

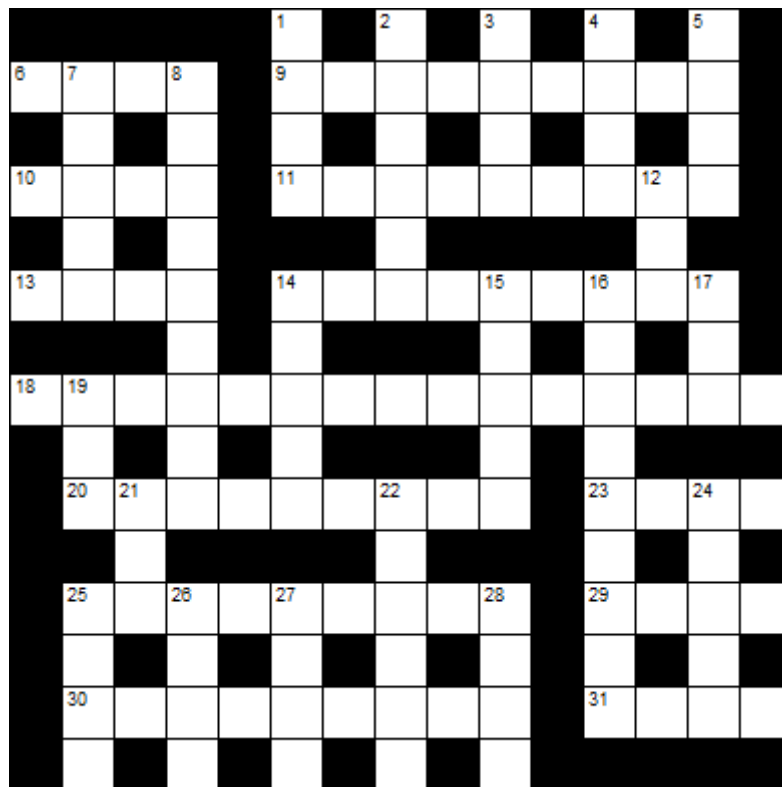
Why can't *Accustomed model taken to court* be *USED*?

by Komorník

Komorník having made the life-changing resolution to break only one “rule” at a time, nine entries exemplify the same setting error. Unfortunately he’s not even getting that right, as every instance is compounded with another mistake, typing each letter of the fodder wrong once. As in chess, the ?? denotes “this is a blunder”.

18 allows solvers perhaps astray at this point to know what is happening, while the undefined and undefinable 14 across provides a helpfully-presented checklist; and the “wrong” letters may be treated as SEMI-NULLS.

As well as the thematic 14 and 18, one geographical proper noun, one prominent trade-name, one cultural term, one colloquial form, one fairly plausible adjective and one three-word phrase do not appear in *Chambers*.



Across

6/13 US hoax? Bucks can be seen all round it (8)

9 Old paper here crumpled ?? (9)

10 See 23 Down

11 Stoned Bishopthorpe element assailed the woman ?? (4,2,3)

13 See 6

14 17 (9)
18 Unclued (4,2,3,6)
20 Quaint venue to hatch a plot ?? (9)
23 What may get thrown at us before lunch (a short time) (4)
25 Some old Manichaeans espoused this, confusing where we are ... ?? (9)
29 ... with current Tao, misreading letter of Plato (4)
30 Our setting's contrived - for an artist it's fine ?? (5,4)
31 *Anguilla* is absorbing the Spanish (4)

Down

1 Fashionable? Kitsch? I collect hides (4)
2 Cried, suffering over malady, primarily of the skin (6)
3/4 With the appearance of a show vegetable, Dad comes first ? (8)
5/24 What Mötley Crüe, say, made to rock our Establishment ?? (4,5)
7/26 It's shown by two over four, strangely, where S & B get together ?? (5,4)
8 This joint's in painful state with painful joints ?? (9)
12/21 Mistakes confessed to - rare at breakdown (6)
14 Is the setter not a little brain-tired? (4,1)
15 Nice chap - Komorník's under 19, unbelievably (5)
16 Yorkshire pub cooking... iron sulphide ?? (9)
17 Tours undertaken - industry leaders? (3)
19 Physicist showing up in Rotherham hotel (3)
21 See 13
22 Perhaps seal sliver of bone after throwing up (6)
24 See 5
25/10 Nuts to gather under this? (4-4)
26 See 7
27 See 26
28/27 Most of capital raised to count up to the death (8)



Explanation and notes:

The setting mistake, very commonly committed by beginners and some others, is the Indirect Anagram. The Preamble points to 18 as giving help for solvers “astray here” i.e. LOST IN THE MARCIA, “lost” being an anagram indicator. 14a lists in alphabetical order the letters of THE MARCIA, to show what the fodder is.

Non-thematic clues:

AMERSHAM	Charade of Amer. + SHAM; the town is in Buckinghamshire
AMMO	A.M. + MO
IOTA	With i (current) TAO*
EELS	<i>Anguilla</i> is the eel genus; EL in ES
CHIC	Hidden in kitsch I collect
DERMIC	M in CRIED*
PARADISH	Charade PA + RADISH - “with the appearance of a show”
ERRATA	(rare at)*
AIN’T I	Hidden in <u>brain-tired</u>
HOMME	Nice chap = “man” in French - ME after OHM*
TUI	Initial letters
OHM	Reverse hidden Rotherham <u>hotel</u>
ANIMAL	reverse of lamina

COCO-TREE	CD/DD - there would be (coco)nuts to gather under such a tree, but for people to gather under such a tree would indeed be “nuts”
MORTALLY	“to the death” as in “mortally wounded” - ROME reversed + TALLY

Thematic solutions (all are anagrams of THE MARCIA with the indicated letter substituted each time)

HIERATICA	(an ancient paper) I for M
CAME AT HER	(assailed the woman) E for I
MACHINATE	(to hatch a plot) N for R
CATHARISM	(a medieval Manichaeist belief) S for E
CAMEL HAIR	(fine hair for artists' brushes) L for T
HAIR METAL	(a “glam” form of heavy metal “music”) L for C
MARCH TIME	(2/4 time in music) M for A
RHEUMATIC	(with painful joints) U for A
MARCASITE	(iron sulphide) S for H

The substitute letters form SEMI-NULLS*