

NYT Spelling Bee Solver

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```
library(tidyverse)

## -- Attaching packages ----- tidyverse 1.3.1 --
## v ggplot2 3.3.5      v purrr 0.3.4
## v tibble 3.1.6       v dplyr 1.0.7
## v tidyr 1.1.4        v stringr 1.4.0
## v readr 2.1.0        v forcats 0.5.1

## -- Conflicts ----- tidyverse_conflicts() --
## x dplyr::filter() masks stats::filter()
## x dplyr::lag() masks stats::lag()

#all english words
word_list <- read_csv(paste0("https://raw.githubusercontent.com/dwyl",
                             "/english-words/master/words_alpha.txt"),
                      col_names = "word")

## Rows: 370103 Columns: 1

## -- Column specification -----
## Delimiter: ","
## chr (1): word

##
## i Use `spec()` to retrieve the full column specification for this data.
## i Specify the column types or set `show_col_types = FALSE` to quiet this message.

word_list <- word_list %>%
  mutate(length = str_length(word)) %>%
  filter(length >= 4)

#words to remove, weren't accepted in puzzle
nonwords <- c("fluoroformol", "fluoroform", "floramour", "floramor", "formular",
  "furfural", "furfurol", "affloof", "famular", "farfara", "florula",
  "formful", "mafurra", "alfuro", "fallal", "farfal", "faroff",
  "forfar", "formol", "fulful", "fullam", "fullom", "fulmar", "furfur",
  "mafura", "afara", "afoam", "alfur", "falla", "flaff", "fluor", "flurr",
  "foram", "forma", "forra", "froom", "fural", "luffa", "mafoo", "affa",
  "alfa", "faff", "fala", "fama", "farl", "faro", "flam", "flor", "foll",
  "fram", "frau", "fuff", "fula", "loof", "luff", "moff", "olaf", "olof",
  "raff", "ralf", "rolf")

word_list <- word_list %>% filter(!word %in% nonwords)
```

```

center_letter <- "f"
circle_letters <- c("m",
                    "u",
                    "a",
                    "r",
                    "l",
                    "o")
all_letters <- c(center_letter, circle_letters)

solving <- word_list %>%
  #filter to words with center letter
  filter(str_detect(word, center_letter) == TRUE) %>%
  #break work into letters
  mutate(lets = str_split(word, pattern=""))

solving <- solving %>%
  #check the word's letters against the puzzle's letters
  mutate(match = map(lets, ~.x %in% all_letters, lets=.x)) %>%
  #count number of matching letters
  mutate(matches = map(match, sum)) %>%
  unnest(matches)

answers <- solving %>%
  #keep words that only use the puzzle's letters
  filter(matches == length) %>%
  arrange(desc(length))

answers$word

## [1] "froufrou" "alfalfa" "falloff" "formula" "roomful" "armful"
## [7] "floral" "formal" "afoul" "aloof" "floor" "flora"
## [13] "flour" "fluff" "forum" "furor" "loofa" "offal"
## [19] "afar" "afro" "fall" "farm" "foal" "foam"
## [25] "fool" "fora" "form" "foul" "four" "from"
## [31] "full" "furl" "loaf" "muff" "roof" "ruff"

pangrams <- answers %>%
  filter(length >= 7) %>%
  #check the puzzle's letters against the word's letters
  mutate(lets = map(lets, unique)) %>%
  mutate(pangram = map(lets, ~.x %in% all_letters, lets=.x)) %>%
  #count number of matching letters
  mutate(p_matches = map(pangram, sum)) %>%
  unnest(p_matches)

pangrams %>%
  #keep words that only use the puzzle's letters
  filter(p_matches == 7) %>%
  arrange(desc(length)) %>%
  pull(word)

## [1] "formula"

```