Vitamin B3 (6)
18 Illustrations on glass produced by using hydrofluoric acid (8)
20 Water glass (6, 8)
22 Points on a curve (4)
23 Laboratory high temperature oven used to combust samples, leaving only the inorganic residue (3, 7)
25 Another name for an ovum or sperm (4, 4)
26 The 'F' in FRSC (6)

Down

2 Nobel-prize winning chemist and co-discoverer of fullerenes (5)
3 Dummy drug (7)
4 Group (3)
5 Astronomer who discovered Uranus (7, 8)
6 Based on a set of beliefs or ideas (11)
7 Beta-_____ , a medication used to manage abnormal heart rhythms (7)
8 Giving in (9)
12 Survey (land) using trig points (11)
14 Ball of ice formed during thunderstorms (9)
17 Toxic transition metal whose yellow pigment was used by many artists, including Vincent Van Gogh in his famous 'Sunflowers' painting (7)
19 Nickel-chromium superalloy used for aerospace, nuclear reactors and chemical processing industries (7)
21 _____ Brahe, Danish astronomer (5)
24 Acronym referring to a range of radio frequencies between 300 MHz and 3 GHz (3)

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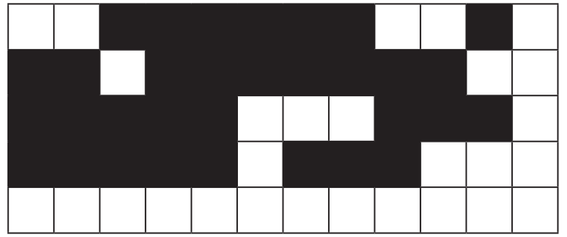
June 2026 elements grid

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 twelve symbols.

Ar	B	Ba	C	Cl	I	K	Mc	N	O	Ra	T



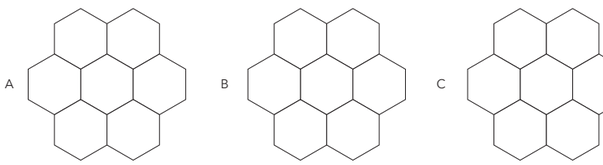
Clues:
1 Hungarian composer (6)
2 Support (4)
3 Prison (5)
4 Timepiece (5)
5 US cytogeneticist and Nobel laureate (7, 10)

June 2026 coronene puzzle

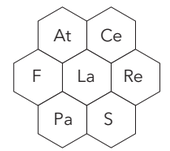
Place each of the seven elemental symbols in one hexagon of coronene to spell three words, one horizontally and two diagonally. Plural words are allowed, but you may not switch the order of the letter in any two-letter symbols (eg, sodium must be Na, not aN). The four symbols in the central hexagon of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

Elements:

A. Al, Ce, Es, Li, Po, S, Ts
B. Er, Es, Ga, La, Os, Pa, Th
C. Ar, As, In, K, P, S, Ti
D. Ca, Es, Ge, O, Pa, S, Y



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 **19 June 2026**. The winners of this month's puzzles will be published online at chemistryworld.com at the beginning of July, 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).

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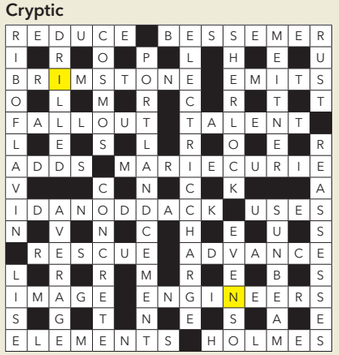
May 2026 solutions and winners

Cryptic



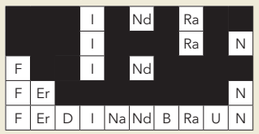
Quick

Wordoku
The herbicide for control of broad-leaf weeds (BENTAZONE)

Coronene puzzle
A. Basin, Nests, Sisal
B. Astern, Attend, Rates
C. Fears, Hearts, Hoary
D. Amines, Finer, Windy

The triglyceride running across is Stearin

Elements grid



May winners

Coronene
Alan Bodley
Orpington

Wordoku
Mark Nichols
Rugby

Cryptic crossword
Roslyn Shapland
Ilkeston

Quick crossword
Keith Simmonds
Dartford