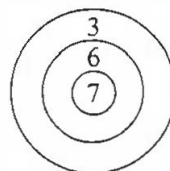


# Calendar Math

*Arthur Jorgensen*

Here are math exercises for the month of September 1998.

- In the Johnson house there are 10 pieces of furniture that are either 4-legged chairs or 3-legged stools. Altogether there are 37 legs. How many chairs and stools are there? This problem can be solved in several ways.
- If a digital (12-hour) clock is used, how many times in each day
  - does the display show 3 consecutive numerals in ascending order? (for example, 1, 2, 3)
  - show 3 consecutive numerals in descending order? (for example, 3, 2, 1)
  - show 3 numerals which are identical? (for example, 1, 1, 1)
- If Mary says that  $10 + 4 = 2$  and  $4 \cdot 6 = 10$ , what is she referring to?
- When does  $\frac{3}{4} + \frac{5}{6} = \frac{8}{10}$ ?
- If squares are worth 2 points, circles are worth 3 points, triangles are worth 4 points and rectangles are worth 5 points, draw a figure worth 27 points. (For example, some students can be asked to draw figures and the others are asked to determine their value.)
- A hardware store sells bulbs for \$1.50 which cost \$1.00. What fraction of the cost was the gain?
- If an electrician can install a switch in  $\frac{3}{10}$  of an hour, how many can he or she install in 6 hours?
- How many bottles each containing  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a litre can be filled from a jug containing  $7\frac{1}{2}$  litres?
- How many cars will be required to haul 33 passengers to the show if each car can carry only 5 passengers?
- Tom is hired to work at the service station. He will be paid \$1 for the first hour, \$2 for the second hour, \$4 for the third hour and so on. If he works for 7 hours, how much will he have earned?
- A pet shop sold a dog and a cat for \$84. If the dog was sold for \$12 more than the cat, how much was each worth?
- It takes one minute to cut through a log. At this rate, how long would it take to cut a log into 7 pieces?
- Mr. Smith can pile the wood in 2 days. If his son does it, it will take 4 days. If they work together, how long will it take them to pile the wood?
- As one looks at this sequence of numerals, what are possibilities for the next 3 elements of the sequence? 2, 4, 6, \_\_, \_\_, \_\_.
- If consonants are worth 10 points and vowels are worth 0 points, what is your name worth? This problem can be modified in several ways.
- Tom buys a hamburger for \$2.10 and a soft drink for \$0.95. How much change does he get from a \$5 bill?
- In the Zendell family, Lucy is 3 years older than John, but 2 years younger than Susan. The sum of their ages today is 29 years. How old is each of the children?
- How many ways can you make change for a quarter, if you may use any combination of pennies, nickels and dimes?
- A farmer wants to plant 5 trees. The distance from one tree to the next tree is 10 metres. How far is it from the first tree to the last tree?
- What is the highest score below 50 that is impossible to score on the given dart board?

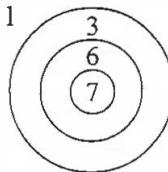


- Seventeen toothpicks are arranged to make 6 squares. Can you remove 5 of the toothpicks and leave 3 squares?



- Sandy sold 15 comic books for \$7.50. On each book she wrote a price of \$0.50. Did Sandy correctly price the books?
- How many 4-digit numerals can you make using the digits 1, 9, 9, 3?
- Make 2 triangles with 5 matches.
- Melissa has seven coins which are composed of quarters and dimes. If their total value is \$1.30, how many of each coin does she have?

26. A man sold a bike for \$90, bought it back for \$80 and resold it for \$100. What did he make or lose on the total deal?
27. In solving a problem, Tim divided instead of multiplying a number by 8. The answer he got was 6. What was the correct answer?
28. Use the clues to identify the suspect: I am greater than 0.28. I am less than 0.8. My denominator is divisible by 2. My numerator is a prime number. Suspects:  $1/8$ ,  $9/10$ ,  $3/5$ ,  $3/8$ ,  $7/6$ ,  $4/7$ ,  $5/6$ .
29. Fill in the license plate with 3 prime numbers whose sum is 12. D \_\_\_ E \_\_\_ W.
30. Find a 2-digit number where the product of the digits is 4 times their sum. You may want to try this problem to find numbers where the product is 2, 3, 5, ... times the sum. Look for a pattern.
11. Cat is worth \$36, dog is worth \$48
12. 6 minutes
13. 1 days
14. a. 8, 10, 12; b. 10, 16, 26
15. Answers will differ
16. \$1.95
17. John is 7, Lucy is 10, Susan is 12
18. 12 ways
19. 40 metres
20. 11



## Answers

1. 7 chairs, 3 stools
2. a. 8, b. 10, c. 10
3. The clock time
4. When you are adding ratios
5. Each student's answer can be different
6.  $\frac{1}{2}$
7. 20 switches
8. 10 bottles
9. 7 cars
10. \$127
22. Yes.  $15 \times \$0.50 = \$7.50$
23. 10
- 24.
25. 4 quarters, 3 dimes
26. He needs \$30
27. 384
28.  $\frac{3}{8}$
29. 2, 3, 7
30. 12 and 36 are two possible answers

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### Revolving Wheels

The front wheel of a bicycle is four times as large as the rear wheel, and the rear wheel makes one complete revolution each time the pedals make  $\frac{1}{3}$  of a revolution. How many revolutions do the front wheels make when the pedals make 8 revolutions?

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