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PLAY TO LEARN: ENGAGE STUDENTS WITH ONLINE ACTIVITIES

Why use games to engage students?

- Create a variety of supplemental learning materials for students to choose from while they are attempting to master the content of the course.
- Offers a variety of tools that allows students with different learning styles to find study aids that meet their needs.

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What types of games are available?

- Simple games (crosswords, matching, etc.) are useful for courses that include new terminology.
- More complex games (action mazes, simulations, virtual worlds) introduce higher-order thinking.
 - Critical analysis
 - Problem-solving

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What is Quandary?

- Quandary is an application for creating web-based action mazes.
- An action maze is a kind of interactive case-study.
 - The user is presented with a situation.
 - The user is also given a number of courses of action to choose from in order to deal with the situation.

Adapted from a presentation by Stacey Williams, Director of Distance Learning, NVCC

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What is Quandary?

- When the user chooses an option he/she is presented with the resulting situation and another set of options to choose from.
- Working through this branching tree is like negotiating a maze, hence the name "action maze."

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Action Maze Applications

- Problem-solving
- Diagnosis
- Procedural training
- Let's view a sample maze that was created by Stacey Williams, Director of Distance Learning at Naugatuck Valley Community College:
 - [Stocks_for_CBEA.htm](#)

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Best Practices

- Take the time to become familiar with the program
- Give yourself enough lead time to develop the maze
- Develop a storyboard first
- Test Test Test!
 - Functionality
 - Interactivity
 - Understandable
 - Get a volunteer to try it out before posting it in a course

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Let's visit Quandary...

- Home page
 - <http://www.halfbakedsoftware.com/quandary.php>
- Quandary Tutorial
 - http://www.halfbakedsoftware.com/quandary/version_2/tutorial/tutorial.htm
- Performance Analysis Example:
 - http://www.crsol.com/knowledge_center/pfat/perffact.htm

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Hot Potatoes™

- Let's make a very simple crossword puzzle using Hot Potatoes™, and create an HTML page.
- See attached handout with step-by-step instructions.
- Hot Potatoes™ Home Page:
 - <http://hotpot.uvic.ca>

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Let's create a crossword puzzle and then try it out...

- [The Color Of.htm](#)
- Here's an example of a crossword from my Principles of Management online course:
 - [Ch1Crossword.htm](#)

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Questions?

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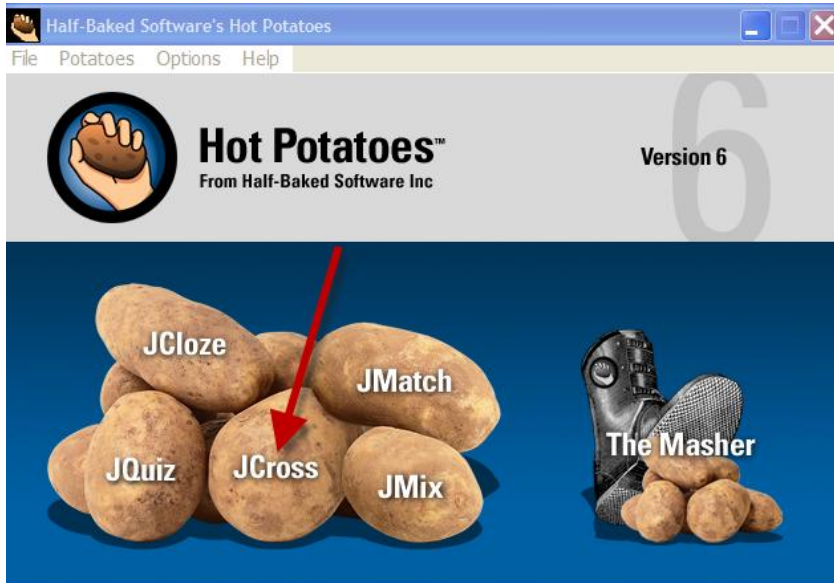
11

Creating a Crossword Puzzle Using Hot Potatoes™ and Saving it as an HTML file:

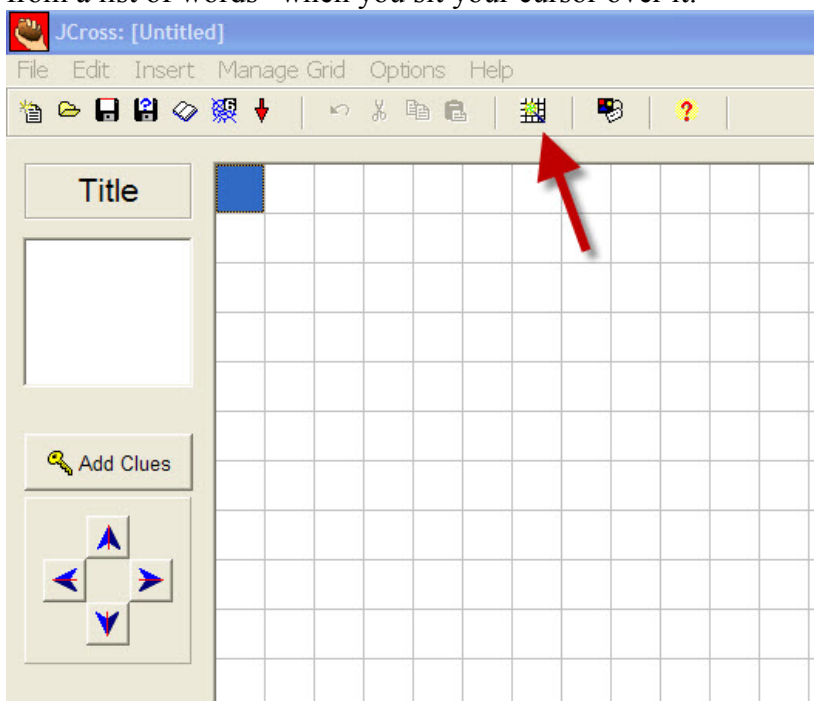
Here's the link for downloading the Hot Potatoes™ software onto your computer:

<http://hotpot.uvic.ca/>

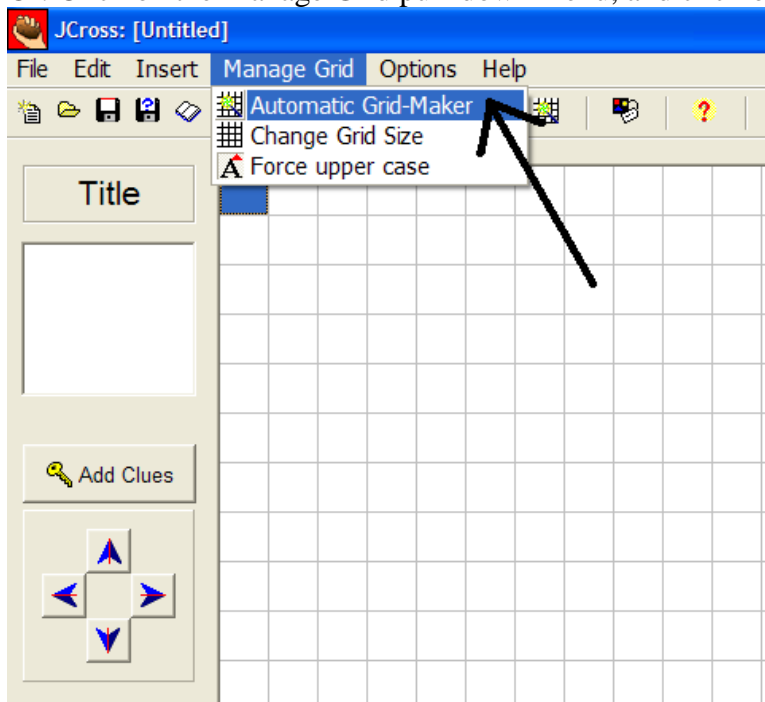
1. Open Hot Potatoes™
2. Click on JCross



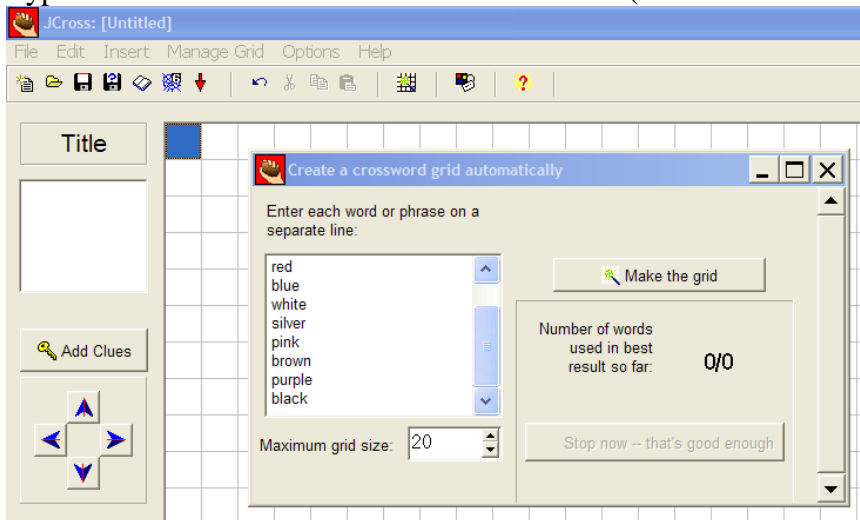
3. Click on the icon that's the 3rd from the right (it says "Create a grid layout automatically from a list of words" when you sit your cursor over it).



- a. Or: Click on the Manage Grid pull-down menu, and click on Automatic Grid-Maker

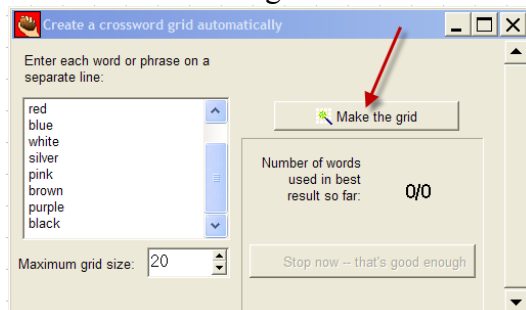


4. Type in each word and hit enter after each word (I use a maximum of 20 words)

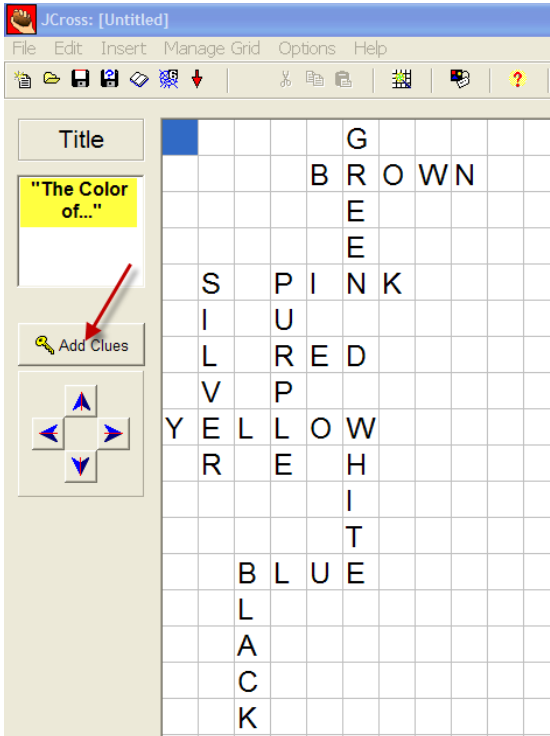


- a. If one of your "words" contains more than one word, don't include a space between the words.

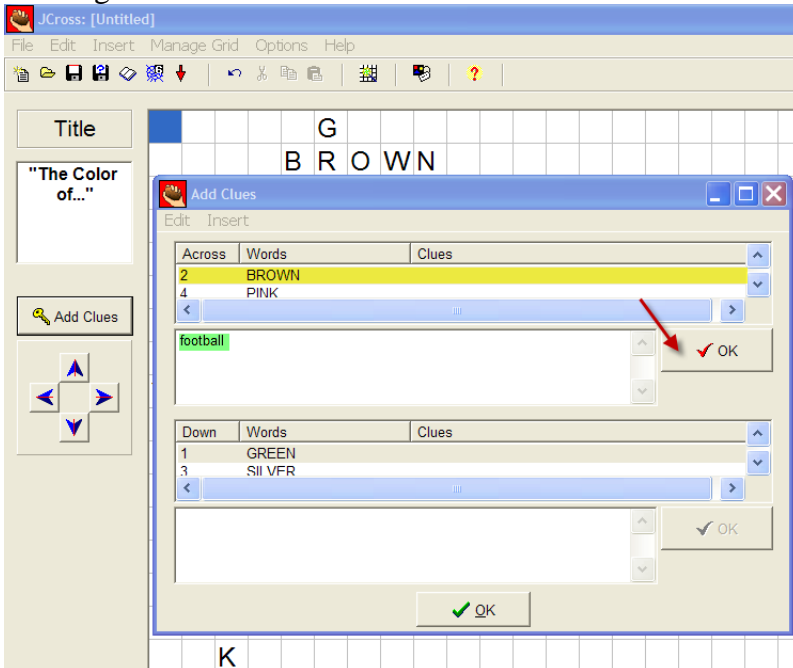
5. Click on "Make the grid"



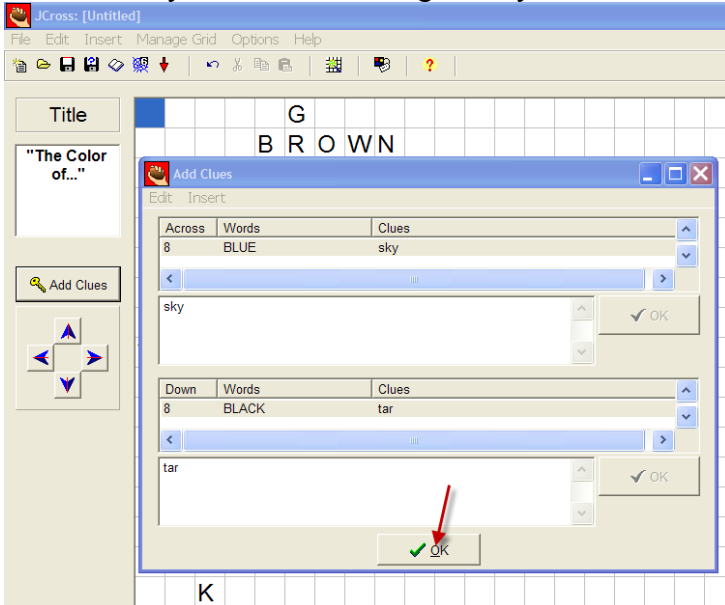
6. Type in the title of your crossword in the box under "Title" on the left hand-side of the screen.
7. Click on "Add Clues"



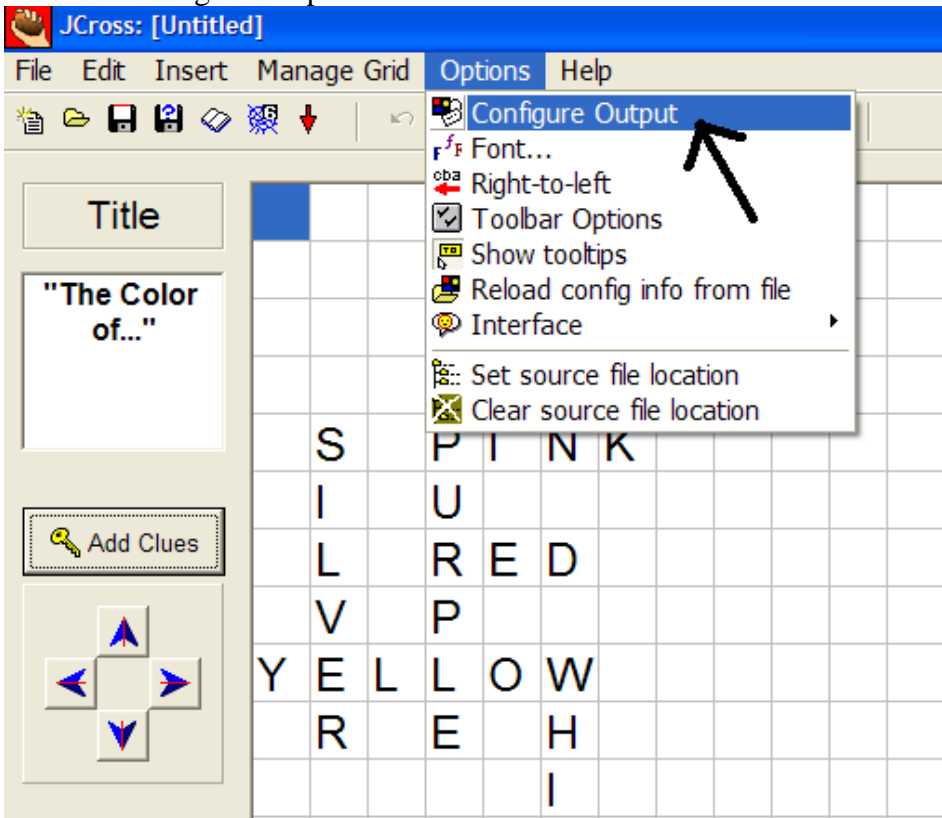
8. Click on the word you want to enter the clue for, type in your clue for that word (and include a hint if it is more than one word and a note not to include spaces between words), then click on the "OK" with the red check mark under the section (across or down) that you are working on.



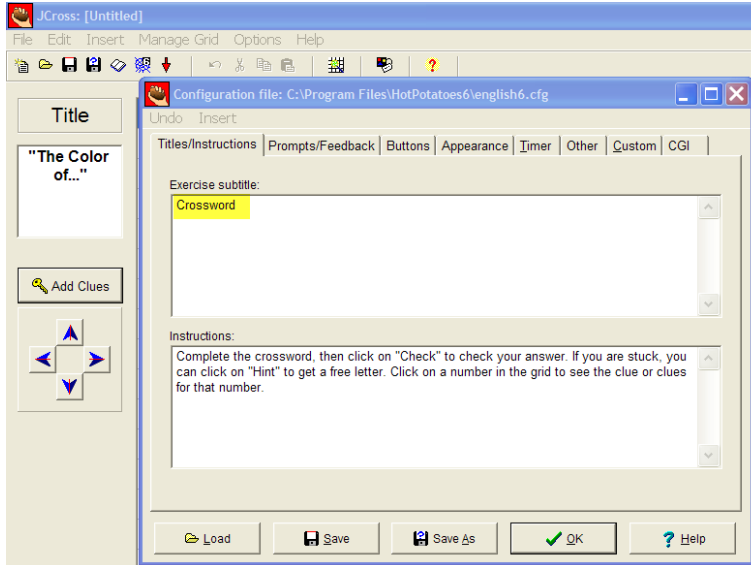
9. Do this for each word, and click on “OK” with the green check mark at the bottom in the center when you’re done entering all of your clues.



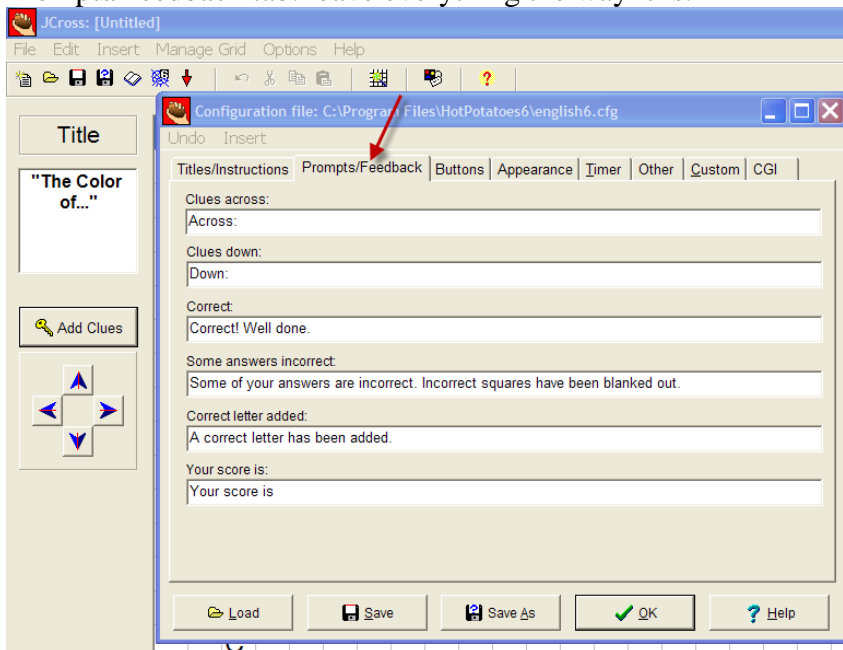
10. Click on the Options pull-down menu
11. Click on Configure Output



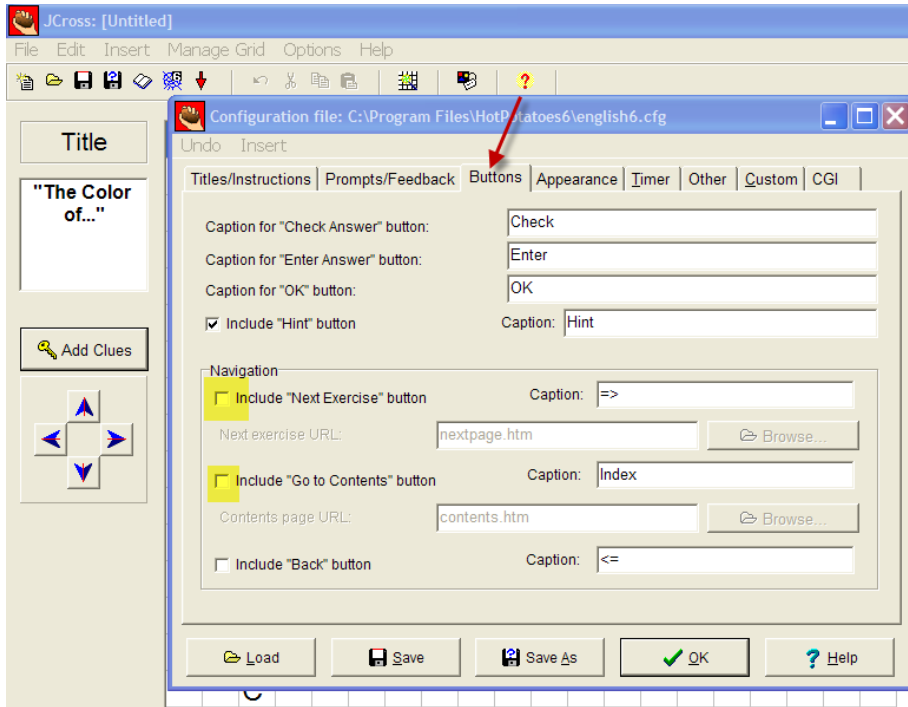
12. In the Titles/Instruction tab, delete the word “Crossword” if you already entered a title that has the word “crossword in it.” Leave the rest of that tab alone.



13. Prompts/Feedback tab: leave everything the way it is.



14. Buttons tab: Click in the boxes for “Include Next Exercise button” and “Include Go to Contents button” to remove the checkmarks.

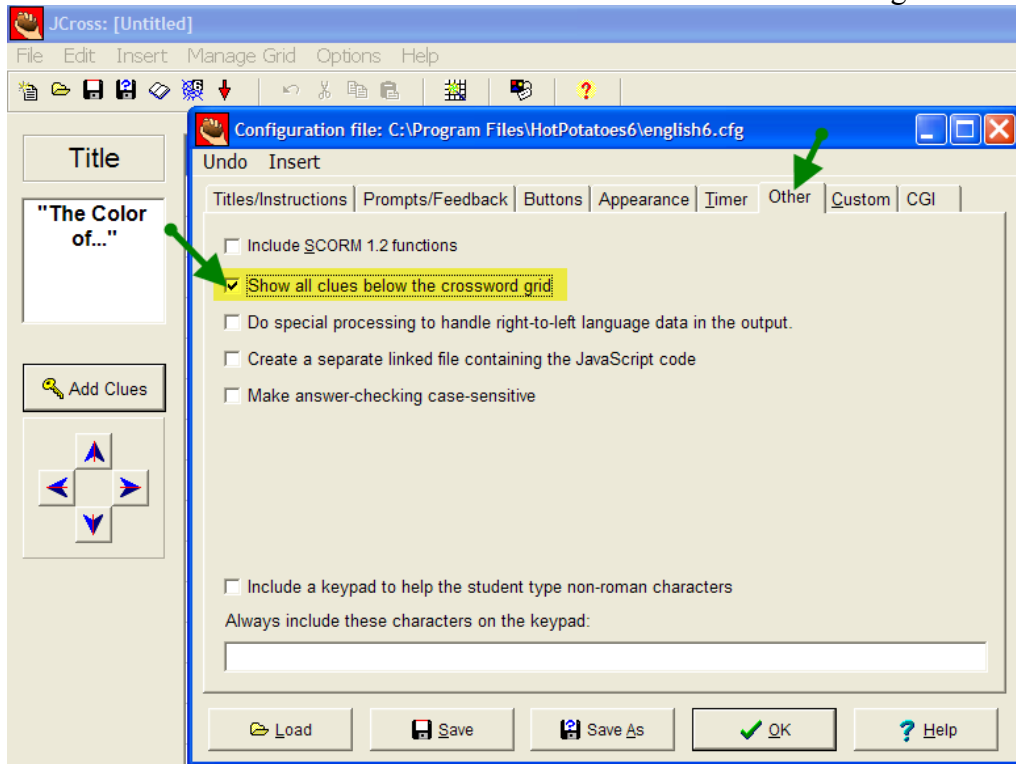


15. Appearance tab: leave everything the way it is

16. Timer tab: leave as is, unless you want it to be a timed exercise

17. Other tab

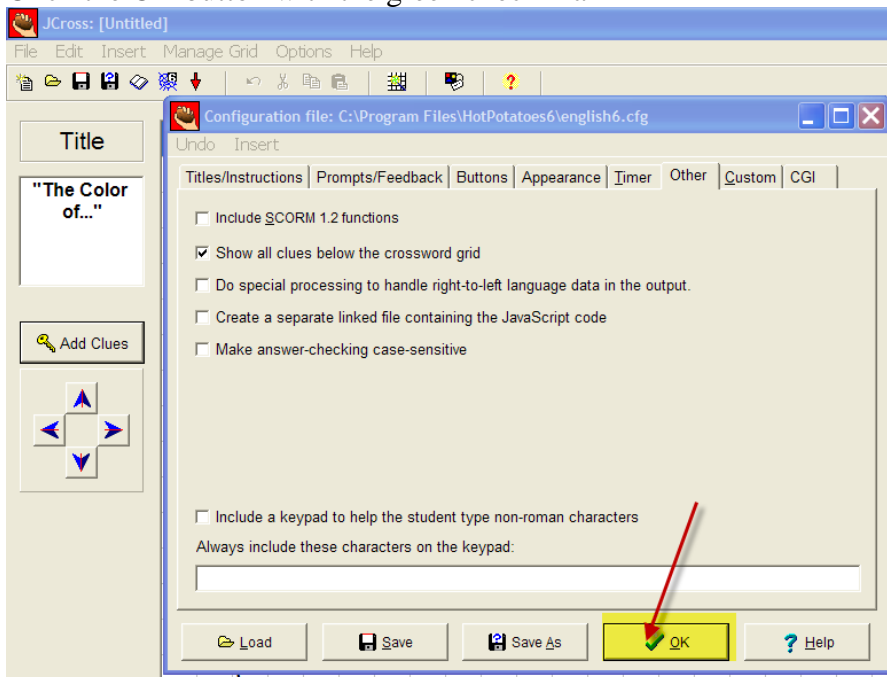
- a. Click in the box for “Show all clues below the crossword grid”



18. Custom tab: leave everything the way it is

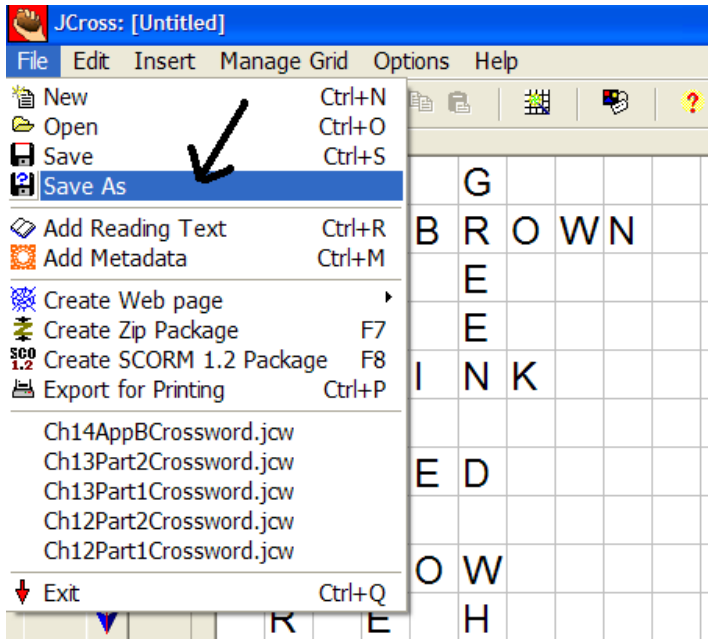
19. CGI tab: leave everything the way it is

20. Click the OK button with the green check mark

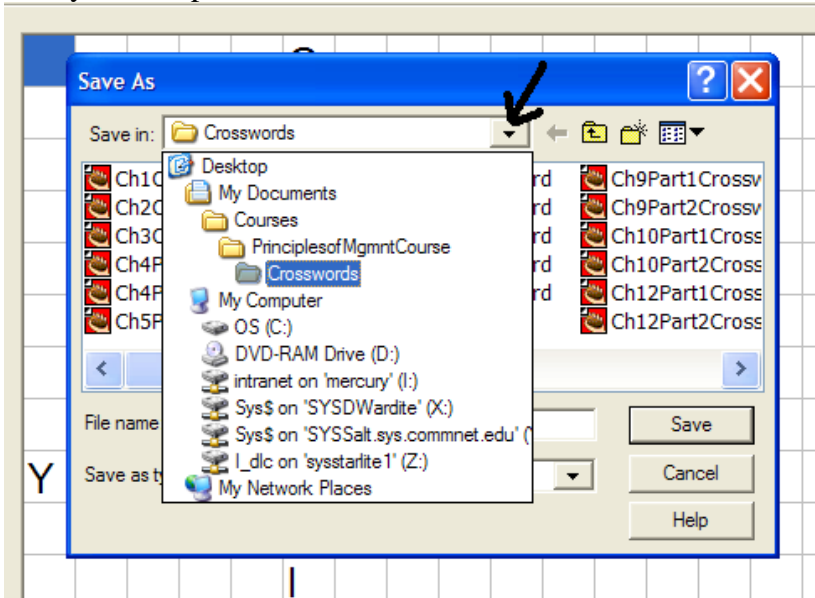


21. Click on the File pull-down menu

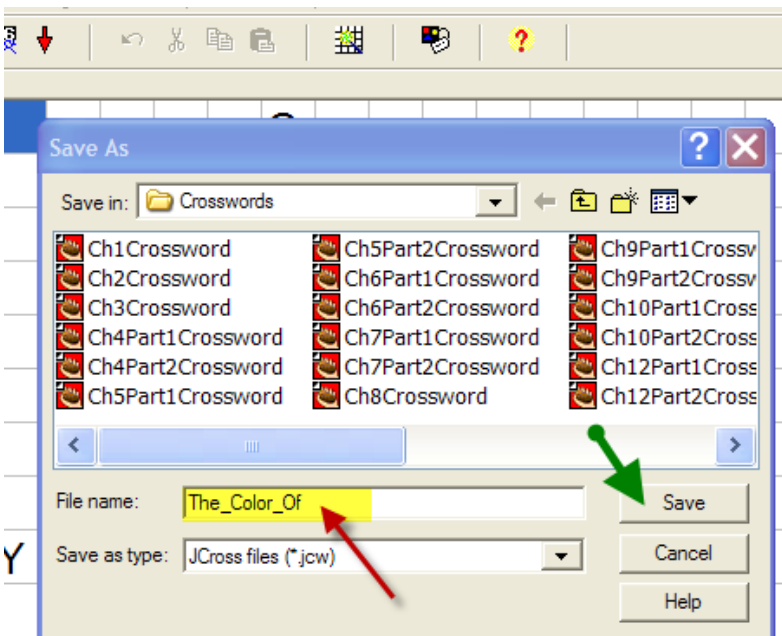
22. Click on Save As



23. Click on the arrow to the right of the Save in: box to browse and find where you want to save it on your computer

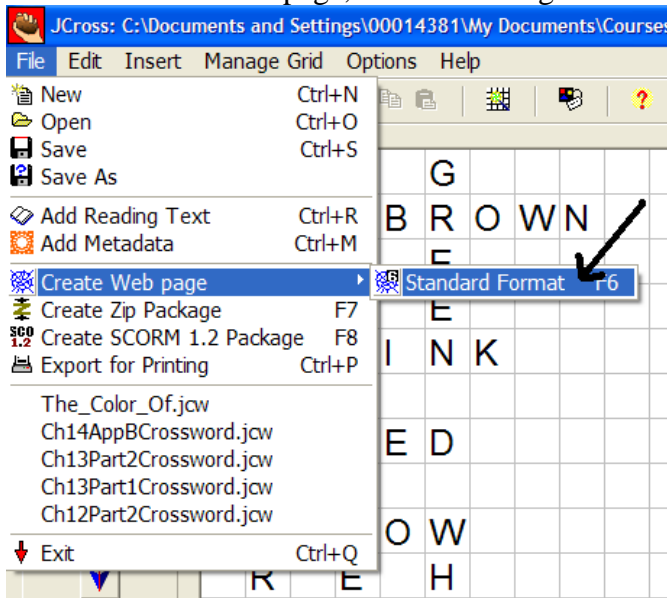


24. Insert a name for the crossword in the File Name: box
25. Click Save



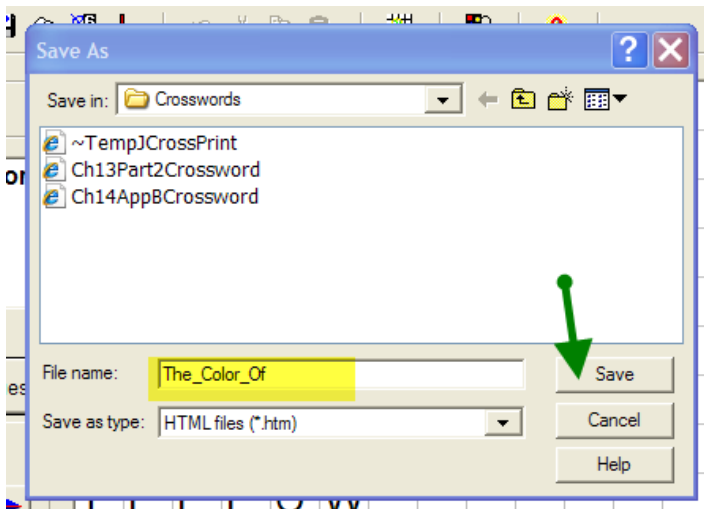
26. Click on the File pull-down menu again

27. Click on Create Web page, scroll to the right and click on Standard Format

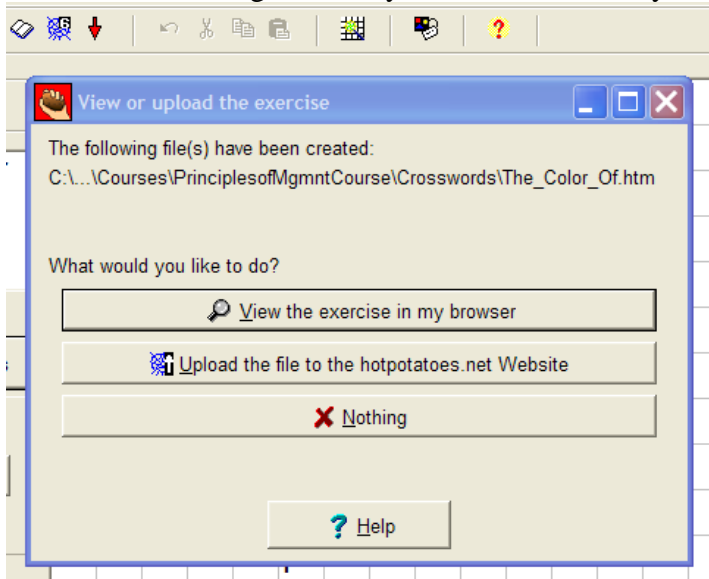


28. Type in a name in the File Name: box

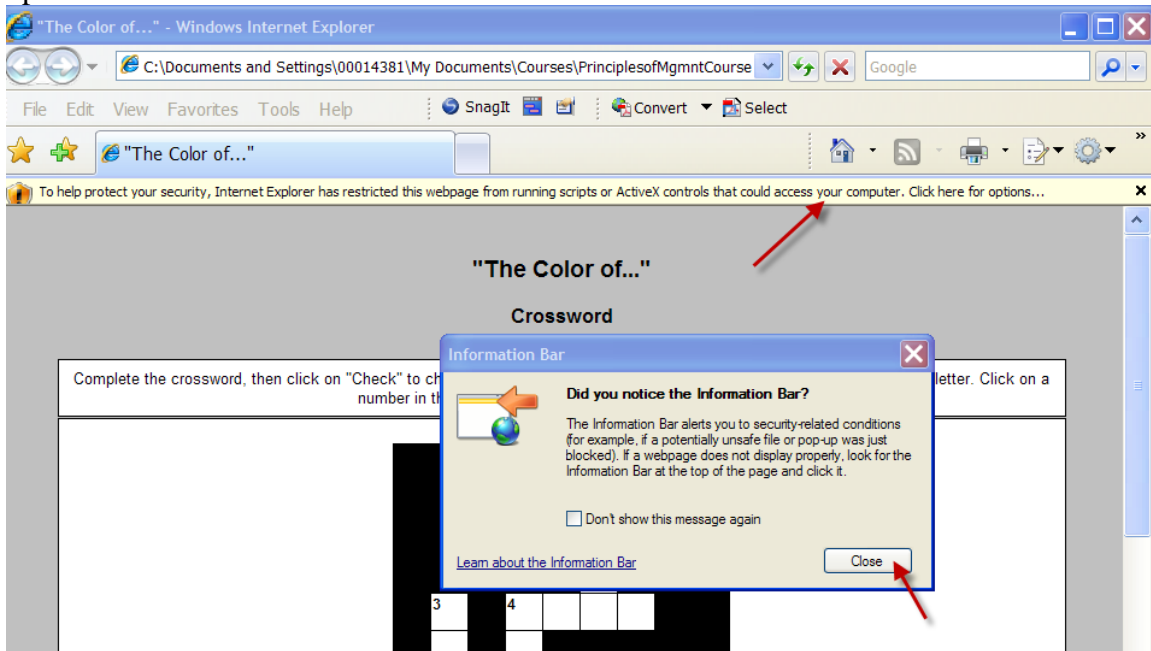
29. Click Save



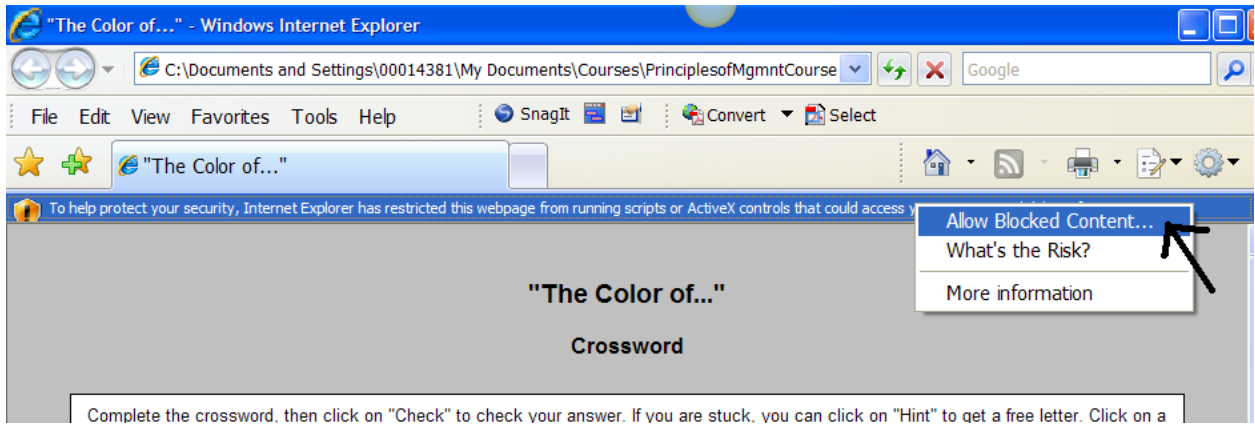
30. Now you can either View the exercise in your browser, Upload the file to the hotpotatoes.net Website, or Nothing. I usually like to view it in my browser and proofread it.



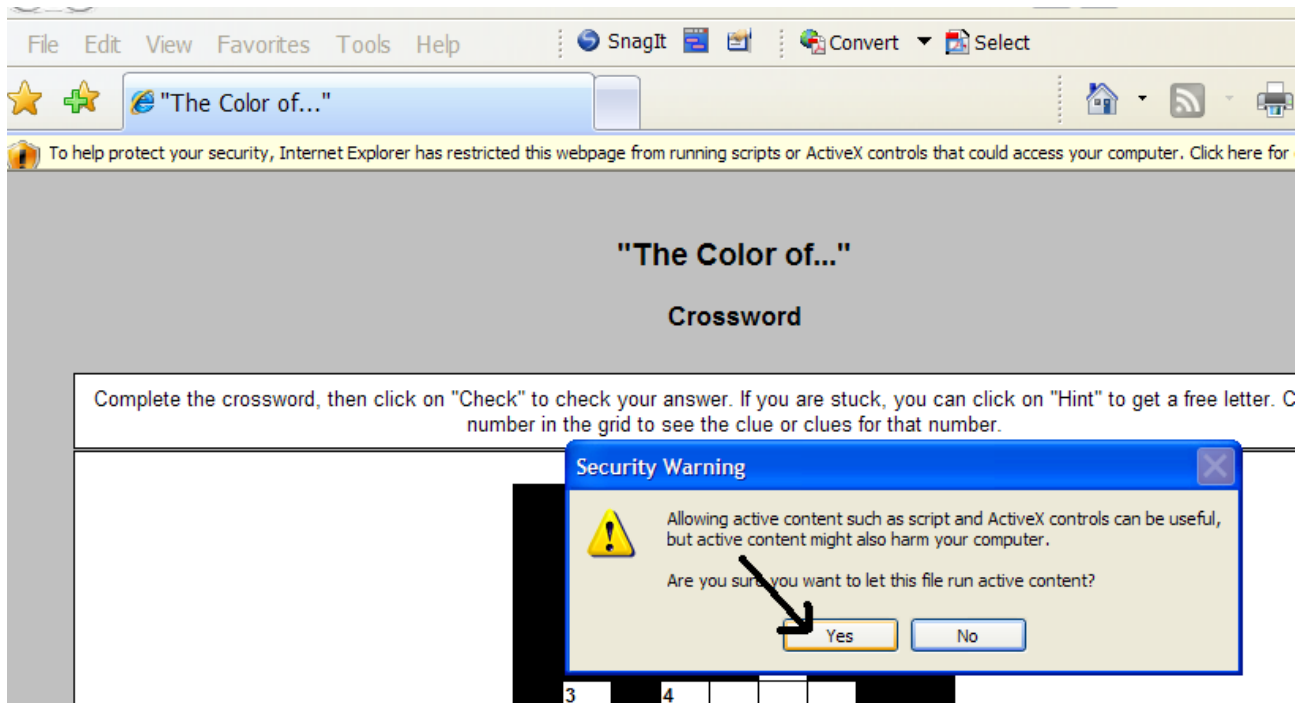
31. Close the Information Bar warning message, and click on the light yellow bar for more options.



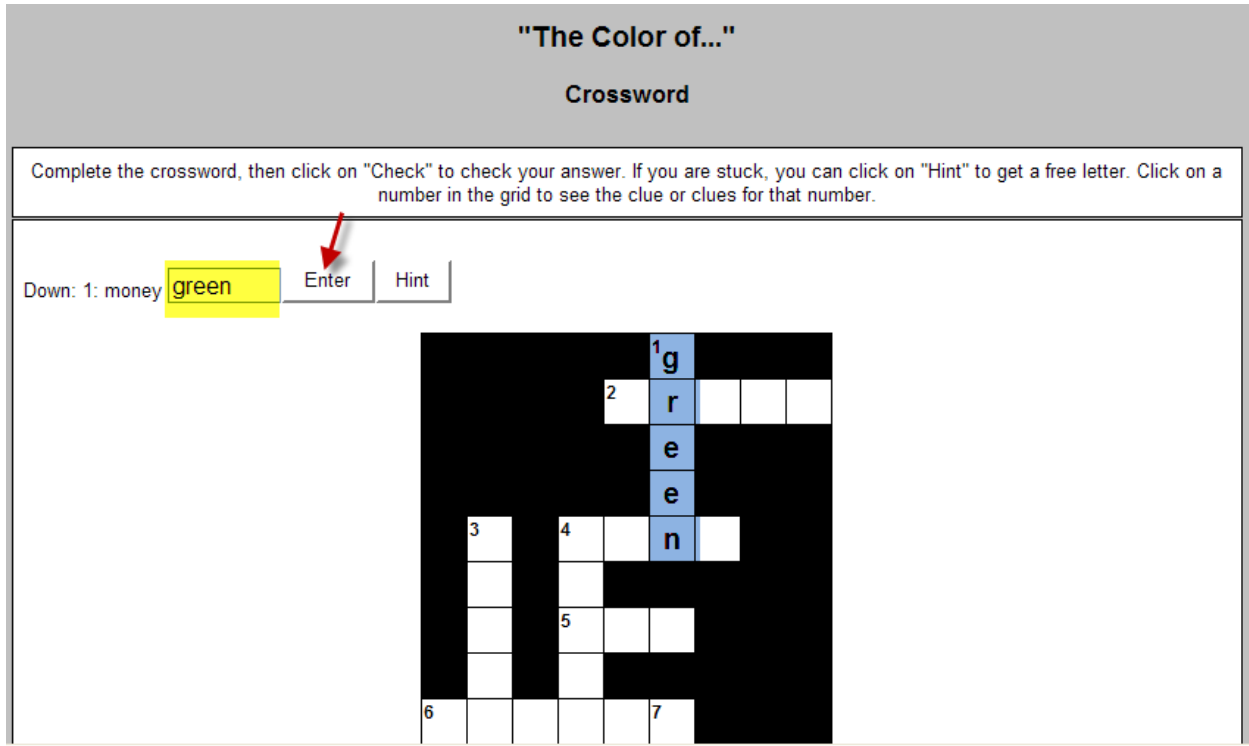
32. Click on Allowed Blocked Content



33. Click Yes



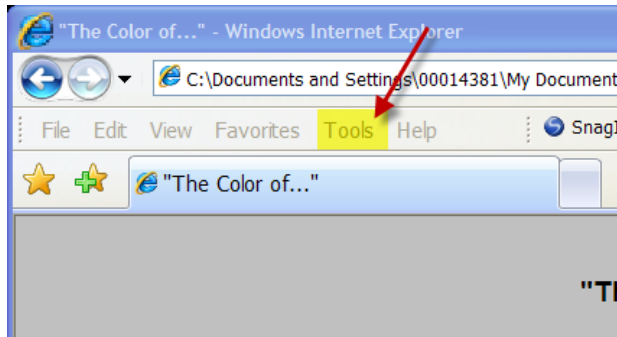
34. Now you can try out your crossword...



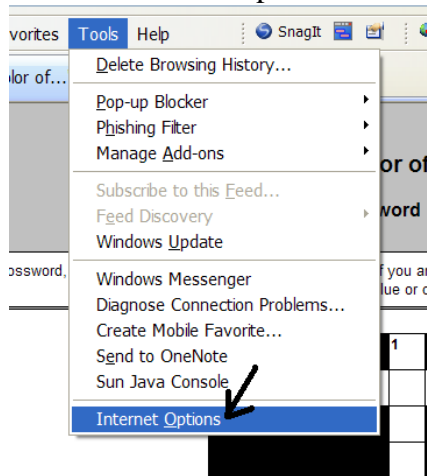
35. Now you can insert the html file into a PowerPoint, into a web site, etc.

To print out the crossword using Internet Explorer:

1. For the black boxes to appear when you print it out, you may have to do the following:
 - a. Click on the Tools menu



b. Click on Internet Options



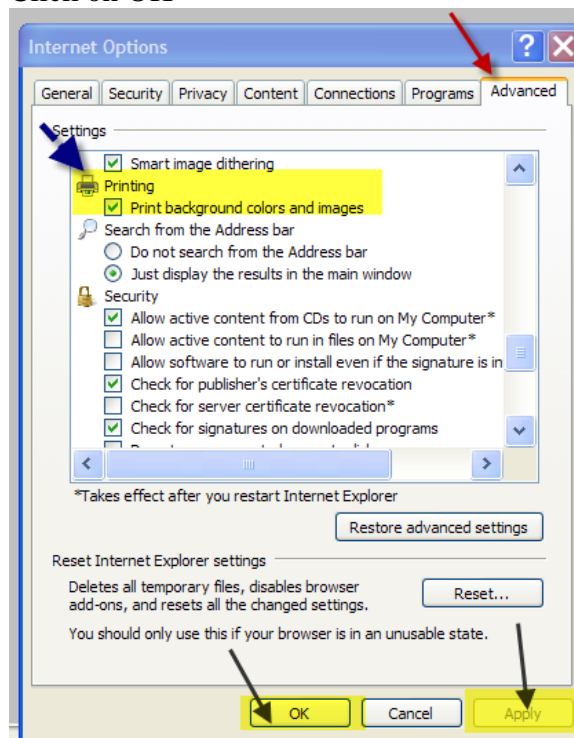
c. Click on the Advanced tab

d. Scroll down until you see "Printing"

e. Click in the box in front of "Print background colors and images"

f. Click on Apply

g. Click on OK



2. Don't forget to go back and turn off the "Print background colors and images" when you're done so that you don't waste ink for your everyday print outs.