

# State of Communication

## ACROSS

- 1 End of a katabasis?
- 6 Mammal shaped like a pig but more closely related to a horse or rhinoceros
- 11 "\_\_\_ Out of Order" (2020 novel with a time-traveling protagonist)
- 15 "Round Up the \_\_\_ Suspects: The Making of Casablanca--Bogart, Bergman, and World War II" (1992 nonfiction book by Aljean Harmetz)
- 16 Mission in San Antonio
- 17 Uptight one
- 18 Subject of the 1992 book "The Most Southern Place on Earth"
- 21 "Uncle \_\_\_'s Truck" (Stephen King short story)
- 22 Suffix with kitchen or cigar
- 23 "His hat \_\_\_\_, his pipe of awful size..." (line from John Le Gay Brereton's poem "In a Tram")
- 24 Mickey Mantle or Joe DiMaggio, famously
- 28 One side of a pick-up soccer game, perhaps
- 31 Saarinen who designed the main terminal of Dulles International Airport
- 32 Financial criminal turned author Smith who wrote the 2024 memoir "Never Saw Me Coming"
- 33 Lots (of)
- 36 Comes out on top
- 40 Kind
- 41 City a little over 60 miles southeast of Fort Wayne, Indiana
- 44 Ovine cry
- 45 Only one of the "Friends" with a one-syllable name
- 47 Letter that, surprisingly, does not appear in the Greek name for Greece
- 48 2025 sequel to "Sandwich" by Catherine Newman
- 50 Symbol
- 52 Member of the order Coleoptera
- 53 Brewing company counterintuitively headquartered in California
- 58 Glittered
- 59 Running long, as a hockey game: Abbr.
- 60 Mark on a car
- 64 2015 Chris Stapleton hit with the lyric "And honey, I stay stoned on your love all the time"
- 68 Diva's big moment
- 69 "I'll pass"
- 70 Prefix with "punk" in a certain sci-fi subgenre
- 71 Many characters in hardboiled fiction, for short
- 72 "The Chronicles of Prydain" author Alexander
- 73 Castle protectors

## DOWN

- 1 Taiho Koki's sport, for short
- 2 "Really though?"
- 3 Strong burst of wind
- 4 Stonework
- 5 "The Love Hypothesis" author Hazelwood

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© 2026 | The meta answer is a novel published in the 1980s whose title would make a good sixth theme answer.

- 6 "Yum!"
- 7 "\_\_\_ di vampiro" (Italian title of R. L. Stine's "Vampire Breath")
- 8 Printing need
- 9 Rumpelstiltskin, for example
- 10 Le \_\_\_ Soleil (epithet for Louis XIV)
- 11 Sign on a new storefront
- 12 Count \_\_\_ aka Nosferatu
- 13 Saltpetre
- 14 Absolute best, so to speak
- 19 Does some mending
- 20 "\_\_\_ John" (2006 Nicholas Sparks novel)
- 25 Author list abbr.
- 26 Singer who used to stylize her name with a dollar sign
- 27 Himalayan cryptid
- 28 Awaken
- 29 Angel's headwear
- 30 Printing needs
- 33 Brand name found in the kitchen
- 34 Food pushed by Sam-I-Am
- 35 "\_\_\_-Pah-Pah" (song in "Oliver!")
- 37 "Yeah, sure"
- 38 Table salt, chemically
- 39 "For Biddle's \_\_\_" (fifth book in Gail Carson Levine's "The Princess Tales" series)
- 42 Stock character associated with mad scientists
- 43 Was behind on payment
- 46 Some earthy pigments
- 49 Settles before bedtime, perhaps
- 51 "Bad \_\_\_" (2023 debut novel by Jessica Johns)
- 52 City Jane Austen lived in for several years and allegedly disliked
- 53 \_\_\_ Khan (Bengal tiger in "The Jungle Book")
- 54 Like the bond in 38-Down
- 55 Abuela's grandson
- 56 The Sheriff of Nottingham, to Robin Hood
- 57 Promised
- 58 No. of weeks on a bestseller list, for example
- 61 Retailer associated with the colors blue and yellow
- 62 Like a metaphorical pin
- 63 Places for reps
- 65 Show with digital shorts, for short
- 66 Fa follower
- 67 Suffix with real or romantic