

Faulty keyboard

Clues are normal. However, when composing the grid, one of the keys on Alchemi's keyboard was stuck, so he just left that letter out. Had the stuck key been Z (it wasn't), PIZZAS would have appeared as PIAS and ZOOLOGY as OOOLOGY. Most answers (though not all) are affected, and the results are rarely real words. When you have finished, count the number of letters omitted and put that number in the box provided.

Across

- 1 Trait of chickens and other farm animals crossing road and railway
- 7 Left party, returning more rum
- 9 The sound of gongs interferes
- 10 Drug user with aged relative gets a musical entertainment (*Two words*)
- 11 Disturbing canaries, I make a great fuss (*two words*)
- 12 Wasted hours (with daughter covering)
- 13 Sadly enraged by singular weapons
- 15 Make fun of the German fish

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- 18 On the way back, do I regularly dig deep for salt?
- 20 Clumsily knits with writer's kit
- 23 Time to imitate duck? Rubbish!
- 24 15 hours, 9 gloomy
- 26 In port, pass round uniform which is greyish (*hyphenated*)
- 27 Reduce section of orchestra left in Delaware
- 28 Squad is occasionally foam

- 29 Movement of troops enemy let drop by mistake

Down

- 1 University doctor free, in prison
- 2 Spooner's systematically put away cables cause conflagrations
- 3 Prepared theologian to welcome lively seers
- 4 Idiots from German club involved in rackets

- 5 One kept brewing tea I need
- 6 Promises credit with small concealed weapon
- 7 Act tailored to looking shabby (*hyphenated*)
- 8 Dud flare exploded, which is bad
- 14 More than get on without deception (*hyphenated*)
- 16 Second missile almost hits church, being very loud

- 17 10 tries awkward return
- 19 Noddy tees off, reaching old lighthouse
- 20 Tapir led astray with a pair of wings
- 21 Unpleasant fates overwhelm extremely toxic internet businesses
- 22 Canoeists turn bad in present society
- 25 Ready to retire from fights in Benin