

Hints for Decline and Fall

Parentheses around a clue mean that a letter must be omitted from the answer word before it will fit in the grid. Numbers in parentheses indicate lengths of answer words, and an asterisk * indicates a capitalized word.

Across

1. (Conjugate in French before half of lectures) (7)
2. (Small, rough, deformed male with grass) (7)
3. Sailor allowed a glass (6)
4. Comedian's means of communication (5)
5. Groom about to go inside cage (5)
6. Wicked Peter has no regret (6)
7. Commander holds terminal list (6)
8. Get up around noon to bathe (5)
9. Pandora cruelly denied a reprieve (6)
10. Fellow gets \$1000 for 1000 in attendance (4)
11. (Around the end of September, bring back fresh bird) (4)
12. Deviate from path heading west (3)
13. (Rode flat illegally to get tire tool) (8)
14. Seaman beginning to navigate lake (4)
15. Bird of wondrous wanderings (4)
16. Joined firm primarily to get exploited (5)
17. Spread and shake arms with energy (5)
18. Ada's had to swallow a bit (4)
19. . . . while mother wasted ten (6)
20. Refuse a stew that's cooked (5)
21. Papa managed with aid, getting confused and frail at the end of a meal (8)
22. Sapling cultivator (6)
23. (One isn't agitated with emotional strain) (7)

Down

1. (Native gets medicine for new prisoner) (6)
2. Driving from bed right before eviction (8)
3. Baby losing mass daily (5)
4. Rack of rotting flesh (5)
5. Member of motor gang (5)
6. City in Arizona with large synagogue (6)
7. Noah or Wallace like ale (5)
8. Sing of one barrier to love (5)
9. (Clean up and clear register) (8)
10. Quick-turning cars (5)
11. *Mystery entry* (10)
12. Get up to wrap rector in fiber (6)
13. Ceremonial meal includes knight and dispatcher (6)
14. Author has a unit of work to assimilate (5)
15. (Limb covering insect is absent) (7)
16. (Some pictures comprise a story) (4)
17. Malarkey about having wings (4)
18. Clean, white residue (4)
19. Hidden tooth has slight cavity (4)
20. *A Spanish horse in France and a wolf without a tail (7)
21. Something small contained in something large isn't, absurdly, about eating at first (5)
22. (Secure and prepare for slaughter, losing time for initiation of sacraments) (6)