

## TappyPotato · Daily cryptic clues

23 September 2026 — 10 clues, easiest first. Answers overleaf.

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1. Done within throughput figures this quarter (7)  
7 · Hidden word · difficulty 1/5
2. Tablet after spill loses its head (4)  
4 · Deletion · difficulty 2/5
3. Odd ware among the clothing (4)  
4 · Anagram · difficulty 2/5
4. Entrance allows cast crew entry stage side initially (6)  
6 · Letter selection · difficulty 2/5
5. Applaud public tough save defence peter last of all (5)  
5 · Letter selection · difficulty 2/5
6. Orchard plantation where drove when one becomes another from D to G (5)  
5 · Substitution · difficulty 2/5
7. Gush after stain embracing upper class (5)  
5 · Container · difficulty 3/5
8. Wage from warning with a change of heart from W to E (7)  
7 · Substitution · difficulty 3/5
9. Barrel that moved (5)  
5 · Double definition · difficulty 3/5
10. Filter from second coach (8)  
8 · Letter as symbol · difficulty 4/5

## Answers & explanations

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### 1. **THROUGH** (7)

Factory floor briefing on the board. Within takes THROUGH from throughput. Done is the through sense — finished, over.

### 2. **PILL** (4)

Chemist counter when the bottles still clink. Tablet is the pill reading. Losing its head beheads spill and leaves PILL. Soft paper bags and a bent spoon sell the chop as pharmacy aside while the medicine word drops out.

### 3. **WEAR** (4)

Peculiar merchandise turns up among the rails in an otherwise ordinary wardrobe. 'Odd' jumbles WARE into WEAR — clothing, what one puts on. Definition last; the market stall with its odd lots is the surface that keeps the eye busy.

### 4. **ACCESS** (6)

Backstage passes handed out letter by letter. Initials of allows cast crew entry stage side make ACCESS; Entrance is both the door and the definition.

### 5. **CHEER** (5)

Match-day nerves on the surface. Last of all harvests the endings of public tough save defence peter into CHEER. Applaud is the definition; the late defensive wobble is the sporting misdirection.

### 6. **GROVE** (5)

Herd morphs into trees. Plantation is the def (grove). Drove when one becomes another replaces D with G, giving GROVE.

### 7. **SPOUT** (5)

Laundry sink when the tap still sputters. Gush is the spurt sense. Stain maps to SPOT; embracing nests upper class (U) — SPO(U)T. Soft suds and a bent peg cloak the container as washday aside while the social letter finds its slot; the jet of water is your definition.

### 8. **EARNING** (7)

Wage (what one is getting) is EARNING. Warning with a change of heart swaps W for E: EARNING — the alert pays out.

### 9. **SHOOK** (5)

Cooper's yard when the staves still rattle. Barrel is a shook — the set ready for assembly; moved is shook as past of shake. Soft shavings and a bent mallet cloak the double as trade mutter.

### 10. **STRAINER** (8)

Kitchen sink when the kettle still sighs. Second maps to S; coach is TRAINER — S+TRAINER spells STRAINER. Filter is the sieve sense. Warm steam and a bent colander cloak the additive stack as scullery mutter.