

the battle of lanka SOLUTION - DUKE

Filled grid is shown below. An instruction can be found in the clues for Bands B (letters changed in clues), C (one-letter abbreviations for superfluous words) and F (extra letters clued by charade wordplay): ALIGN SIX / Ns AND Ss / APTLY. The bands may be rotated so that six Ns and Ss align on the N-S axis of the grid. When this is done, the W-E axis reads ANSWER / IS DUKE.

A	R	E	P	O	R	T	B	A	R	G	A	I	N
E	^B S	T	A	T	E	S	P	A	T	I	N	A	
C	O	^C A	R	S	E	N	A	L	A	R	U	M	
A	M	I	^D N	O	S	H	E	D	D	E	R	S	
P	A	R	A	^E D	I	S	E	A	E	T	N	A	
S	C	A	L	A	^F R	U	N	S	W	E	P	T	
A	S	S	I	S	T		N	E	B	U	L	A	
R	E	P	A	S	S	E	I	D	O	L	O	N	
E	Y	E	L	E	T	N	O	C	A	N	D	O	
A	N	Y	W	A	Y	S	D	I	S	A	R	M	
S	E	R	I	A	L	S	H	O	O	P	O	E	
S	K	I	L	L	W	O	O	D	L	A	N	D	
P	A	R	O	L	E	S	T	R	A	D	E	S	

Cryptic Clue Explanations

* = anagram; " " = homophone

Band A. (words run counterclockwise)

SCRAPE*; ARE[A]S; Double definition; STALE OR*; SAD END* holding EMO; I AM SATAN*; G(R)AB; T+ROPE

Band B. (one letter in each clue must be changed for it to parse correctly. Original letters spell OTHER ONE, indicating that you're to use the new letters, which spell ALIGN SIX)

ST+TEA* [over/aver]; PAST* [tax/lax]; I+NU(R)N [Han/Ian]; P+OLD* [morphine/morphing]; A LORDNO* [charged/changed]; I WOKE* containing LL [hooting/hosting]; "nighs" [sand/said]; MAC*+O [flue/flux]

Band C. (clues contain superfluous words with one-letter abbreviations often used in cryptics)

AR+LANES reversed [November]; RATE+E [Satisfactory]; bashfUL NAKed [Adult]; double def. [Newton]; L+AIR [Defense]; last letters of May measure up [Son]; iS hAiRpln [Small]

Band D. (rather than being sequential, definition part of clue interrupts wordplay part, or vice versa)

HE NODS*; "do"; BOAS[-t]; double def.; really AWesome; LA+I+LA

Band E. (wordplay components swap between the two clues; given below restored)

DESADE* holding IS; ONEACT* holding SS

Band F. (clue is charade which gives extra letters, underlined)

RAP+TUN+NILE+STY