

THE ACTORACS

The answers to the clues at the top are:

REPAID, REDIPS, FLOW, STRAW, KEEL, TRAP

The items at the bottom are all associated with the items at the top after the words are "flipped". E.g., a frog has WARTS, a reversal of STRAW. The answers for the bottom are:

WARTS, PART, WOLF, LEEK, DIAPER, SPIDER

Reading down the diagonal (the slide) gives the final answer **WALKER**, something the acrobats might need if they broke a hip.

The Clowns

There are 6 differences between the clown at the top and the other clowns. If you look at the clowns that match the top clown for a particular difference, you will form a letter. The letter for the stars is formed the path made from tracing the pictures by number of stars.

Hand on the left side:	Line on center of flower:	Dark Nose:
.X.	XX.	XXX
XXX	XX.	.X.
X.X	X.X	.X.
Left collar missing:	Stars:	Has a ring:
-x.	321	XXX
.x.	456	.X.
.x.	987	.X.

The letters formed, reading in order of the difference from left to right, spell the answer **ARTIST**, which is what you could call the clown sketcher.



The Magician

Each item that disappears gets hidden in the text from a different section, and thus an item that was hidden elsewhere also appears in each section. The first Item is the CACTUS. Hidden in the text after the CACTUS is the ABACUS ("stAB A CUShion"). The next section to read is the section with the abacus, which is the seventh section. The hidden items in this order are:

Prickly plant	CACTUS	"magiC ACT Usually"
small calculating device	ABACUS	"stAB A CUShion"
a pair of knitting implements	NEEDLES	"I NEED LESs noise"
a sandwich cookie	OREO	"tORE Of"
fabric from a pair of pantyhose	NYLON	"maNY LONg"
a shiny bracelet	BANGLE	"loud BANG LEft"
a fancy scarf	ASCOT	"wAS COTton"
two pieces of green fruit	LIMES	"untiL I MESsed"

The answer is obtained from the initials of the hidden objects. Seeing as there are two knitting needles and two green limes, these letters are doubled. The answer is **CANNONBALL**, something possibly too heavy for the magician to make disappear.



The Contortionist

The answer to each clue on the left (as well as the answers to the clues at the bottom) are related to food. The answers to each pair of words at the top can be anagrammed, after adding a letter that goes in the middle, to make one of the answers for the clues at the bottom. The answers are:

CORN	ASTI	CROS S AINT
TART	RUBS	BRAT W URST
SOLE	GUSH	GOULASHES
OILS	SCAN	$\mathtt{SCAL}\mathbf{L}\mathtt{IONS}$
GINS	RISE	RIES L IGS
SAGE	INNS	SEAS O NING
DATE	SOAR	SODA W ATER
RICE	ORGS	GROC E RIES
SPAM	TINE	SPEA R MINT

The added central letters spell the answer, **SWALLOWER**, something describing the overeating contortionist.

The Ringmaster

The answers to the first four puzzles are all the second word of a two-word phrase naming a kind of performer found in a circus. The four performers are:

TIGHTROPE	WALKER
TRAPEZE	ARTIST
HUMAN	CANNONBALL
SWORD	SWALLOWER

Filling these in and transferring the letters as indicated gives the final answer:

THE GREATEST ROE ON EARTH