



DEATH

hiroko martin

DEATH

DEATH is the cessation of all biological functions that sustain a living organism.

Death can be caused by a variety of conditions, including, but not limited to:

aetas, atis, f.

what is the noun and corresponding adjective related to “old age” in Latin?

morbus, i, m.

malnutritio, onis, f.

what could the prefix *mal-* mean? Can you think of a Greek prefix with a similar meaning?

trauma, matis, n.

dehydration

what are the word formation components of this term that we know?

GENERAL TERMS

LATIN

Nouns

exitus, us, m.

(clinical terminology)

exitus letalis

mors, tis, f.

(pathological anatomy)

finis, is, m.

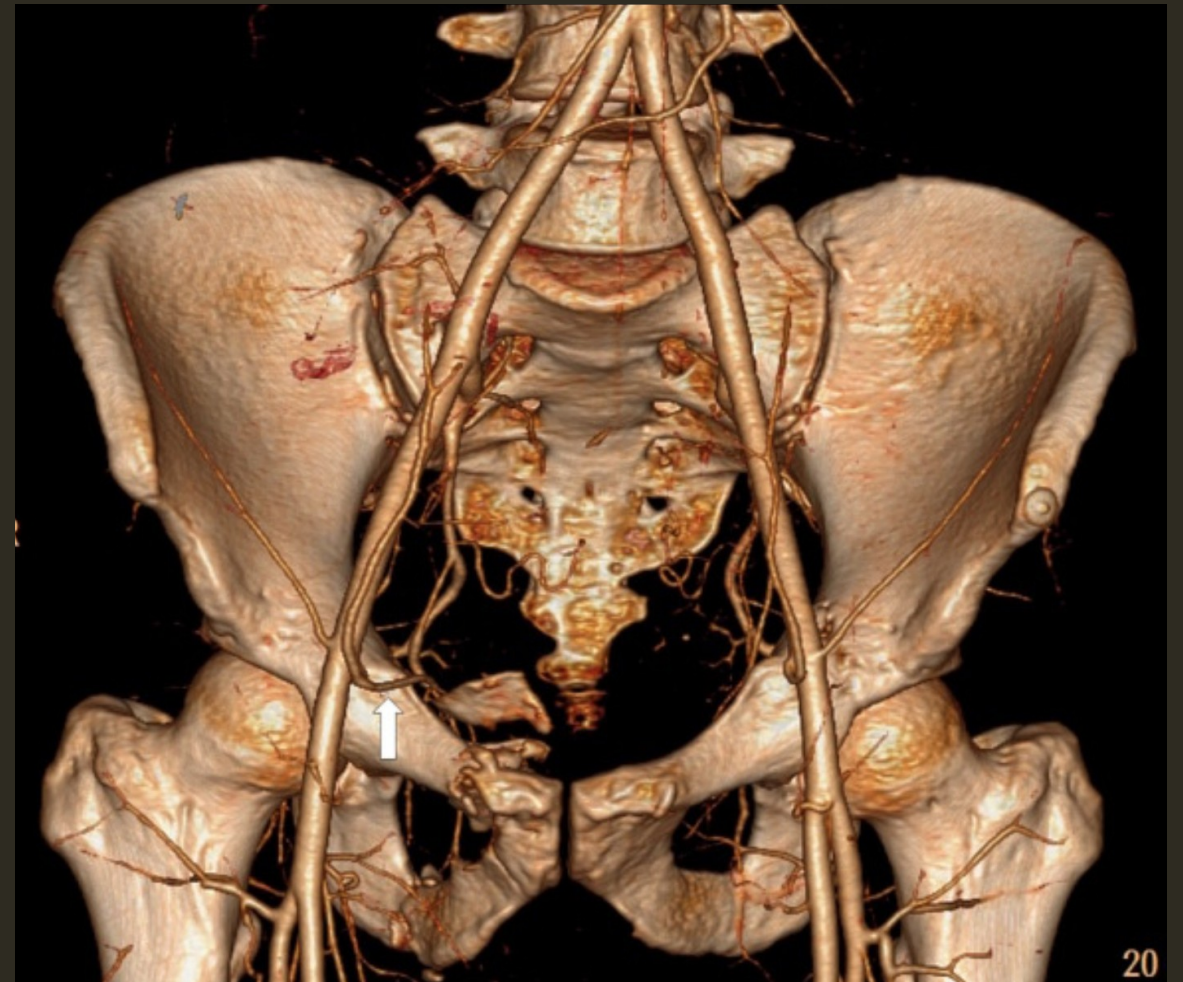
“the end”

Adjectives

letalis, e / mortalis, e*

“lethal, deadly, fatal, mortal”

* from *letum, i, n.* meaning “violent death, annihilation, killing”



corona mortis

a. obturatoria

a. iliaca externa



WORD FORMATION

GREEK

thanat-

thánatos (θάνατος)

“death”

thanatophobia

necr-

nekrós (νεκρός)

“dead body”, “dead tissue”

necrosis

necrophilia

verruca necrogenica

OTHER TERMS AND EXPRESSIONS RELATED TO DEATH

Adjectives

moribundus, a, um

“the one who is going to die, dying man”

mortuus, a, um

“dead”

Expressions

in articulo mortis

“in the moment of death”

in ultimis / in extremis

“in the last moments of life”

vita minima

“weak signs of life”

«... *in articulo mortis per diminutionem capitis.*»

from *Ulysses*, James Joyce, 1922





TYPES OF DEATH:
MORS BIOLOGICA MORS CLINICA

mors biologica (cerebri)

permanent (irreversible) cellular damage resulting from lack of oxygen

mors clinica

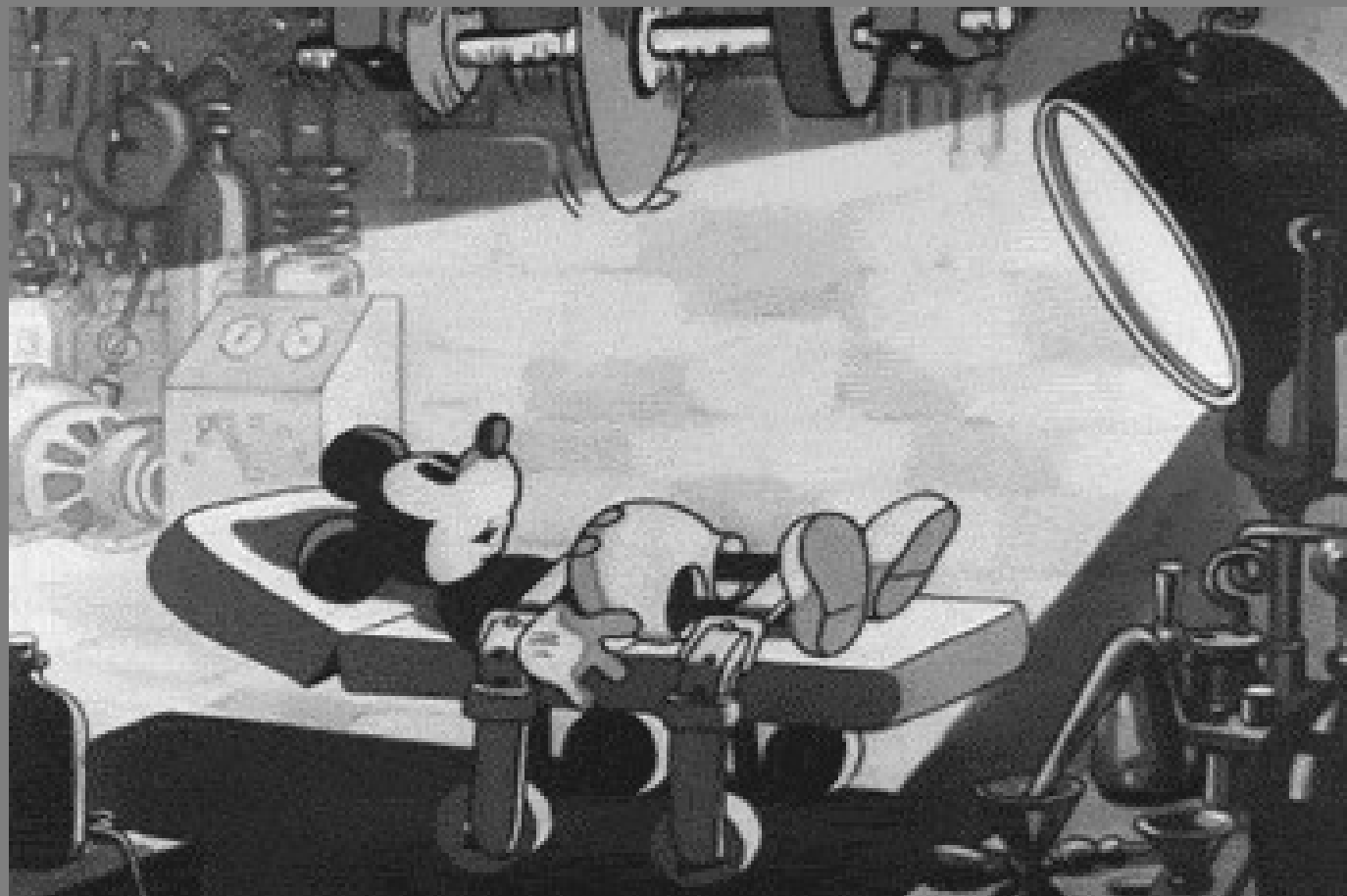
a cessation of blood circulation and breathing, which is reversible by resuscitation methods

CIRCUMSTANCE OF DEATH

mors in tabula

death on the operation table

“mors voluntaria” = suicidium, ii, n.





mors subita

sudden death

mors lentissima

very slow death

SPEED OF DEATH:
MORS SUBITA MORS LENTISSIMA

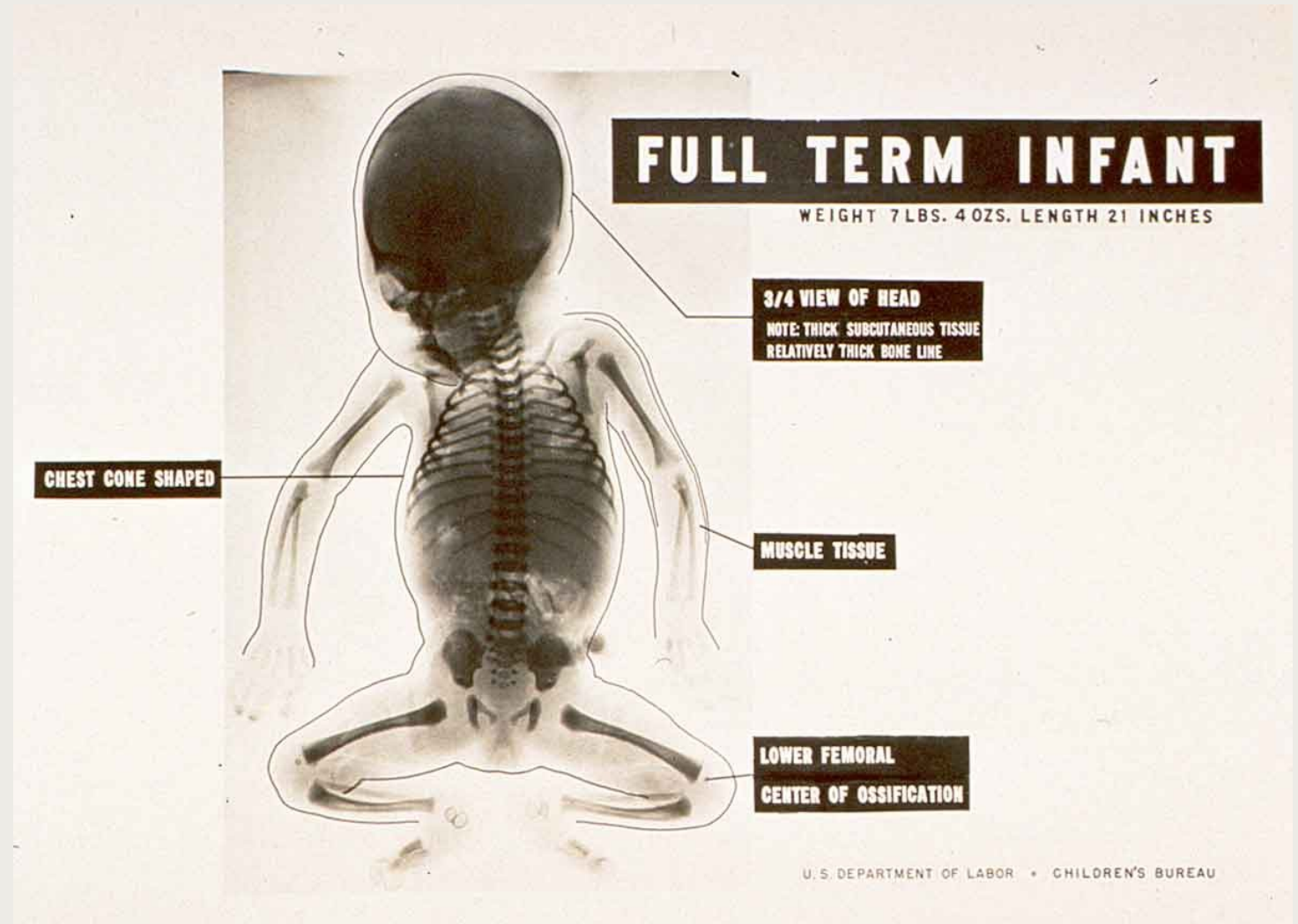
PERINATAL DEATH

mors neonatalis

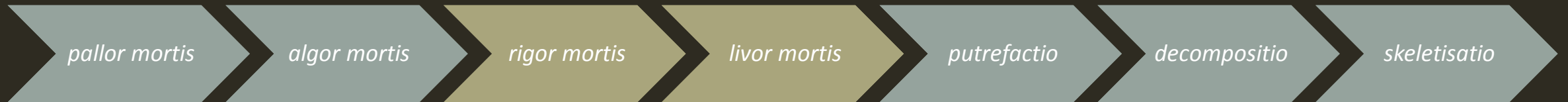
death of a newborn up to 10 days after birth

mors praenatalis

death of fetus before it starts breathing independently



STAGES OF DEATH



RIGOR MORTIS

rigor mortis

rigor, oris, m.

stiffness, rigidity

post mortem stiffness caused by chemical changes in the muscles

Onset of *rigor mortis* can occur as soon as 4 hours *post mortem* and subsides ca. after 24 hours.



LIVOR MORTIS

livor mortis

livor, oris, m.

bruise, bluish color

a settling of the blood in the lower (dependent) portion of the body after death causing a purplish-red discoloration of the skin

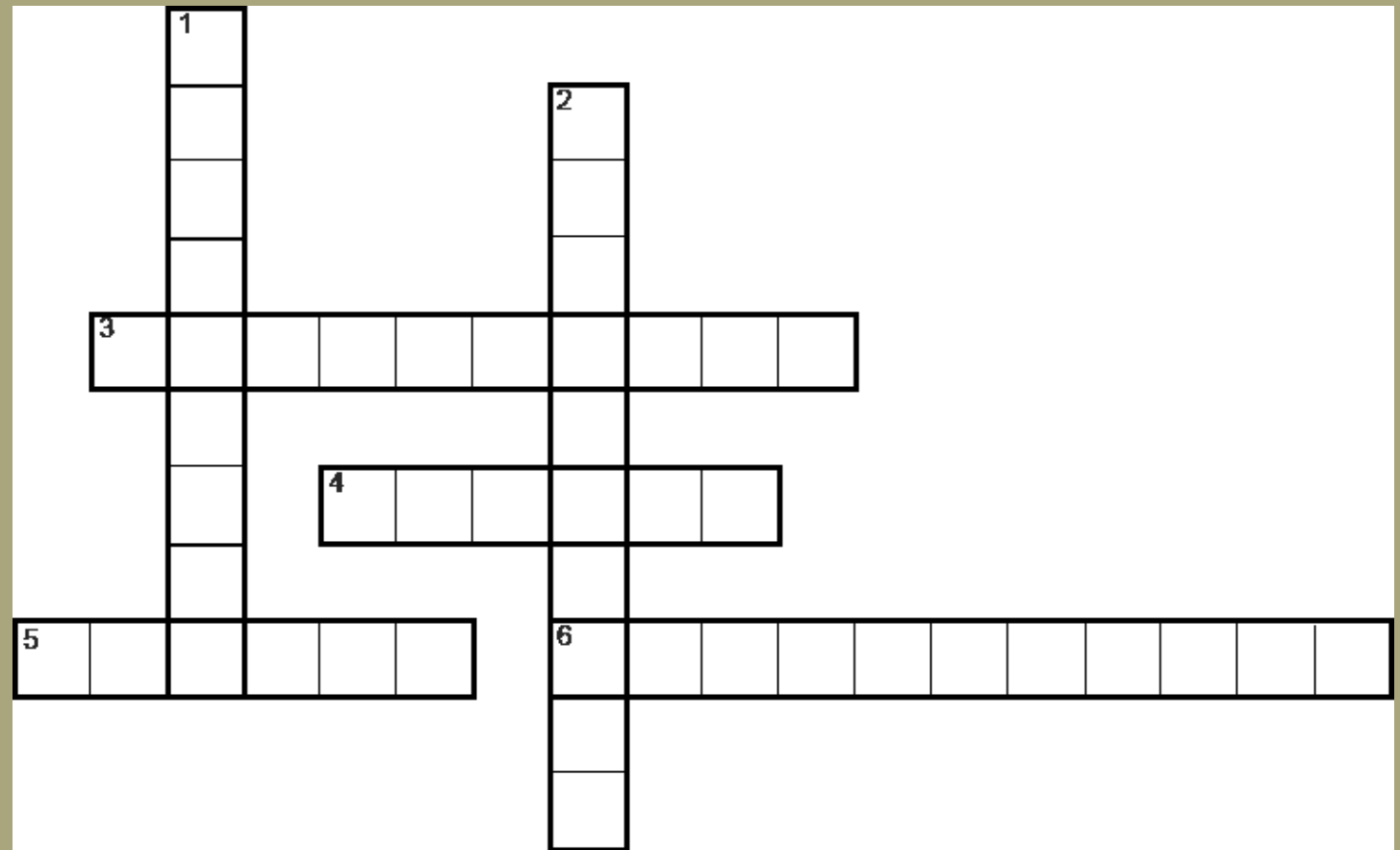
Onset of *livor mortis* is within 20-30 minutes *post mortem*, but is not usually observable by the human eye until 2 hours after death. Maximum lividity is around 8 – 12 hours after death.



CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

- 3 adjective, nom. sg., masculine form, meaning "the one who is going to die" or "dying man"
- 4 noun, gen. sg., meaning death, used in pathological anatomy
- 5 Greek word formation root meaning "death" (not full/original Greek form!)
- 6 two words (non-agreed attribute) used to describe the discoloration and bruising that appears on the body post mortem



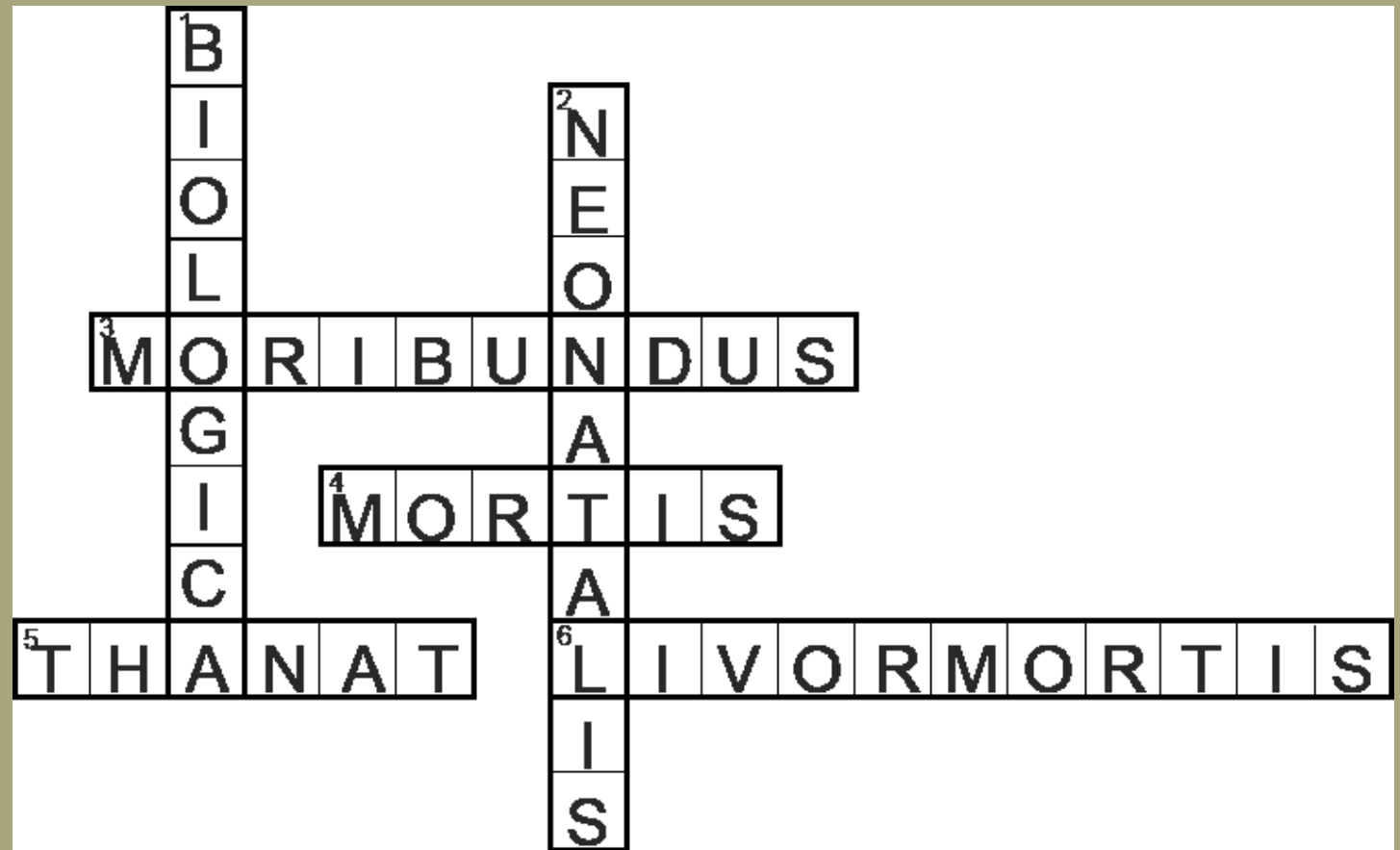
DOWN

- 1 *mors* _____. adjective, nominative singular, used with "*mors*" to denote a type of death that is caused by irreversible cellular damage
- 2 *mors* _____. adjective of third declension, masculine/feminine form, used with "*mors*" to denote a type of death in newborns up to 10 days after birth

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FINIS

mors vincit omnia

“death conquers all / death always wins”

donec mors nos separaverit
til death do us part

stipendium peccati mors est
the reward of sin is death

victoria aut mors! / aut vincere aut mori
victory or death! / either to conquer or die

timor mortis conturbat me
the fear of death confounds me





...OR DOES IT?