

## TappyPotato · Daily cryptic clues

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

---

1. Error inside default forms at the building society (5)

5 · Hidden word · difficulty 2/5

2. Shaken mary raises a host (4)

4 · Anagram · difficulty 2/5

3. Wealthy rice with a change from E to H (4)

4 · Substitution · difficulty 2/5

4. Humble once slowly is beheaded (5)

5 · Deletion · difficulty 2/5

5. Assay carefully — handle every cracked kettle first of all (5)

5 · Letter selection · difficulty 2/5

6. Yarn walk wrapping hotel (6)

6 · Container · difficulty 2/5

7. Ornate liking (5)

5 · Double definition · difficulty 3/5

8. Spirit, output, love, edition, modern, now, first of all — earnest (6)

6 · Letter selection · difficulty 3/5

9. Intense veteran plant (8)

8 · Charade · difficulty 3/5

10. Bare after reveal diameter (7)

7 · Letter as symbol · difficulty 3/5

## Answers & explanations

---

### 1. **FAULT** (5)

Counter sigh once the printer jams again. Inside parks **FAULT** in default — error, a slip or failing. Biros, damp coats and a humming queue ticket sell the short hide as high-street paperwork rather than a labelled peel.

### 2. **ARMY** (4)

Cocktail or saint, either way shaken. **SHAKE MARY** and **ARMY** marches out — a host of troops.

### 3. **RICH** (4)

Paddy-field quip. Wealthy is rich; rice with a change puts H where E sat, giving **RICH**.

### 4. **LOWLY** (5)

Village green when the clock still ticks. Beheaded docks the opening S of slowly, and **LOWLY** remains. Humble is that lowly reading — of modest station. Soft damp grass and lukewarm tea sell the scalp as sexton mutter while the first letter falls away.

### 5. **CHECK** (5)

'First of all' takes carefully handle every cracked kettle to give **CHECK**. Assay is the testing verb, lab-coat calm. The kitchen-disaster surface misleads toward DIY; the openers quietly run the quality check.

### 6. **THREAD** (6)

Seaside promenade when the gulls still cry. Hotel yields H; walk is **TREAD** and wraps it — **T(H)READ**. Yarn is the thread sense. Soft salt and a bent deckchair cloak the container as holiday mutter while the inn letter nests in the step.

### 7. **FANCY** (5)

Shop window when the trim still gleams. Ornate is the elaborate sense; liking is to take a fancy. Five letters for the frill and the fondness.

### 8. **SOLEMN** (6)

Choirmaster before the requiem. First of all lifts spirit, output, love, edition, modern, now spelling **SOLEMN** — earnest. Organ-loft hush covers the initials.

### 9. **PROFOUND** (8)

Veteran **PRO** and plant (to found) **FOUND** make **PROFOUND**. Intense is the deep sense. Nursery stakes lean while a straight charade hides in gardening chat.

### 10. **EXPOSED** (7)

Studio hush when the blinds still rattle. Reveal supplies **EXPOSE**; diameter is D — **EXPOSE+D** spells **EXPOSED**. Bare is the open, uncovered sense. Soft cables and a bent light-stand sell the symbol pair as shoot mutter.