

## Words on Target #5



301 is one of the very common games in English darts. Let's play the game **Words on Target** with common English uncapitalized 5-letter words — no hyphens or apostrophes allowed. The object is to deduct exactly 301 points, ending up with a balance of zero, before your opponents do so. The letters score points on the familiar scale seen below.

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

When playing one or more opponents decide who goes first. When it's your turn, pick a word, add up its score and deduct from your current balance. For example, if you pick FUZZY on your first turn, it would score 6, 21, 26, 26, and 25 or 104 points, leaving you a balance of 197. A very good play.

At this point we may want to adopt the rule that words over the course of a game or the course of an evening may be used only once. It prevents the picking of FUZZY more than once. To assist you playing the game a downloadable calculator is provided on the menu page. Enter one **upper case letter** per column, press Tab, and see your word's score at row's end.



Darts players get good at knowing the 3-dart "finishes" for each balance. The photo at the right suggests single word finishes for 19, 20 and 50 points. We'll challenge you to hone your skills with more "finishes." Can you find three words that get you to zero, if your current score is any of the following? [There are many possible solutions; mine are on the next page.]

- a. 184      b. 130      c. 84      d. 260      e. 287

## Uncle Bob's Solutions

- a. tonal 62, quite 72, learn 50
- b. final 42, brief 40, craft 48
- c. cadre 31, fable 26, gable 27
- d. buzzy 100, trust 98, valve 62
- e. strut 98, rusty 103, tufts 86