

Headline

©Spiffytrix, 1ACross.org

Created By: Spiffytrix

Instructions: Three thematic clues lack further definition.

Their wordplay gives two worded answers each, of which one answer will also most likely be your choice for "Grid Headline".

Irrespective of your choice, the longer word of all the three thematic answers (which has been enumerated) is to be entered at the respective clue lights.

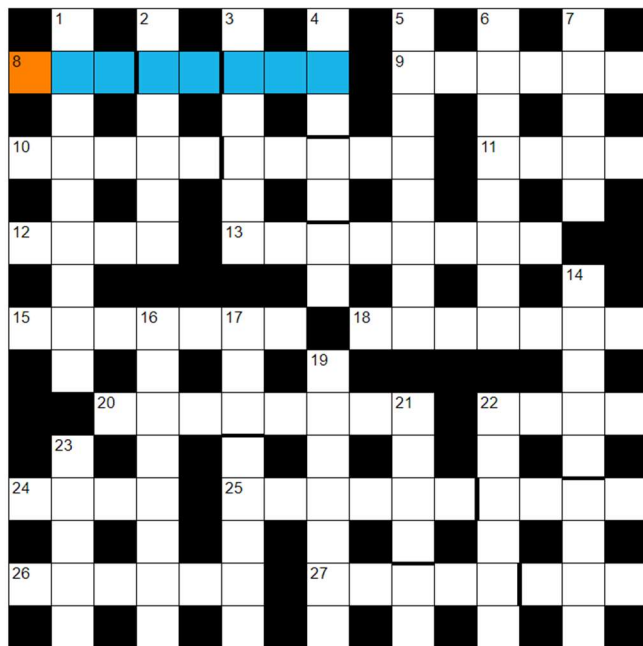
However, only one of the three shorter words corresponding to your choice for the grid headline, is to be entered at 23.

Remaining two are to be discarded.

Further, depending on your entry at 23, only a fragment of the clues for the grid entries intersecting 23 is to be used for wordplay and definition.

Bonus Questions:

1. What's the grid headline (2 words)?
2. What were the alternate answers for 23 that you discarded?
3. What are the alternate answers for 24 and 26 due to the discarded 23?



- 10 Two Times champion squandered winning chance at 14? (5,5)
- 11 14 Champion falling short at all times (4)
- 12 Love-all at 14 in record tie (4)
- 13 No sin to endlessly drink vodka - even vodka mixed with drop of juice... (8)
- 15 ...leads to extended grass domination with error free playing (7)
- 18 They take enormous interest in American game returning with Serena half prepared (7)
- 20 A numbing shot to the back cut short epic duel in which Gunners scored point (8)
- 22 Shout from Maria Sharapova disconcerts jittery hearts (4)
- 24 Audacious bachelor aged 50, seduced by immoral egghead? (4)
- 25 Yes! Steffi almost played wearing a universal protection device (6,4)
- 26 Go off to hide in cafe's terrace with fine flower for wife observing Karva Chauth? (6)
- 27 Eagerly cast line forward to catch a fish (5,3)

Across

- 8 Ignore the French championship Bhupati finally annexed (3,2,3)
- 9 Lease books penned by disheartened 14 champion after retirement (6)

Down

- 1** Male supporters tense over crazed Steffi idoliser initially leaving Monica Seles injured (9)
- 2** Minor setback for cricketing bosses at the top supporting Kohli in the middle (6)
- 3** Flew for a doubles match? (6)
- 4** Score one century mate! (3,2,2)
- 5** Cheers King for victory speeches (8)
- 6** Opposed to soldier pinching queen near the head (8)
- 7** Topless Indian 14 champion behind Tesla arrested by customs (5)
- 14** Girls regularly left before noon for a big sporting event (5,4)
- 16** Speed up retired Sampras holding back papers (8)
- 17** Erratic Venus served sans velocity versus english consumers (3,5)
- 19** 14 champion without maiden name is a hard worker (7)
- 21** Leaves Goran's first two services skimming the net on top (4,2)
- 22** High French fighter shotup drug and battered gangster (6)
- 23** Unclued (5)