

TappyPotato · Daily cryptic clues

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

1. Ahead, hidden in forwarding address (7)
7 · Hidden word · difficulty 2/5
2. Prolong within extended tea break chat (6)
6 · Hidden word · difficulty 2/5
3. Bargain event — hale with a change from H to S (4)
4 · Substitution · difficulty 2/5
4. Ticket? The first letters of felt, accused, remain and else (4)
4 · Letter selection · difficulty 2/5
5. Patten drunk for a licence (6)
6 · Anagram · difficulty 2/5
6. Yeah usual mass museum yours, initially — delectable (5)
5 · Letter selection · difficulty 3/5
7. Physician apt to adulterate (6)
6 · Double definition · difficulty 3/5
8. Launder using watt and powder (4)
4 · Letter as symbol · difficulty 3/5
9. Stagehands drop a pall over certain with a change from E to U (7)
7 · Substitution · difficulty 3/5
10. Stunner once the tap's retired early (8)
8 · Charade · difficulty 3/5

Answers & explanations

1. **FORWARD** (7)

Sorting-office aside when the sack tips. Hidden in takes FORWARD from forwarding. Ahead is the onward sense — forward still — and franking ink cloaks the long hide as postal weather, host exact.

2. **EXTEND** (6)

Office kitchen when the kettle boils again. Within draws EXTEND from extended. Prolong is the pass-on sense — extend the pause — and biscuit crumbs sell the hide as ordinary workplace drift.

3. **SALE** (4)

High-street window when the red tags still flap. Bargain event is a sale; hale with a change swaps H for S — HALE to SALE. Soft mannequin glare and a lukewarm flat white dress the switch as shop aside.

4. **FARE** (4)

The ticket is FARE, drawn from the first letters of felt, accused, remain, else. The surface keeps a straight face while the acrostic hides inside.

5. **PATENT** (6)

Overshoe after ale becomes official leave. Drunk anagrams patten into PATENT; licence is the British spelling of the grant sense. Footwear history plus bureaucracy — an odd couple that somehow walks straight.

6. **YUMMY** (5)

Delectable is the definition; the first letters of the listed words spell YUMMY.

7. **DOCTOR** (6)

Surgery door when the tonic still fizzes. Physician is the medical man; adulterate is to load or doctor a mixture. Same word for healer and for the shady tweak.

8. **WASH** (4)

Utility room when the dryer still hums. Watt maps to W; powder supplies ASH — W+ASH spells WASH. Launder is the cleanse-with-water sense. Soft lint and a sticky basket cloak the short symbol join as domestic weather.

9. **CURTAIN** (7)

Theatre hush. Pall is a curtain; certain with a change turns E into U, giving CURTAIN.

10. **KNOCKOUT** (8)

Ringside mutter when the bell still hums. Tap yields KNOCK; retired OUT — KNOCKOUT, a stunner. Sweat and a bent stool cloak tap-then-retired as fight-night chatter.