

# Solution Explanation for Mad Dog Cryptics #2

## ACROSS

1. Letter bank – DREAMERS (American hopefuls) from the letters (litters) of MADRES
5. Double definition – SOLID is both FIRM and “Do me a solid” FAVOR
8. Curtailment – AUDI (car) after removing the last letter from AUDIO
9. Reverse – PINS (needles counterpart) from SNIP (reverse vasectomy)
10. Double definition – SINKS (the Titanic goes down) and time SINKS (activities that waste time)
11. Letter bank – TATTOOS (ink) from TAOS
13. Beheading – EDGE(precipice) and LEDGE without the L (again without a loss)
14. Charades – NO LESS Florida State NOLES with the incorrect possessive NOLES'S
15. Anagram – STEINS (mugs) mixture of INSETS
18. Add a letter – ETHNIC (tribal or cultural) with N (negative response “no”) added to ETHIC (moral principles)
19. Ending – OUT (lost consciousness) appears at the end of bOUT.
20. Double definition – AUBURN (War eagle university) and chestnut (shade of hair)
22. Beginnings and Endings – CLERGY (clerics) ring (surround) CLEAn eneRGY
28. Double definition – FLETCH is a Chevy Chase movie role and an arrowmaker
29. Anagram – NAAN bread is an anagram of NANA (grandma)
- 30 Double definition – ROOTERS are fans and pig snouts
31. Homophone – ANTIC (whimsical act) sounds like old (ANTIQUE)
33. Container – AQUA (watercolor) appears in seAQUAke
34. Double definition – ROMA are gypsies from Romania and is also the Italian name of Rome
35. Letter bank – ESSAY (paper) built from the letters in AYES
36. Homophone – BRACKISH (more salty, less fresh) is kinda like Obama (Brack) and almost (ish)

## DOWN

1. Double definition – DAPPER is both sharp looking and one who daps (bumps fists)
2. Charades – AUSTERE (plain) is made up of AU (gold) and STERE (cubic measure)
3. Beginnings & cryptic alphabet – EASTERN (direction) is E (empty) and ASTERN (ship back)
4. Anagram – SARONG (tightly wrapped skirt) anagrammed (dissolved) in GROANS
5. Ending – SIS (sib – abbreviation for sibling) last part (SIS) part of getting a PHD (theSIS)
6. Word bank – every part (letter) of LINGERING (slow in parting) from the letters of GRINNEL (a college in Iowa)
7. Charades – DESIST (stop) is DE (remove) SIST (homophone of CYST)
12. Beginnings and Endings – SNIT (agitation) around a SNakepit
16. Letter bank – all the steps (letters) of TOURETTES (syndrome) from ROUTES
17. Curtailment – SON (offspring) is a short SONG (song without the G)
18. Curtailment – ETC (and more) is almost ETCHE (engrave) but without the last letter
21. Homophone – RUHR (German valley) sounds like (echoes) RUER (one who regrets)
23. Anagram – LORETTA (Lynn) is an anagram (retotalled) of RETOTAL
24. Charades – RANSACK (pillage a village) built from took flight (RAN) and fire (SACK)
25. Charades – AFLAME (still burns) from A plus FLAME (heartthrob)
26. Letter bank – BAOBAB (upside down tree) from the feathers (letters) in BOA
27. Hidden words – EN DASH (grownup hyphen) in zENDA SHorts
32. Container – CRY (shout) is in the center (core) of the word apoCRYpha

