

B. Real Numbers

In which we do a little a-rhythm-etic on some hit singles.

For this puzzle, we began by compiling a list of some of our favorite songs that have at least one number in their titles. Then we abbreviated those titles, leaving the numbers intact but using only the first letter of each word. So, for example, “99 Bottles of Beer on the Wall” would be presented as 99 B O B O T W.

Finally, we replaced one letter or number from each abbreviated title with a blank. The characters that belong in those blanks will spell, in the given order, a clue to this puzzle’s ten-letter solution. As an extra solving aid, we’ve given you a list of the artists—but in alphabetical order, not necessarily aligned with the songs they performed.

1 S F, 3 S ____

9 I T ____

____ O 69

____ O 17

3 L ____

__ 1 B T D

50 W T ____ Y L

____ O 1000 D

99 ____

2 ____ O 3 A B

G 3 ____

____ G B (500 M)

____ 5

____ W D 4 U

25 ____ 6 T 4

19th ____ B

____ N A

____ D A W

D 63 (____ W A N)

7 ____

L P N ____

Ariana Grande

The Beatles

Bob Marley and the Wailers

Bryan Adams

Chicago

Dave Brubeck

The Four Seasons

Jay-Z

Lynyrd Skynyrd

Meat Loaf

Olivia Rodrigo

Panic! at the Disco

Paul Simon

Prince

The Proclaimers

Queen

The Rolling Stones

The Searchers

Stevie Nicks

The White Stripes

Wilson Pickett