

Words on Target #6

Back in February of this year we introduced a game that involving creating and scoring five-letter words based on values of their individual letters. Those values were A = 1, B = 2, on up to Z = 26.

The picture shows the values of three words: CACHE 20, CABAL 19, and TEASE 50.

You're welcome to look back and read how the game is played in the [February puzzle](#). Since then we've been throwing out challenges for you to come up with words that meet certain marks.



Here are more of those challenges. On the Word Puzzles page you'll find a handy downloadable scoring calculator in two formats to assist you.

Type 1. Low-scoring single words like CABAL and CACHE. Can you find single words worth 23, 25, and 27 points.

Type 2. High scoring pairs like WRYLY 103 and FUZZY 104. Total 207. Can you find pairs of words that total 195, 196, and 197.

Type 3. Mid-range triples. Example: SCRUM, TONAL, and VALVE are worth a total of 198 points. Can you find sets of three words having total scores of 201, 203, and 205 points? I expect that many solutions are possible.

I'll put my solutions (when I find them) on page 2. Happy hunting!

Here is a chart of all the letter values.

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|----|
| A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | I | J | K | L | M |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| N | O | P | Q | R | S | T | U | V | W | X | Y | Z |
| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |

Uncle Bob's Solutions

Type 1. AIDED is worth 23. Also I tried BALED 24, then BAKED was in at 23. For 25, I saw AIDED could be padded to DICED for 25. From BALED, changing D to G and re-arranging gives BAGEL at 27

Type 2. YUMMY and STORY make 194. Can they be adjusted? From STORY to RUSTY adds 6 points. YUMMY to TUMMY deducts 5. So the pair TUMMY, RUSTY cashes in at 195. Are we having fun yet? TUMMY and RUTTY yield an extra point for 196. To squeeze one more point I went to Z and a new starting pair. FUZZY in the examples is 104 points. We need a partner worth 93. MUSTS is 92, so FUZZY and MUTTS hits the jackpot at 197. Did you find a different pair?

Type 3. Three word triples. PRIME, NAVES, and SASSY for 205. Changing NAVES to VALES would make the trio worth 203. In the original trio changing NAVES to SNARE shaves 4 point for a 201 total.

Targets are 201, 203, and 205.