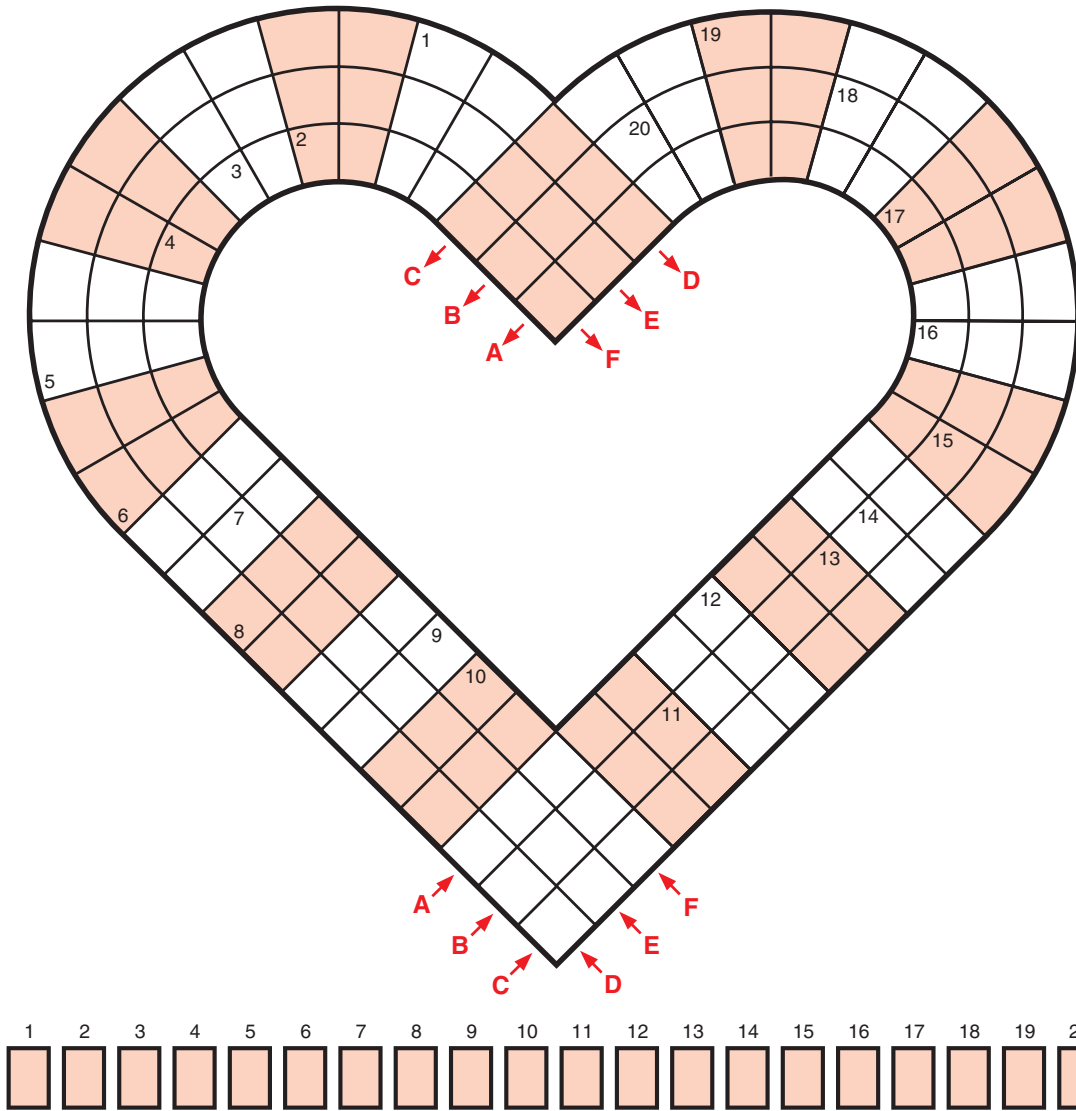


VALENTINE RIDDLE

If you love a hearty challenge, you've come to the right page! The Contours answers (A to F) start from the bottom of our heart, run up each side in the directions indicated by the arrows, and meet at the top; clues are presented in order. The Block answers (1 to 20) are all seven-letter words or phrases; however, before you place them in the blocks (the pink and white shaded areas), you must delete one letter. Enter the Block answers either clockwise (+) or counterclockwise (-) as indicated. When you're finished, the deleted letters from the Block answers, read in order, will spell out a question. That question, if read carefully enough, will answer itself.



CONTOURS

- A** • Greek goddess of love
 • Right-hand woman
 • Helping dad with the dishes
 • On the ____ (recovering)
 • Russian-born author Rand
- B** • Liquid Plum'r target
 • John Dillinger's boys
 • Machu Picchu discoverer Bingham
 • Tony Blair's street
 • Booker Prize winner Gordimer
- C** • Green eggs and ham profferer: 3 wds.
 • Airheaded
 • Pit stop for thirsty gunslingers
 • Seeks redress in court
 • Two-legged stand
- D** • Act like a proper monster
 • *Ghostbusters* goo

- Barney's best buddy in *Bedrock*
 - Silent tantrum
 - Tend to a white sauce
 - Sight-related suffix
- E** • Tijuana Brass boss Herb
 • Hurried: 3 wds.
 • Physicist Louis with a 1970 Nobel
 • Superstar Celine
 • Ivory's partner
- F** • Hudson's largest tributary
 • Groovy guy's counterpart
 • Eliel's son
 • Nationalist China
 • Sort of oldie

BLOCKS

- 1** *The West Wing* actor: 2 wds. (+)
2 What volunteers work for (+)

- 3** Wasp-____ (hourglass-shaped) (-)
4 Alitalia or Avianca, e.g. (-)
5 Indicates (-)
6 Puts back on the payroll (+)
7 Said "Yes...NOT!" (+)
8 Word with springs or spirits (-)
9 '80s *Ladies* country star: 3 wds. (+)
10 Fence-sitter (+)
11 Tbilisi's republic (-)
12 Ugandan despot: 2 wds. (-)
13 Big name in surf gear: 2 wds. (+)
14 Lack o' motion (-)
15 Conscience-stricken (-)
16 Got all slobbery (+)
17 Not at all: 3 wds. (+)
18 Giving TLC (+)
19 Ten-minute piece on *Dateline*, e.g. (+)
20 Split up, as the Beatles (+)