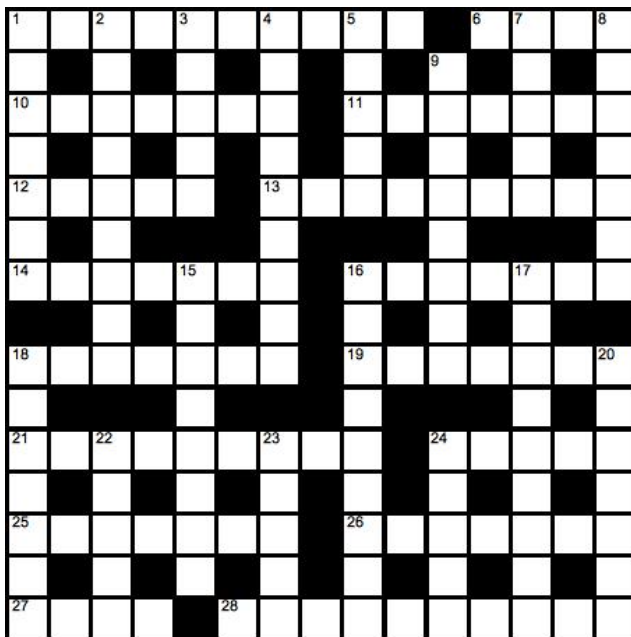


## GENIUS NO.149



### ACROSS

- 1 What you must do to make former partner go? Quite the opposite! (5,2,3)
- 6 Take no part in guide to strip clubs (4)
- 10 Time in drunken bender, after which one cannot go on (7)
- 11 Artificial life wants a new beginning (7)
- 12 Juicy items in American tabloids circulated without any legal objections, initially (5)
- 13 One's said to drive badly while drinking case of vodka with husband (9)
- 14 Repeating tedious speech always disrupts (7)
- 16 Wife experiencing thrilling feeling on purpose (7)
- 18 Cake found in middle of floor covered in dog hair? (7)
- 19 Uncertainty surrounds partners' games, love notwithstanding (7)
- 21 Popular kind of maths cut the odds, honestly! (9)
- 24 Fall, ignoring the boundaries of headland (5)
- 25 It's established practice to have something charged on incomplete transactions (7)
- 26 Surprisingly civil or horribly bitter? (7)
- 27 Attempts to get better result in crowd quietly melting away (4)
- 28 Hormone factory is winding up angry lad (10)

### Instructions

The solution to 1 across is normal. All the other across solutions must be modified as per 1 across before entry in the grid. These entries are not real words. Both the word play in these clues and their letter counts relate to the required entries. All the down solutions are normal.

Deadline for entries is 23:59 GMT on Saturday 5 December. You need to register once and then sign in to theguardian.com to enter our online competition for a £100 monthly prize.

### DOWN

- 1 Delicacy shown by family member taking a step back in the first place (7)
- 2 Workforce repeatedly accepts board's conclusion, then stops at reform (9)
- 3 Impossible odds? Yes and no (5)
- 4 Result of periodic fluctuations in current and supply from the mains (9)
- 5 Perhaps John's content hearing solver is at home (5)
- 7 Dishonour of political leader's departure from platform (5)
- 8 Occupation hollowed out the French town (7)
- 9 Employees' pay rise is reviewed and, unfortunately, overturned (8)
- 15 Articles about Jersey soldier's defence (8)
- 16 Any cuts essentially must follow source of consumer advice (9)
- 17 Irregular ultimately swaps sides and becomes ... irregular! (9)
- 18 Bookmaker's runner scratching either second or first place (7)
- 20 Limp holding up detective missing end part of leg (7)
- 22 Singer's requirement for perfect pitch? (5)
- 23 Ballet movement to start with third position transferring to fifth (5)
- 24 Studying part of the Odyssey in Greek (5)