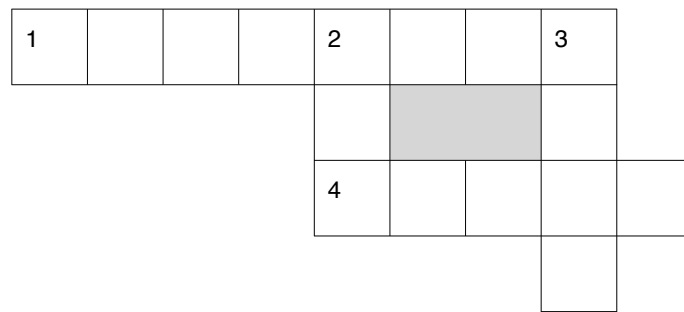
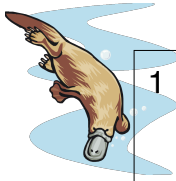


5. Now put in the numbers, again using the printout as a guide. Also give a gray background to 'islands'—empty cells surrounded by word cells. (Black islands waste ink.)



And you are done! You now have a nice, clean puzzle that you can easily size, rotate, reposition, etc. as you like, and add graphics to freely!

You also have complete control over colors, fonts, etc. And you can easily modify your puzzle to different levels of difficulty for different classes, rather than making completely different puzzles for students at different levels.

	1					2			3	
						4				

NOTE: It's not a bad idea to also have a print out of the answer key for yourself.

P	L	A	T	Y	P	U	S	
				A			I	
				K	O	A	L	A
							M	

HEY, WAIT A MINUTE! What about the clues?

Oh, yeah. The clues.

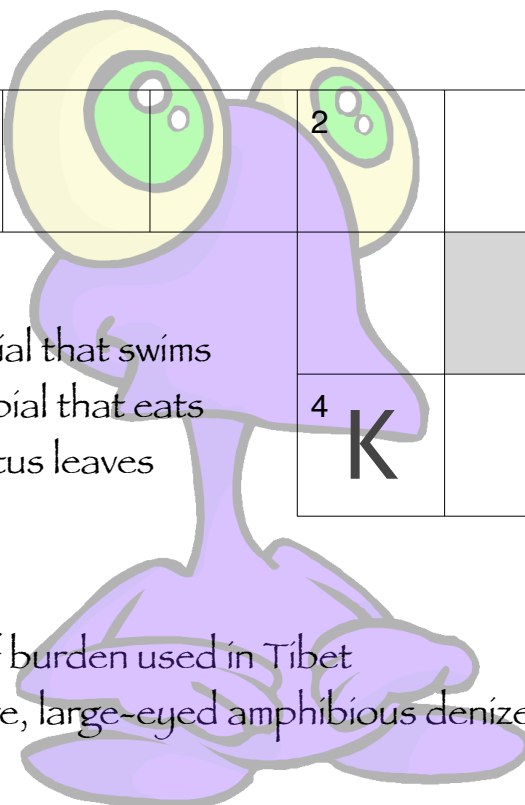
Okay, well, if you are using the crossword for listening homework or an in-class listening exercise, you could just give the word as the clue. “Number one across is *platypus*.”

If you want to give conventional crossword puzzle clues, printed on the sheet with the puzzle, type them up in one or more text boxes so you can easily place them wherever you wish on the page. You might want to put all the ‘down’ clues on half the copies, and all the ‘across’ clues on the other half. That way, you can put students in pairs to do the puzzles as an information gap exercise—the crossword puzzle becomes a speaking and listening, as well as vocabulary, exercise.

You might also use just images as the clues. These could be in a clue table, as textual clues usually are, or placed at the head of the spaces in the crossword (as above).

And, finally, if you want to make the puzzle easier, here are two possibilities. One is to give the answers alphabetically in a word bank. I like to make my word banks very small and in faint gray, to encourage students to try to do the puzzle without help from the word bank.

The other way to make a puzzle easier is to fill in the harder spaces, or even some of the words.



1			2			3	
							WORD BANK
							koala
							platypus
							slim
							yak
			4				
			K				A

ACROSS

- 1. a marsupial that swims
- 4. a marsupial that eats eucalyptus leaves

DOWN

- 2. a beast of burden used in Tibet
- 3. a cute, rare, large-eyed amphibious denizen of the Amazonian basin