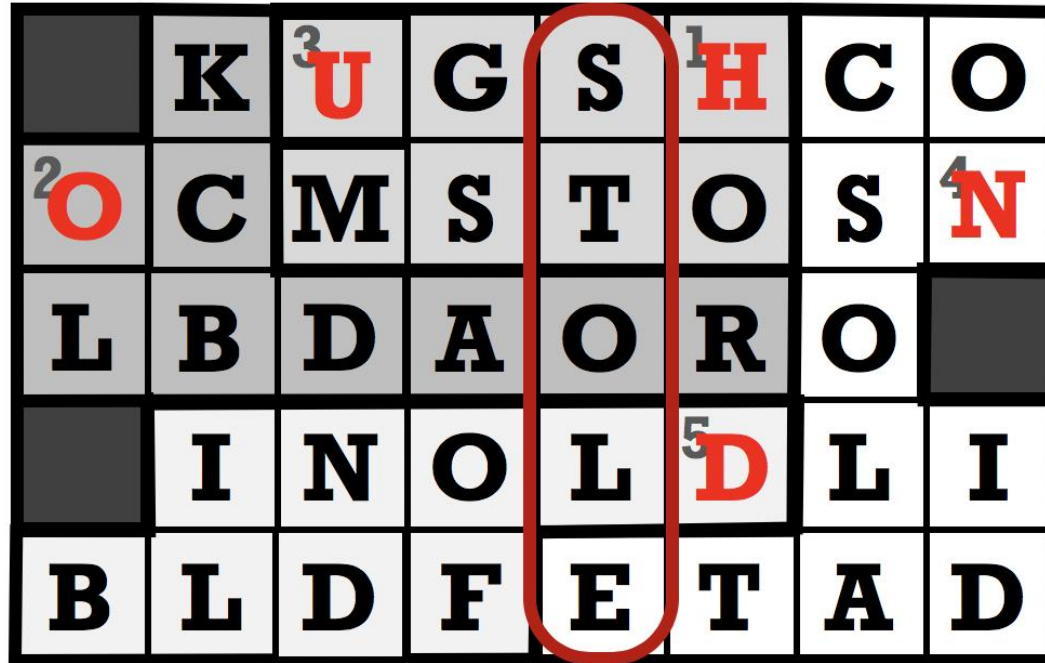


META: TAKING THE RAP

Solution: Frankie has been referred to as Frankie the HOUND through all four puzzles. Now we see why: he has the head of a hound dog! And when Louie says this job has your name written all over it, that would be HOUND, but it's also given by the clue, I hate to _____ you like this. When H, O, U, N, D are placed in the designated spaces 1,2,3,4,5 in the grid, there is then only one way each of the four solutions can be placed into those four regions:



Taking the fifth refers to the fifth column which spells out the word STOLE. Stole is of course a homonym (**how many m!**) and works for both blanks. By the way, “appropriate” and “appropriate” are not quite homonyms, but they’re close! Neither are “taking the rap” and “taking the wrap,” but there just fun..

Solution: **I STOLE THE STOLE** – which is technically just three words – it’s just that one of the words (STOLE) gets used twice!