

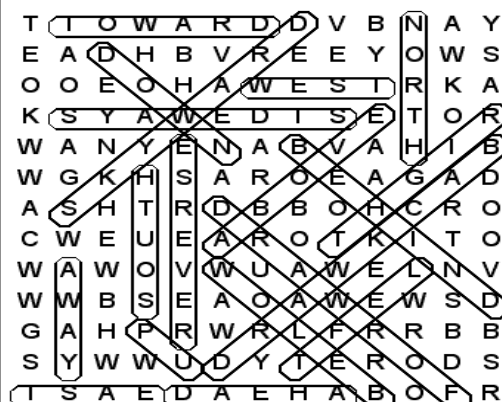
I'm still a little in shock<sup>1</sup> while I write this. I'm writing this on Sunday night and the decision was made last Friday, but I still can't believe my country has voted<sup>2</sup> to leave the EU<sup>3</sup>. The UK has been a part of the EU for my whole life and I can't imagine it might have ended. And, seeing as how the largest search query<sup>4</sup> on google.uk over the weekend was "what exactly is the EU?", a lot of people have voted without any knowledge<sup>5</sup> whatsoever! Thanks a lot the people of Britain. Well, just over half of the people of Britain. Especially<sup>6</sup> those who didn't think it through.

### Something you didn't know about the EU

1. There are 28 countries in the EU. Meetings have to be translated into all of their languages.
2. The capital of the European Union is in Brussels, Belgium.
3. A little over 500 million people live in the EU. That's about 7% of the world's population.
4. In 1957 Belgium, France, Italy, the Netherlands and West Germany formed<sup>7</sup> the European Economic Community to remove trade tariffs<sup>8</sup> and form a common market<sup>9</sup>.
5. In 1973 the UK joined. (4 years before I was born).
6. In 1985 the member states do away with<sup>10</sup> border controls<sup>11</sup> and it becomes possible to travel between them without a passport. That is why, when I was at university, I could drive to France to buy beer and wine because it is much cheaper there.
7. The UK was supposed to<sup>12</sup> hold the EU presidency in 2017. I wonder if they will.



### Last Week's Answers



### Announcements

On Friday my brother's law firm<sup>13</sup> lost a client<sup>14</sup> who was going to invest<sup>15</sup> over £100 million<sup>16</sup> in the UK because they don't think it is safe to invest right now.

### Britain Votes To Leave The EU

You may have seen that the UK wants to leave the EU. The final vote was 51.9% to leave and 48.1% to stay. This shocked many people as a vote to remain<sup>17</sup> had been considered the most likely outcome<sup>18</sup>. The result caused people to start selling pounds and moving into safer currencies<sup>19</sup> like the yen. The pound went from 160 yen to 130 yen overnight<sup>20</sup>.



The implications<sup>21</sup> of this may take a while to become clear. The first step is for the prime minister<sup>22</sup>, David Cameron to resign. The person that replaces him will invoke<sup>23</sup> article 50 of the Lisbon Treaty<sup>24</sup> and that will begin the negotiations<sup>25</sup> for the UK to leave. It could take up to two years for all of the details to be ironed out<sup>26</sup>. Will it be good for Britain?

Many people voted to leave because they think immigration<sup>27</sup> has become an uncontrollable<sup>28</sup> problem. It hasn't. They think that by leaving the EU immigration will stop. It won't. Britain thinks that Europe needs Britain more than Britain needs Europe. They don't. In the end the UK will have to negotiate trade agreements<sup>29</sup> and open their borders anyway. I cannot see how anything will be better. Only worse.



1. In shock ショックを受けている 2. Vote 投票する 3. European Union 欧州連合 4. Query 疑問 5. Knowledge 知識 6. Especially 特に 7. Form 組織する 8. Trade tariff 税貿易 9. Common market 共同市場 10. Do away with 無くす 11. Border control 国境警備隊 12. Supposed to するはず 13. Law firm 弁護士事務 14. Client 訴訟依頼人 15. Invest 投資する 16. £100 million 140 億円 17. Remain 残る 18. Outcome 結果 19. Currency 通貨 20. Overnight 一晩中 21. Implication 意味あい 22. Prime minister 総理大臣 23. Invoke 行使する 24. Treaty 条約 25. Negotiation 交渉 26. Iron out 解決する 27. Immigration 移民 28. Uncontrollable コントロールできない 29. Trade agreement 貿易協定