

**ACROSS**

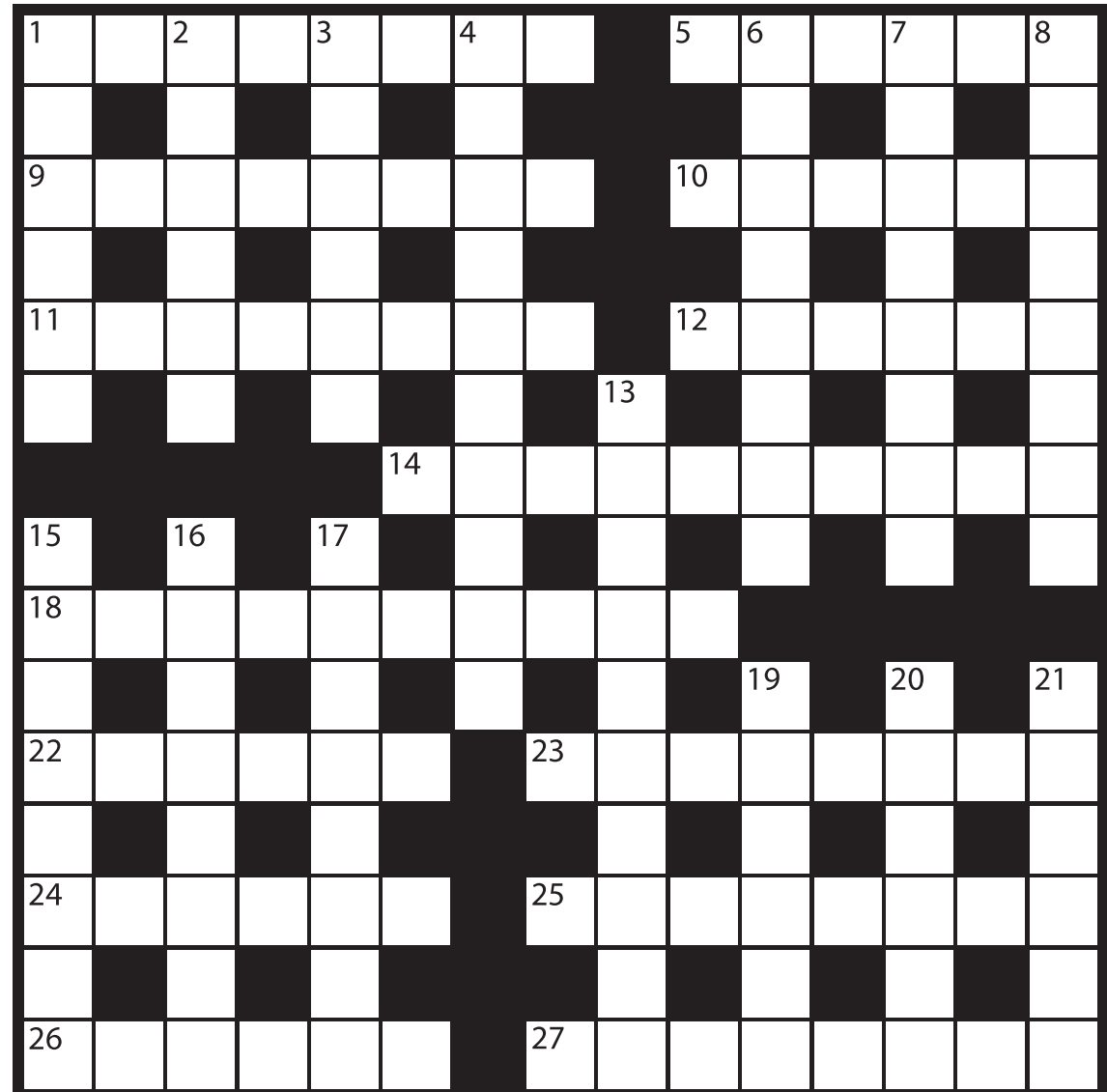
- 1 Scheme primarily writers use to entertain (8)  
 5 Two-bit gangster captures ambassador (6)  
 9 First one with spirit to enter exam (8)  
 10 Good spots for turning, close to mundane lock up (6)  
 11 Old Harry admitting anger about wearing uniform (8)  
 12 Secret deliveries accepted by court (6)  
 14 Potter's wheels? (10)  
 18 Give Tory praise (10)  
 22 One in France concealing each small misgiving (6)  
 23 Most courteous plumber originally fixed toilets (8)  
 24 A politician is making excuses (6)  
 25 One getting into seafood before social worker's party (8)  
 26 Student initially ignored profitable enterprise (6)  
 27 Advertising leads to giant step forward (8)

**DOWN**

- 1 Booty in ruins (6)  
 2 Servant, 45, acquired by TV firm (6)  
 3 One who's left before catching plane (6)  
 4 Long-range vessel with copper base at sea (5,5)  
 6 Accommodation having multiple layers? (8)  
 7 Girl, finally leaving, acclaimed Nutty Professor? (8)  
 8 Pass tree full of green energy (8)  
 13 Firm books posh car for director (10)  
 15 Bang on a box containing copper (8)

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- 16 Understand about port becoming poor (8)  
 17 Piers mostly gets bad reputation (8)  
 19 Flogging disguise (6)  
 20 Entertain soldiers with good beer (6)  
 21 Position immediately north of America (6)