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Bonus Questions:

1. What is the theme?
2. What's the theme word? (7)


## Across

1 Former British prime minister, strangely tethering toy up $(4,3,7)$
8 American sporting event using first class ball (5, 4)

9 Expressions used when cold bishop occupies British Royal Society (5)
11 Early pope, lion with independent ego indeed (3, 3)

12 Batsman seconds those engaging in hartal, perhaps (8)
14 Papa's punchier when arranging method of buying online ( $2-3,8$ )

16 "Rowdy Seamen Hurt Nit" is the content of news story $(5,8)$

21 Topless model going back in to work in an elegant way (8)

22 Not very bright, I will upset sesame (3-3)

25 Malevolent people lived by perpetrating spite, primarily (5)

26 Yeomen of the guard losing loud birds with bright plumage (3-6)

27 Grass gets beaten with scull in social conflicts (5, 9)

## Down

1 Grinder is a nuisance to the French (6)
2 Stop over following kind, mostly, that delivers a violent blast (7)
3 Bones playing sitar (5)
4 Cupid's opposite number turns angry (4)
5 Efface old boy that's educated (10)
6 Blunder after beak upset about perpetual victim (9)

7 Profitable ventures, say, where students do not start (7)

10 Belt up god, belt up (4)
13 They are concerned with sight tool biceps exercised ... $(5,5)$

15 ... visions of hearts in long jumbled mass (9)
17 As being Italian for the knife, say (7)
18 Experienced sailor turns over shelter for hoary rope's end $(4,3)$
19 Special energy women ooze (4)
20 Arrest in street just the same (6)
23 Old Chinese currency initially invested in Scots pine (5)
24 Bit of hesitation in the wake of French I taunt. (4)

