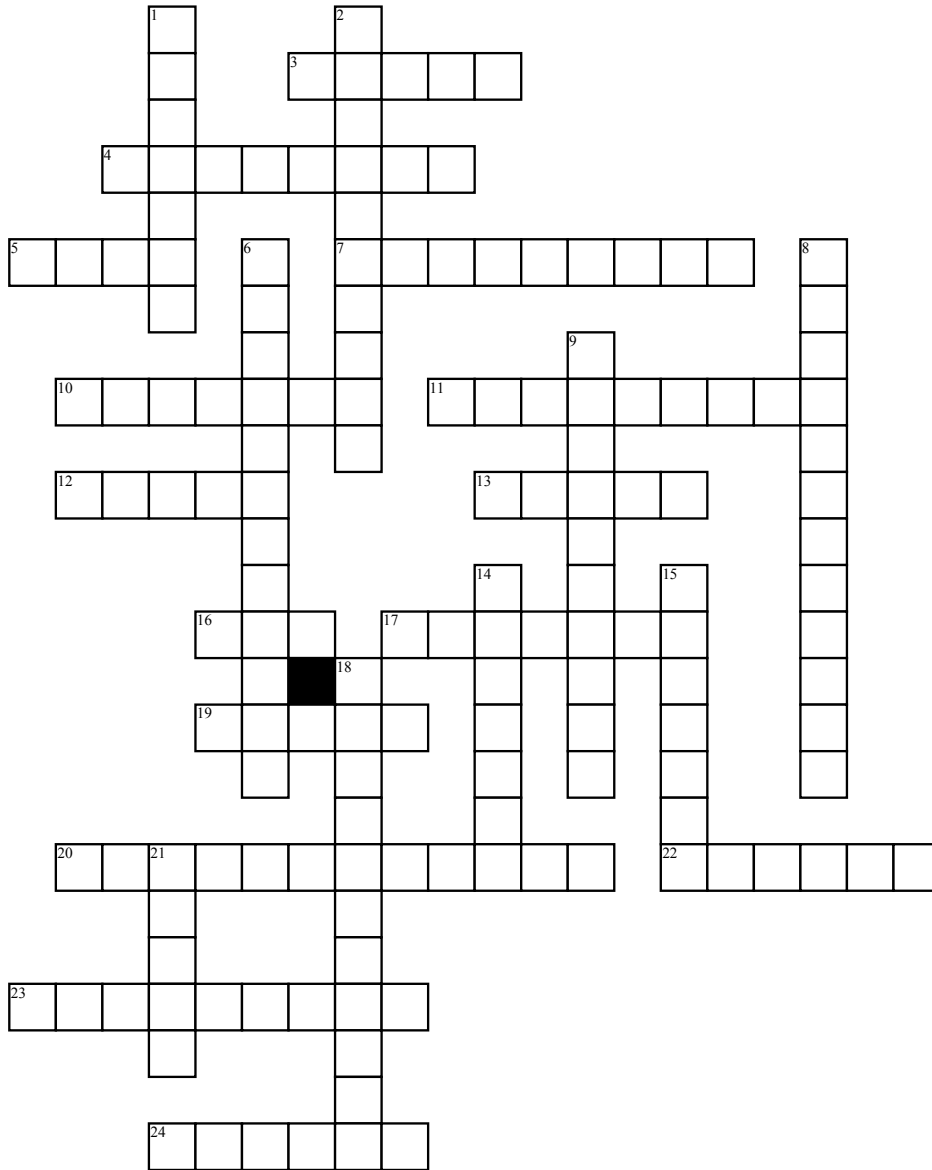


For Rob from Henry



Across

- 3.** Poke around unsuccessfully at first, becoming triumphant (5)
4. Paul's partner is attempting no end to show creative skill (8)
5. Conserve South American victory (4)
7. Fellow performer joins me for initial charity appearance for country (5,4)
10. Most important prince sleeps regularly in err (7)
11. Healthy sounding pudding is nutty? (9)
12. Rely on Dracula? (5)
13. Reversal of closure about hospital is needed (2,5)
16. Clean up part of magnum opus (3)
17. Big storm coming shortly after the start of the week (7)

- 19.** Mobile network operator – Romeo, that is – seems unnerving (5)
20. Determined on the outside, conservative sister inwardly blows hot and cold (12)
22. Technical area to be excavated? (3,3)
23. Endless entrance with short girl looks fragile (9)
24. Country at the beginning of the end? (6)

Down

- 1.** Stranger is terribly rewired (7)
2. One is trapped by shifty character, perhaps a snow jumper? (6,4)
6. Love no German, Theo had five in Spain expecting (3,2,3,4)
8. Man to meet local government in city (12)
9. Other half of family music duo (10)

- 14.** Scrambled main with brittle snack outside will make one come alive (7)
15. Busy betrothed (7)
18. Mission impossible: I must intercept Nazi police twice, meeting backwards private investigator face-to-face to apprehend runner (11)
21. Restrain vet? (5)