

Fair Maidens Answers:

The Princess and the Pea

Each grid has a single P in it. You can replace the P with a new letter to make common words reading across and down. The grids after replacement are shown below:

C	L	A	M	S
O	L	D	I	E
R	A	I	S	A
K	N	E	E	L
S	O	U	R	S

S	C	U	B	A
W	A	G	E	R
E	C	L	A	T
L	A	I	R	S
L	O	S	S	Y

S	W	E	A	T
N	A	D	I	R
A	N	G	L	E
K	N	E	E	S
Y	A	R	D	S

A	L	I	G	N
M	A	C	R	O
A	T	E	I	N
S	H	A	M	E
S	E	X	E	S

	L	A	S	S	
S	I	M	I	L	E
I	B	E	R	I	A
R	E	L	I	C	S
S	L	I	N	K	Y
	S	A	G	S	

These new letters spell SWAMI.

Scheherazade

Each cryptogram gives a synopsis of a famous short story. When the titles of the stories are encoded using its synopsis' cipher, one of the words in the title becomes another English word.

A ROSE FOR EMILY by William Faulkner: Miss Grierson shuts herself in Mississippi house with suitor's dead body
ROSE is coded as BIRD

AN OCCURRENCE AT OWL CREEK BRIDGE by Ambrose Bierce: Confederate sympathizer sentenced to death by hanging hallucinates undoing knots and seeing his wife before expiring
OWL is coded as WHO

THE OPEN BOAT by Stephen Crane: Four men including Billie the oiler float in dinghy for thirty hours
BOAT is coded as LAID

A GOOD MAN IS HARD TO FIND by Flannery O'Connor: Cantankerous grandmother and family have car accident and meet up with Misfit
MAN is coded as THE

RIP VAN WINKLE by Washington Irving: Man falls asleep in the Catskill Mountains and misses the American Revolution
WINKLE is coded as GOLDEN

IN THE ZOO by Jean Stafford: While watching grizzlies, Daisy and her sister reminisce about their childhood and Mr. Murphy
ZOO is coded as EGG

The BIRD WHO LAID THE GOLDEN EGG is a GOOSE.

Beauty and the Beast

The women are: Jennifer Aniston, Drew Barrymore, Sandra Bullock, Sheryl Crow, Celine Dion, Sally Field, Marilyn Monroe, Julia Roberts, and Hilary Swank.

The animals are: Cow, Rooster, Swan, Bison, Ram, Bull, Moose, and Lion.

To complete the rebuses, replace the first question mark with a last name of one of the women and the other question mark with the name of one of the animals. The rebuses happen to be alphabetically ordered by the animal names.

ANISTON + RIB – TRAIN = BISON
BULLOCK + R – ROCK = BULL
CROW + POE – ROPE = COW
DION + LIME – DIME = LION
MONROE + SKI – RINK = MOOSE
BARRYMORE + B – ROBBERY = RAM
ROBERTS + OREO – ROBE = ROOSTER
SWANK + EAR – RAKE = SWAN

The woman left over is Sally FIELD.

The Little Mermaid

Each clue leads to a word that, in addition to the given letter, contains the names of two musical notes plus a single additional letter:

C – LA/C/TI/C
O – DO/MI/N/O
N – FA/MI/N/E
D – A/DO/RE/D
U – LA/U/RE/L
C – C/RE/TI/N
T – SOL/DO/U/T
O – LA/H/O/RE
R – MI/R/RE/N
G – LA/P/DO/G
E – RE/SOL/V/E
O – LA/TI/N/O
R – DO/L/LA/R
G – G/RE/E/DO

These other additional letters spell CONDUCTOR GEORG or SOLTI (which itself consists of two musical notes).

Snow White

Each nonsense phrase anagrams to two synonyms for the name of one of the Seven Dwarves plus an extra letter. The phrases are in alphabetical order by the dwarves' names:

- REGIMENTED RIOTS = MODEST/RETIRING + E
- CAB ENDOWS MOVIES = MEDICO/SAWBONES + V
- AMENDABLE SIRENS = DENSE/LAMEBRAIN + S
- BALANCE PUB TRYST = CRABBY/PETULANT + S

- ATTAIN JULEP BULB = UPBEAT/JUBILANT + L
- WORRY ARCTIC DONS = DROWSY/NARCOTIC + R
- UNRATED PUFFY SUN = RUNNY/STUFFED UP + A

Each pair can be matched up to the equations based on the common letter they share:

1. 2nd of 6 = 7th of 8 – MEDICO/SAWBONES – share E – extra V
2. 5th of 6 = 7th of 8 – UPBEAT/JUBILANT - share A – extra L
3. 2nd of 5 = 3rd of 9 – RUNNY/STUFFED UP – share U – extra A
4. 6th of 6 = 3rd of 8 – MODEST/RETIRING – share T – extra E
5. 3rd of 6 = 6th of 8 – CRABBY/PETULANT – share A – extra S
6. 3rd of 6 = 5th of 8 – DROWSY/NARCOTIC – share O – extra R
7. 2nd of 5 = 4th of 9 – DENSE/LAMEBRAIN – share E – extra S

Reading the important letters gives the clue: EVALUATE, AS ORES. The answer is ASSAY.

Rapunzel

The solution to the puzzle is:

2	3	-	1	-	24
-	1	2	-	3	15
2	3	-	1	-	24
3	-	1	-	2	6
-	-	3	2	1	321
25	313	15	4	24	

Take the 5-letter answers from each of the other puzzles and place them into each row. Then extract the letters based on the grid numbers.

SWAMI -> MSW

GOOSE -> OOE

FIELD -> LFI

SOLTI -> LIS

ASSAY -> YAS

Reading down the columns spells MOLLY SOFIA WEISS, my daughter and clearly the fairest maiden.