

1+	1	1	1	1
F	L	T	R	S
2	3	4	5	6
L	S	R	F	T
2	3	7+	5	6
R	F	S	T	L
2+	3	7	5+	6+
T	R	L	S	F
8	3+	9+	9	9
S	T	F	L	R

Clues

1. If a disease could pass through air _____, that would be truly terrifying. Perhaps little comfort, but COVID-19 absolutely cannot do that. **FILTERS / FLTRS**
2. Internet figure who makes deliberately incendiary comments, thus unnecessarily and unfortunately adding an element of worry to human exchange. **TROLL / TRL**
3. They are a form of tax on imports, sometimes enacted through economic fears. **TARIFFS / TRFS**

4. Measure of contagiousness. **R0 / R**
5. It's hard to keep the proverbial _____ upper lip and not let oneself be consumed by fear. **STIFF / STF**
6. _____ation Therapy, aka Sensory Deprivation, is said to reduce anxiety. **FLOAT / FLT**
7. Name of pizza shop in 1980s film where increasing racial tension and fear culminated. Also, in a nice Setka coincidence, the initials of that film's director. **SAL'S / SPIKE LEE / SL**
8. Worried? Nu? _____! _____! (translation from Yiddish: Eat! Eat!) **ESS / S**
9. According to many Ted Talks (by people with lots of economic security?), _____ is good for us and fearing it is worse than experiencing it. Case in point: your puzzle constructor was inspired to submit a satiric piece to McSweeney's this week called "_____s where I'm still waiting for the growth mindset benefit to kick in", and it was rejected. (But write us if you want to see it!). **FAILURE / FLR**