

TappyPotato · Daily cryptic clues

2 October 2026 — 10 clues, easiest first. Answers overleaf.

1. Hide part of fellowship weekend away (4)

4 · Hidden word · difficulty 1/5

2. Spot from strain, essentially (5)

5 · Deletion · difficulty 2/5

3. Post depth core storm rise, last of all — subject (5)

5 · Letter selection · difficulty 2/5

4. Pace of travel (4)

4 · Double definition · difficulty 2/5

5. Os holding rex, produced (5)

5 · Container · difficulty 2/5

6. Builders stack pale after a letter swap from A to I into an edifice (4)

4 · Substitution · difficulty 2/5

7. Clutch when intensity is read evenly (4)

4 · Letter selection · difficulty 3/5

8. Club style wear become sweet, in conclusion — cap (5)

5 · Letter selection · difficulty 3/5

9. Watery race by yards (5)

5 · Letter as symbol · difficulty 3/5

10. Assess this — tutor texts 'evalu8' (8)

8 · Glyph rebus · difficulty 4/5

Answers & explanations

1. **FELL** (4)

Scout-hut plan for a rainy weekend away from town. Part of flags fellowship, where FELL opens the word as FELL-owship. Hide is the fell sense — an animal skin on the bunk — and the camping chatter smuggles the letters while the host stays untouched.

2. **STAIN** (5)

Laundry sink when the bleach still bites. Essentially plucks the heart R from strain, leaving STAIN. Spot is that mark or blot. Soft pegs and lukewarm water cloak the middle cut as washday mutter rather than a sieve lecture.

3. **THEME** (5)

THEME means subject. The clue's last letters, taken from its word list, spell THEME.

4. **STEP** (4)

Twin defs: step as a maneuver or pace, and step as travel on foot. Dance floor and pavement both fit.

5. **BORNE** (5)

Anatomy lab when the tray still gleams. Rex maps to R; holding slots it into os (BONE) — BO(R)NE. Produced is the borne sense, carried forth. Soft glass and a humming hood sell the container as wry bench mutter, not a birth certificate.

6. **PILE** (4)

Site sketch. Edifice is a pile; pale after a letter swap turns A into I, giving PILE.

7. **NEST** (4)

Clutch is the definition. Taking the even-positioned letters of intensity gives NEST.

8. **BERET** (5)

Cap is the definition. Taking the last letter of each word in the clue gives BERET.

9. **WASHY** (5)

Regatta bank when the tide still lifts. Race maps to WASH; yards supply Y — WASH+Y spells WASHY. Watery is the thin, diluted sense. Wet rope and a bent flag sell the short symbol join as quay mutter, not a colour chart.

10. **EVALUATE** (8)

After the mock, phone buzzes. Assess is the brief; 'evalu8' spoken becomes EVALUATE. Eight for the ATE ending — marking as leetspeak.