

TappyPotato · Daily cryptic clues

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

1. Close once night turns tailless (4)

4 · Deletion · difficulty 2/5

2. Mouth in assassin rumours after the play (4)

4 · Hidden word · difficulty 2/5

3. Rainbow coffee beans roast, at the end — Occident (4)

4 · Letter selection · difficulty 2/5

4. Tea and a Latin bone — pure confusion (5)

5 · Charade · difficulty 2/5

5. Opening on the schedule (4)

4 · Double definition · difficulty 2/5

6. Brag once web tho tea sons must, in conclusion (5)

5 · Letter selection · difficulty 3/5

7. Offspring in laughter with a change of heart from L to D (8)

8 · Substitution · difficulty 3/5

8. Incentive finally — public drama teacher for alto pilot (6)

6 · Letter selection · difficulty 3/5

9. Gag note for bliss (6)

6 · Letter as symbol · difficulty 3/5

10. Lunar disc over Amsterdam (4)

4 · Translation · difficulty 4/5

Answers & explanations

1. **NIGH** (4)

Village green when the lamps still flicker. Tailless sheds the last T of night and leaves NIGH. Close is the nearly sense — hard by, almost there. Soft mist and a bent stile cloak the deletion as dusk chat, not a naked calendar trim.

2. **SASS** (4)

Foyer bar when the reviews already sting. In cuts SASS from assassin — mouth, cheeky backchat. Programme pages, sticky wine and a late taxi outside cloak the hide as theatre gossip, not a thriller label left naked.

3. **WEST** (4)

Occident is the definition; the last letters of the listed words spell WEST.

4. **CHAOS** (5)

Common-room aside when the kettle clicks. CHA is tea; OS the bone — chaos. Confusion is the muddle. Crumbs and a chipped saucer sell the short join as campus weather rather than a labelled storm.

5. **SLOT** (4)

No wordplay tricks: slot as an opening or position, and slot as a place in the schedule. Diary surface hides the twin.

6. **BOAST** (5)

Village-hall boast after the mothers' tea. Taking the last letters of web, tho, tea, sons, must gives BOAST, which is brag. China cups and proud parents hide the letter pick inside one parish scene.

7. **DAUGHTER** (8)

Offspring is DAUGHTER. Laughter with a change of heart replaces L by D: DAUGHTER — mirth yields a child.

8. **CARROT** (6)

School-of-music bribe: the public drama teacher for an alto pilot. Final letters of public drama teacher for alto pilot spell CARROT. Incentive is the definition — the proverbial carrot dangled ahead.

9. **HEAVEN** (6)

Comedy club when the mic still rings and the set list curls. Gag yields HEAVE and note the N — HEAVEN. Bliss is the paradise sense. Laughter and a scribbled chord chart sell the additive trick as nightclub weather.

10. **MAAN** (4)

Dutch maan is moon. Amsterdam hangs the language flag.