

Neophobia Hints

Hint 1:

Each line is a normal clue, but each word in the clue has been transformed according to a certain rule.

Hint 2:

You might notice that the answers to the clues don't fit in the blanks...

Hint 3:

Use the rule to transform each clue, and apply it to that clue's answer.

Hint 4:

All of the transformed answers will be related to doing things the same way. You can use this fact and the rules to backsolve missing clue answers.

Hint 5:

Here are the transformation rules for each clue:

Replace the first letter with the first four letters of a fruit and an L.
Replace the final letter with a word meaning "nation"
Remove first letter and add ITY to the end.
Remove the fifth letter and add a T to the beginning.
Add a letter to the beginning and the letter's name at the end.
Replace the first letter with CO.
Remove the first letter, replace the second letter with its NATO alphabet equivalent, then add an I after it.
Remove the third letter and add a name to the end.
Add a cardinal direction to the front without the first letter and replace the last letter with XY.

Change the last letter to an instrument in a band.
Add first three letters of a day of the week, plus the second letter of that day to the beginning.
Reverse the first two letters and add an H to the beginning.
Add IARIT before the last letter.
Reverse the word, then switch the last two letters and insert a U between them.
Move first letter forward 7 places.
Add a word meaning "out" and its opposite before the last letter.
Place the first letter after the first two letters of a word meaning "cost", and the rest at the end.
Swap the first two letters and surround with an article of women's clothing.

Hint 6:

After placing the transformed answers in the blanks and taking the indicated letters, you get a final clue that has its own transformation.

Each line is a clue that has been transformed according to a certain rule. First you must figure out the transformation rules to restore the clues and answer them. Then use the rule that was applied to each clue and apply it to the clue's answer (making it the "same" as the clues). This will give a word related to doing things the same way.

Transformation Rule	Untransformed Clue	Clue Answer	Transformed Answer
Replace the first letter with the first four letters of a fruit and an L.	REGION LARGER THAN A TOWN	CITY	BANALITY
Replace the final letter with a word meaning "country"	PLATFORM USED FOR PERFORMANCE	STAGE	STAGNATION
Remove first letter and add ITY to the end.	VERY COLD OR SEXUALLY UNRESPONSIVE	FRIGID	RIGIDITY
Remove the fifth letter and add a T to the beginning.	NUCLEAR ENERGY EMISSION	RADIATION	TRADITION
Add a letter to the beginning and the letter's name at the end.	UTTERANCE AFTER A PRAYER	AMEN	SAMENESS
Replace the first letter with CO.	NEW INNOVATION LIKE THE COTTON GIN	INVENTION	CONVENTION
Remove the first letter, replace the second letter with its NATO alphabet equivalent, then add an I after it.	OBLIGATION OR MILITARY SERVICE	DUTY	UNIFORMITY
Remove the third letter and add a name to the end.	USES SCISSORS	CUTS	CUSTOM
Add a cardinal direction to the front without the first letter and replace the last letter with XY.	DISAGREEABLE BODY SMELL	ODOR	ORTHODOXY

Change the last letter to an instrument in a band.	BARBIE FOR EXAMPLE	DOLL	DOLDRUMS
Add first three letters of a day of the week, plus the second letter of that day to the beginning.	EMMY, GRAMMY, OSCAR, AND WHAT?	TONY	MONOTONY
Reverse the first two letters and add an H to the beginning.	WORMS USED FOR FISHING	BAIT	HABIT
Add IARIT before the last letter.	ONE'S RELATIVES	FAMILY	FAMILIARITY
Reverse the word, then switch the last two letters and insert a U between them.	NUMBER THAT COMES AFTER SIX, SEVEN, EIGHT	NINE	ENNUI
Move first letter forward 7 places.	BETWEEN SMALL AND LARGE	MEDIUM	TEDIUM
Add a word meaning "out" and its opposite before the last letter.	SCALE'S SECOND NOTE	RE	ROUTINE
Place the first letter after the first two letters of a word meaning "price", and the rest at the end.	MYSTERY DETECTIVE DREW	NANCY	CONSTANCY
Swap the first two letters and surround with an article of women's clothing.	OFFICIALLY OR LEGALLY PROHIBIT	BAN	DRABNESS

The transformed words fit into the blanks. Taking the indicated letters gives another transformed clue: LOGREENUD SOBLUEUND. The rule for this clue is to place a color after the first two letters of each word. So the untransformed clue is LOUD SOUND, the answer to this clue is BOOM, and placing the color RED after the first two letters gives the final answer BOREDUM, which is the result of doing things over and over in the same way.