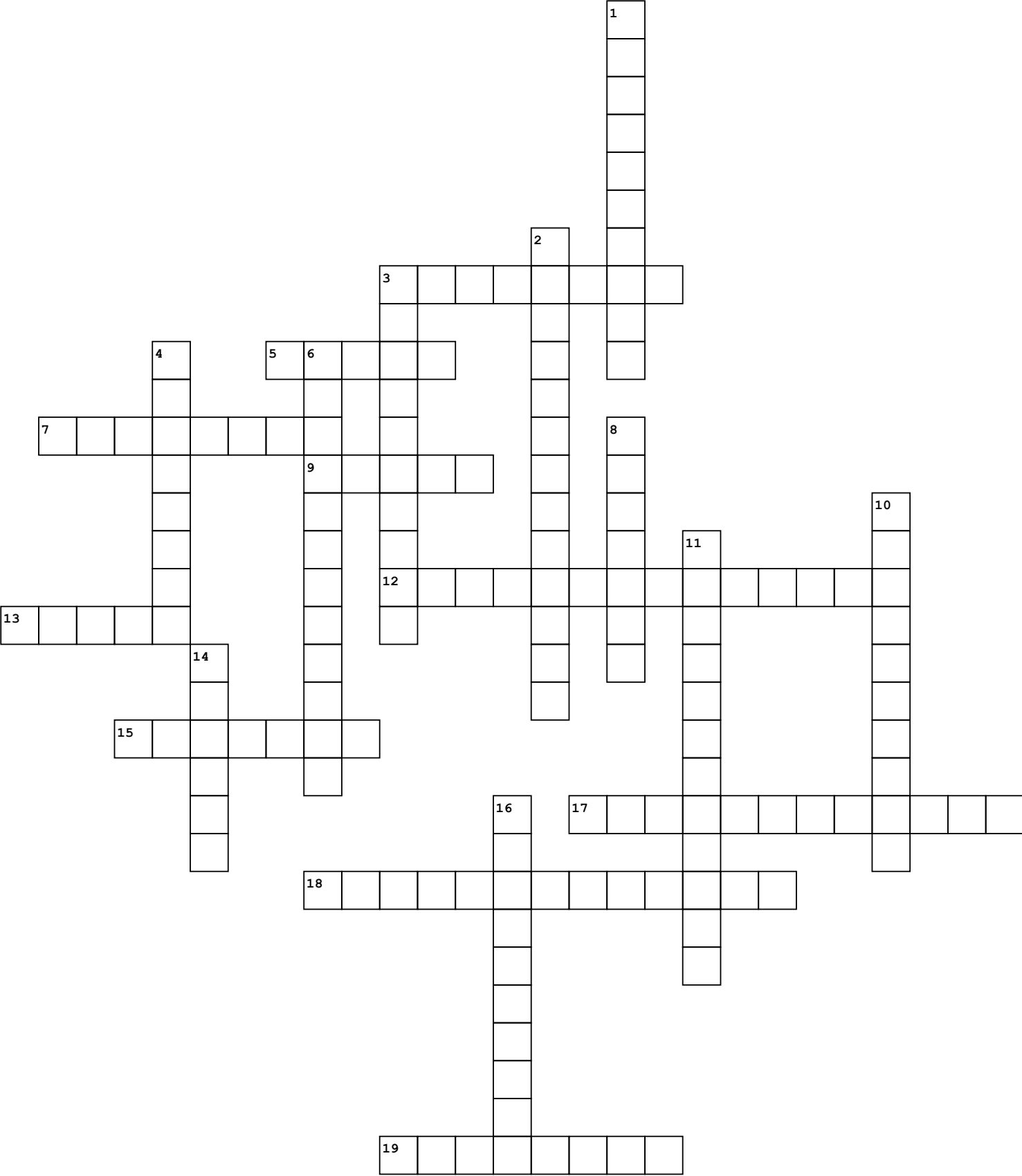


# The science of aging: what happens to our bodies as we grow older



### Across

3. Something characterized by a harmonious combination of elements.
5. The process of growing old, marked by a gradual decline in physiological function.
7. Relating to or functioning as a skeleton.
9. The state or process of rotting or decomposition.
12. Pertaining to the heart and blood vessels.
13. A distinct period or stage in a process of change or forming part of something's development.
15. Something that is difficult or impossible to understand or explain.
17. Relating to the anatomy, functions, and organic disorders of nerves and the nervous system.
18. A change of form or nature of a thing or person into a completely different one.
19. Relating to or consisting of living cells.

### Down

1. Practical contact with and observation of facts or events.
2. Relating to the normal functions of living organisms and their parts.
3. The condition or process of deterioration with age.
4. A compound structure at the end of a chromosome that protects the chromosome from deterioration.
6. The years of retirement, normally after age 65.
8. Investigate and solve or explain something complicated or puzzling.
10. Age-related loss of muscle mass and strength.
11. A medical condition in which the bones become brittle and fragile.
14. The quality of having experience, knowledge, and good judgment.
16. Pertaining to the natural science concerned with the study of life and living organisms.