

DEVELOPING INTELLIGENCE

And

LATERAL THINKING

350 Brain teasing puzzles to improve intelligence, reasoning and emotional balance

*FOR STUDENTS AND ASPIRANTS
ATTENDING INTERVIEWS*

Yandamoori Veerendranath

Why do shoes shine when polished? What is 'two plus two divided by two'? Construct a 30 word sentence without alphabets A and E. How many are they, where the chicken double the number of sheep and their heads and legs are 99? Where is the first electric bulb Edison invented?

WINNING IN INTERVIEWS

Brain is the only human organ that does not wear out. It works more vigilantly the more you put it into action. -Albert Einstein

“If one hen lays one egg per day, how many eggs do two hens lay in two days?” The student replied, “It is not in our syllabus”.

For students who are not able to fare well interviews due to tension and lack of spontaneity, these teasing mystifying and funny puzzles are designed to sharpen intelligence, imagination, spontaneity and emotional balance. Your assumptions, deductions and lateral thinking skills get better, making a sense of bizarre. This book creates immense interest to those, who are averse to mathematics, science and reasoning. It is a fun-game when family members sit together, solve puzzles, and tease each other; parents awarding children for correct answers.

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The author is a Chartered Accountant, top ranker in academics, novelist, Sahitya Academy award winner and motivated thousands of students with his speeches and books. He is a columnist in *The Hindu Education plus* and member in various interview boards. His personality development book “Success in Five Steps” is an all time recorder in South Indian languages, with a turnover crossing Rupees two crores.

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YANDAMOORI VEERENDRANATH Mr. Veerendranath is a playwright, novelist, movie director, Sahitya Academy award winner and a top ranker in academics. He wrote about 50 novels that are translated into Tamil, Kannada, Malayalam, English, Hindi, and Marathi. His first film won best regional award from President of India. His films include 'Abhilasha', 'Marana Mridangam', 'Challenge', 'Jagadeka Veerudu – Athiloka Sundari'. His TV Serial "Vennello Aadapilla" won Golden Nandi award.

The author delivered speeches at various colleges in all south Indian states, U.S.A, London, Scotland, Indonesia and Singapore. His personality development book *Vijayaniki 5 methlu (Success in Five Steps)* holds an all time record in Telugu, with a turnover crossing 2 crore rupees.

Mr. Yandamoori is a practicing Chartered Accountant, and worked earlier with Andhra bank in a senior executive position. He is a member in various interview boards. His one crore project near Kakinada, *SARASWATHI VIDYA PEETAM* imparts 'personality development' at free of cost to students with poor financial background.

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FUNNY BRAIN TEASERS

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Preface

A girl asked her mother ‘Mummy! What is wisdom?’ The mother showed a jar and enquired whether she would eat a cup of sugar. The girl was surprised “No”.

“How about eating eggs or maida?”

The girl was more confused. Then the mother explained, “But you would love to eat the mixture of all these ingredients called ‘cake’. Isn’t it? Same way, wisdom is the final product. The ingredients are *intelligence, knowledge, skill, logic* and *experience*. Individually all are essential but insignificant if not combined in correct proportions”.

Tips to master maths:

Developing interest towards maths depends on your industry in the initial stages and later on your intelligence. It is one of the few subjects, wherein you can score hundred percent marks to enhance your overall percentage.

Many students fear maths. But it’s an easy and interesting subject, once you understand the basics. Be thorough in *them*. Without comprehensive knowledge about fundamental formulas, techniques, multiplication tables, laws and theorems you cannot expect to be good at maths.

Unlike other subjects, *each lesson in maths is built on the previous ones*. Falling a day behind puts you in a confused position. Never hesitate to ask questions. A little uncleared doubt now, leads to a huge roadblock in future.

There are two steps in mastering maths. It is by **Practice** (taking interest in solving various types of problems) and **Application** (solving a particular problem in different ways). Understand the problem first. Devise a plan. Apply your skills and techniques. While working on the equation, draw the *nearest and correct* route to the answer. If you fail to reach the target, use other variables. This applies to management accounts, statistics, costing... and life also.

“If some people believe that mathematics is tough, it is only because they do not realise how complicated life is” said Ramanujam, the maths pundit. ‘Reasoning’ is the back-bone for maths. Failure in ‘not getting the correct solution’ teaches you how to look back to locate your mistake, amend your equations and arrive at correct solution. This applies to real life also.

Convert your life problem into simple mathematics. Draw a formula. Locate the nucleus of the crisis. Once you are clear about the cause of your problem, automatically you would know the method of approach to sort it out.

Intelligence, fun and amusement:

“A cat breaks two legs if it jumps from two feet. How many does it break by jumping from two-and-half feet?” I asked a boy, who replied, “Two-and-half legs”. He is from an institution that taught him rapid mathematics five hours a day. He is really good in multiplications and is able to multiply a four digit number with another three digit number within a minute. Without understanding what the boy is lacking, the proud parents claim that he is brilliant in maths.

Instead of blaming the child for securing low ranks, parents should try to trace out his phobias and fields of deficiency. The concept of ‘education with entertainment’ includes identifying the limitations of a child through fun, cheerfulness and amusement.

“Our child is intelligent and used to get good marks earlier. But we don’t know what’s happening now” many parents complain. A child cannot be said to be intelligent, just because he scores good ranks. Up to school level, students can get good ranks, if they are simply industrious.

‘Wisdom’ includes both memory and intelligence. When a student solves a mathematical equation faster than others, it is his *intelligence*. When a student is good in history he is said to be *industrious*.

Whenever you are bored or feel sleepy, engage in mathematics. “Mathematics is the poetry of logical ideas” said Newton. Developing interest in mathematics is one of the best virtues in the elementary stage of education. Studying math is different from studying other subjects, as ‘study’ is of two types, *Active* and *Passive*. Mathematics requires active study.

Paradigm shift deficiency:

Many students complain about their Lack of Concentration. Lack of concentration is the final effect. It initiates from three roots, Sluggish Reflex Actions (SRA), Problem Analysing Paucity (PAP) and Paradigm Shift Deficiency (PSD).

Suppose a teacher is explaining: “Compare *benzene ring structure with cyclohexen, and C_6H_{10} is a ring of six carbon atoms...*” the child may understand nothing, if his reflexes are not quick (as his foundation in chemistry is weak). To a question, “If yesterday is tomorrow, today is Monday. What is today?” if the student is reluctant *even to try*, his reflex actions are supposed to be sluggish. Children with SRA live in their caves. They are not curious even to attempt. By encouraging them with rewards, parents can develop interest in logical thinking, enthusiasm, correct approach to the problem and above all, willingness to accept a challenge.

Some children are syllabus/examination oriented. They cannot approach a modified question, based on ‘*identical*’ principle. For a simple query like “If $2a + 2b = 4$, what is $b + a$?”, if the child cannot answer, it is called PAP. PAP children would answer what is $(a + b)^2$ but cannot respond to “What is $(b + a)^2$ ”. It is suggested that students with PAP may not choose subjects such as Engineering, Statistics, Accounts, Costing and Management.

“A beggar’s elder brother died. The person, who died, has no younger brother. How?” A child must be able to answer this question. Don’t worry even if he cannot. Give him a small tip. ‘All beggars need not be male’. If the child cannot answer even then, his paradigm shifting capacity (PSD) is at a lower plane.

Optimism knows what the *tips* are, but success knows where the *pits* are. Know the pits first. This book shows your deficiencies, encourages locating your sphere of weakness and enlightens various ways to get the correct answer.

Hyperactivity is another thing. It is contrary to the three above mentioned defects. Children with hyperactivity are very much eager to answer every question. Even difficult problems appear to be silly to them. Finally they fail to answer correctly due to their over-enthusiasm. For example, the child who cannot correctly count how many ‘F’s are in the following sentence is supposed to be hyperactive. “Finished files are fine fruits of years of deep scientific study, combined with the experience of years”.

Ask your child to write from 100 to 0 downwards with a gap of 7 i.e. 100-93-86 and so on. It should not take more than two minutes depending on age. But anyway time is not the criteria. If there are more than two mistakes and more particularly if the child completes it within no time and throws the paper on you and goes away, that is the symptom of Attention Deficiency and Hyper activeness.

Using Your Unconscious Mind:

Let your unconscious mind do your problem-solving, using one of several techniques. First, try outlining a problem in your mind before going to sleep, and telling your brain to go to work. Einstein had good luck with this technique, sometimes getting the "ah-ha" insight while shaving the next morning.

Next, instruct your mind to keep working on the problem while you are doing other things. There is more than we know going on inside our heads. Finally, work on problems when you are in a drowsy state. This can result in more creative solutions.

For whom is this book?

I have been in the interview board for many big organisations. I found many candidates tensed up before the interviewer. They are intelligent, smart and are capable of answering many questions. But due to tension and affect of cortisol (hormone that is released when you are nervous) they are unable to answer simple questions. For a question "Are you a bachelor or unmarried?" instead of answering 'both' (if he is so) the candidate opts one answer, just due to tension. On the other side, some are overconfident. Solving puzzles in this book reduces over-confidence on one side, and develops interest in children with PSD on the other. It quickens reflex actions and eases tension. If you are a teacher, give one puzzle a day and ask your students to work on it. Here are 300 puzzles sufficient for 200 working days. Thus you are indirectly training them to tackle more complicated future.

An intelligent and conversant candidate may also not be able to withstand tension in interviews. Some of the questions test the capacity to hold your nerve under pressure. The answers given at the end teach you how to approach a question, how not to be in a hurry to respond. We always suggest candidates attending interviews, to take a deep breath, smile and then answer.

Irrespective of whether you are a 5th standard pupil or a Post graduate in Mathematics, this book suits you. Questions and answers are framed in such a way that elaborate explanations are given for the sake of those students who are of lower standard.

Many of these questions are asked at interviews with big pays, entrance for foreign universities etc. Don't feel dismayed even if you are not able to answer some of them. A mathematical genius or a logical thinker may also find it difficult to answer certain questions.

Tease your friends with these questions and win a bet, request your parents to ask you some of these riddles and win an ice cream for correct answer. Best of luck.

-Author

The author is thankful to P.M. Prasad for proof-reading this content.

TESTING THE SPEED OF YOUR REFLEX ACTIONS

First 16 questions are to be responded quickly, say within 5 seconds. Don't use paper and pen. Better option is to request somebody to question you, and you reply as quickly as possible.

1. There are 6 oranges in a basket and you have taken two from it. How many will remain with you?
2. There are 6 oranges in a basket. If I take 3 and give one to my friend from it, how many will be there in the basket?
3. There are 6 oranges in a basket. If I take 3 and give one to my friend from them, how many will be there in the basket?
4. If one orange and two apples cost 5 rupees, and one apple and two oranges cost 4 rupees, then how much does two oranges and one apple cost?
5. Can you solve the question? If one orange and one apple costs one rupee, how much two apples and two oranges cost?
6. Answer these questions purely in arithmetic sense. If two cats can kill two rats in two minutes, how much time will it take for one cat to kill one rat?
7. If two cats can kill two rats in two minutes, how much time will it take for one thousand cats to kill one thousand rats?
8. If two cats can kill two rats in two minutes, how much time will it take for one cat to kill two rats?

SIMPLE ARTHIMATIC:

9. If 8 people eat 8 kilos of rice in 8 days, how many kilos 2 people eat in 2 days?
10. If 4 persons eat 4 kilos of rice in 4 days, how many kilos does a person eat in 1 day?
11. Add 40 to 1000. Then add another 1000. Now add 30, and another 1000. Now add 20 to it. And add another 1000. Now add 10. What is the total?
12. The total cost of a sari and a blouse is 11/-. The cost of the sari is 10/- more than the blouse. What is the cost of the blouse?
13. Divide 20 by half ($1/2$) and add 10. What is the total?

CONFUSING BIRTHDAYS:

14. How many birthdays have you celebrated so far?
15. Lava celebrated his birthday, but his twin brother Kusa, who was born few hours later... had not celebrated on that day or even next day. Why?
16. Today Kusa celebrated his birthday; his twin brother Lav would celebrate his birthday day after tomorrow. Lava and Kusa are twins, born with six hours difference. How could this be possible?
17. Here is a more complicated question compared to the above two. Six hours after krishna's birth, his mother gave birth to his younger sister Subha. Next year Subha celebrated her birthday and after one day her elder brother Krishna celebrated it. How? How can an *older* brother celebrate his birthday one day after his younger sister? Don't go

with logical medical argument that the baby who comes out first into the world from the mother's womb is the junior, as the child, still in the womb is conceived first and hence the senior. We expect more logical answer than that. The concept of leap year does not arise here. Give two alternatives.

18. Ram is twice as old as Krishna will be, when Kamala is as old as Ram is now. Who is the oldest and youngest among the three?

19. Two days ago I was 8 and next year I will be 11. How is it possible?

SIMPLE REFLEXES:

20. There are some chickens and rabbits in a cage. The count is: 72 heads and 200 feet. How many are the chickens and rabbits?

21. The following question was asked in 2006 group selections,. If you were a candidate, what answer would you have given to this question: "What is the name of our present Prime Minister in 1984?" Manmohan Singh/ Indira Gandhi/ Mahatma Gandhi.

22. Name the daughter of the mother in law of the Father of the nation?

23. What is the last thing you lift up before going to Bed?

24. A beggar's elder brother died. But the dead has no beggar as his younger brother. How?

25. How many 'F's are there in the following sentence: "Finished files are fine fruits of years of scientific deep study combined with the experience of years".

26. Do you have the habit of keeping everything new and fresh or don't mind anything? If somebody offers, what currency do you prefer to have: Old ten rupee note, or new One?

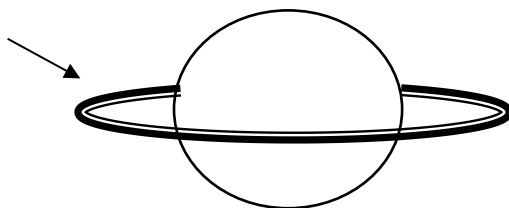
27. You are given a match-box and two candles of equal size, which can burn 1 hour each. You have to measure 90 minutes with these candles (There is no scale or clock). How do you do?

THE GEOGRAPHICAL INTELLIGENCE:

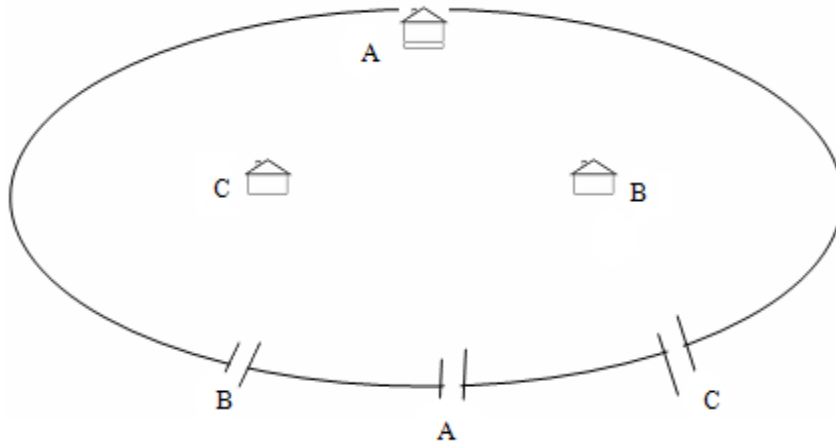
28. Suppose you take a long ribbon and wrap it tightly around the earth at its equator. For this you require 40,070 km lengthy ribbon. Now you raise the ribbon from the surface of the earth by another 1 meter. How much more ribbon you require? Remember, the ribbon is raised not at one point on the earth but all around it equally. The diagram below will make things clearer. Choose your answer among these three: 1) More than 1,000 Km. 2) More than 5,000 km. 3) Less than 10 km.

Difference between two ribbons:

1 meter



29. If you are facing east, which side are Himalayas?
 30. If you are facing west, which side is Arabian Sea?
 31. If you are facing north, which side is Sri Lanka?
 32. If you are facing south, which side is Africa?
 33. This is an intelligent question, involving your lateral thinking. This question was asked in a MNC interview for a top post. "There are 10 crows picking up grain on a floor. One is killed with a banging pistol sound. How many would remain? Choose the answer from the following four: A. None. B. One. C. Nine. D. May be one or more than one.
 34. A woman working in a circus company buys a new pair of high-heel shoes, goes to work and is hospitalised. Give two alternative reasons.
 35. Can you draw three roads from their houses to their respective gates satisfying these three conditions: 1. The lines should not touch or intersect one another 2. The lines should be within the compound wall only 3. No road can pass behind A's house.



36. Here is an old riddle. A farmer is taking a fox, a chicken and a bag of grain home. He must cross a river by a boat, but he's only allowed to take one item with him at a time. If the fox is left alone with the chicken, it eats the chicken. If the chicken is left alone with the grain, the chicken eats the grain. How can the farmer take all of them to the other side in minimum trips without any of his possessions being chomped off?
 37. This question tests your coherent conjecture and deductions. Close your eyes, imagine the situation, step into the shoes of each of the three persons, and draw conclusions to find the correct solution to save the life of the three: A, B, C are captured by cannibals in a jungle. The men are given one chance to escape with their lives. The men are buried one after other (<<<) in such a way that the last man (C) can see the backs of the front two, the middle man (B) can see the back of the front man (A) and the front man (A) can't see anybody. The men are shown four hats, two *black* and two *white*. One hat is placed on each man's head and the fourth hat is thrown away. The men are told that if at least one of them can guess the colour of his hat, they can all go free. Time passes. Finally, the middle man correctly guesses the colour of his hat. How does B guess it correctly?
 38. What is the value of (M-A) (M-B) (M-C)..... (M-Z)?
 39. A beggar collects 7 cigarette stubs and makes one artificial cigarette from them. Once he gets 49 stubs. How many cigarettes can he smoke in total?

DEVELOPING MATHEMATICAL SKILLS

MATH AND CRICKET:

40. I wanted to gamble in a match between India and England. The odds were 2:1 i.e., if I bet 100 on India, I get 200 more. If I bet 100 on England I get 100 more. If I invest RS. 50 each on both the countries and if India wins I gain 100 rupees on India and loose 50 on England. Hence my total profit would be RS. 50/- (+100-50). But if England wins, there would be neither profit nor loss (-50+50). What would be the safest bet to get the maximum profit? How much I should bet on India and England so that I get maximum amount, irrespective of which country wins.

41. At a cricket betting, a fortune-teller at the gate said, "For ten rupees I will tell you the scores. You can bet on that. If it goes wrong, I would give you 1000/- as compensation". Should I take the offer?

42. Think before answering. It is not as simple as it appears to be. Don't rush to turn the pages to find out the answer at the end. Take time and think: In a fifty over one-day international match, 49.4 balls are bowled. *Last two balls... Seven runs to win...* it is ninth wicket partnership... Last two batsmen are at 94 runs each. The team won and both batsmen made centuries. How could it be possible? Don't think of a no-ball, free hit wide, hitting the helmet etc because... on no-ball if the batsman hits a six it adds 7 (seven) runs to the team score and it wins. Then how the runner also gets 100 runs? This puzzle is more complicated than what you think. Try.
43. In an annual state tournament 5 cricket teams participate. The champion team is chosen for this tournament by the usual elimination scheme. That is, the 5 teams are divided into pairs, and the two teams of each pair play against each other. The loser of each pair is eliminated, and the remaining teams are paired up again, etc. How many games must be played to determine a champion?
44. In the above competition, if the participating teams are 50, then how many games are to be played?
45. Three men go to a Lodge where they were told that the room rent is 30. They shared 10 each. Later the receptionist realised that the rent is 25 only. He sent back 5 rupees through the boy. They paid him 2/- as tip and kept one rupee each. In other words, each has parted with rupees 9 towards rent, total amounting to 27. The boy was paid 2 rupees. Total: 29. Where the remaining one rupee has gone?
46. A 16 meters cable is attached to two 15 meters high pillars. At its lowest point, the cable hangs 7 meters above the ground. What is the distance between two pillars?
47. Which of these numbers can be equally divided by 2? 5, 6, 7, 8.
48. This is an interesting question believed to be prepared by Mathematic wizard Sakuntala Devi. If a clock takes two seconds to strike two bells, how much time does it take to strike three bells?
49. If a clock takes 5 seconds to strike 5 pm, how long will it take to strike 10 pm?
50. The time between first and last ticks is 30 seconds at 6 pm. How long does it tick at 12 o' clock?

WAIT AND WEIGHT

51. This is a simple question. Don't confuse. You have 12 gold coins of same weight except one, which weighs less than others. You are given a balance machine but no weighing measures. You can use the balance machine *three times only*. The balance machine tells you just which side weighs more. How can you find the odd coin just by weighing the available coins?
52. Go through the previous question about gold coins. Because one of it is of less weight, you may have solved it easily. But if one of it is of *different weight* (you don't know whether the odd coin is of more weight or less weight) then the question becomes more complicated. Think whether you can solve it. If not, see the answer. If you are confused with the answer also, then go to the next question and try to understand it and answer. Revert back to this question again, to understand the technique. Don't leave it frustrated.
53. A king wanted to present one gold toy of ten grams each, to every child in his kingdom. He employed 100 artisans. Per day each artisan produced ten toys and hands them over to the treasurer. After a month, the king knew that one of the artisans is cheating by swindling 1 gram of gold per toy. Next day he went to the treasury in the evening when the 100 artisans brought their manufactured toys. The king has a weighing machine and measuring stones. Using the machine **only once**, he was able to find the culprit. How?

54. Here is a riddle to test your reasoning skill. This can be done with a computer or without it. Even a computer may take few minutes to answer. They say Ramanujam, the mathematic wizard could calculate the answer in 10 minutes in computer-way. As told earlier, there is another way of doing it. He could do it in few seconds in such a more sensible way. Don't rush for the answer. Think. Use your commonsense. A young girl was walking towards a Shakti temple at 3 km per hour. Ram crossed her on a motorcycle at a speed that is 20 times more than her. He wanted to give lift to her but could not dare. He travelled for 3 minutes and on seeing temple of Shakti, he got courage and returned. He saw her but was not courageous still. He returned back towards the temple, reached it and again got inspired and returned. The process continued. In the final trip, he stood near the temple and prayed Goddess Shakti "Please give me courage". The girl, having reached the temple, said from behind, "Shakthi the power... is not there in that stone. It is in you. Discover it." Now the question is: How much distance did Ram travel in total?

55. A had 5 chapattis, B had 3 and C had nil. They all ate equally and C paid 8/- to them as the price for what he had eaten. How much A and B should get from the said amount?

Choose from the 4 answers: A5, B3 / A7, B1 / A4, B4 / none of these three.

56. Suppose $a=b$. With this equation, I will prove that $a + b = b$ in four steps. Find out where (in which step) I went wrong?

Step one: if $a=b$, then $a^2=ab$.

Step two: Deduct b^2 from both: $(a^2 - b^2) = (ab - b^2)$.

Step three: $(a + b) (a - b) = b (a - b)$.

Step four: Deduct $(a-b)$ from both: $a + b = b$. How is this possible? In which step lies the mistake?

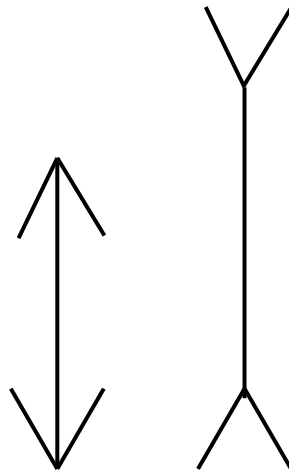
57. Here is an excellent puzzle to test your reasoning skills. The five pandavas: Dharma Raja, Bheema, Arjuna, Nakula and Sahadeva were sleeping in the Red-wax house and their enemies burnt it. The pandavas were to escape through a tunnel. Only two people could go through the tunnel at one time. Moreover, it was totally dark and without a torch they could not proceed. They had only one torch. It means, two people should go out, and then one had to take the lamp inside and accompany another one out. Total 4 trips. It would take for Nakula and Sahadeva 5 minutes and Arjuna 10 minutes to come out. Bheema would take 20 and Dharma 25 minutes respectively to come through the tunnel, as one was hefty and another was old. This is an arithmetical problem and has no twists. How much minimum time it would take?

58. In the above question, suppose they knew that the cave was going to collapse exactly in 60 minutes and they had to escape within the said time. If Nakula takes the responsibility of bringing all the other four, it would take 75 minutes (if this is what you worked out in previous question). But if you are more intelligent, there is a way to make it in 60 minutes. How?

59. If you are asked to find out the value of A (other than zero), when $A+A= A \times A$, you would answer that $A = 2$, as $2 + 2 = 2 \times 2$. Taking this as an example, find out the different values of a, b, c, if $a + b + c = a \times b \times c$.

60. "Intellectual endurance" is the staying power, the capacity to persist without getting distracted. At one point your brain ceases to cooperate, but please don't stop doing this calculation. Take a few minutes rest and start again. This is one way of developing intellectual endurance. Take a 'single digit number' and a 'three digit number' of your choice... For example, suppose the numbers are: 8 and 156, write down on a paper as 8-156. Go on adding 13 to the first number and deduct 7 from the later. Do it simultaneously (Here is the example. your first number is 8 - 156. Hence your second number would be 21-149, third 34-142). At the end... what are your final figures when you reach the single digit answer on the right hand side? Don't jump to calculate end figures, do it step by step to test your patience.

61. From the following diagram choose the correct answer: 1) AB is lengthier than CD. 2) AB is shorter than CD. 3) AB is equal to CD.



62. A milkmaid adds 4 litres of water to 2 litres of milk before distribution. By mistake she added 2 litres water to 4 litres of milk. How much more water has she to add to rectify her mistake?
63. A painter should mix 6 litres of paint, consisting of 4 litres of white and 2 litres of black. But by mistake he mixed 2 litres of white and 4 litres of black. How much minimum did he have to *pour out* to correct his mistake before adding the extra white paint?
64. What is “Two plus two by two?”
65. What is a plus b minus a plus b?

FOOD AND TRAVEL: These questions are to test your hyperactivity. Answer fast.

66. If 1 hen lays 1 egg in 1 day, how many eggs 2 hens lay in 2 days?
67. The question is an arithmetical question, not based on logic. If 4 hens lay 4 eggs in 4 days, how many eggs 2 hens lay in 2 days?
68. This is a logical question. How many eggs can a boy eat with empty stomach?
69. There are six eggs in the basket. Six people take each one of the eggs. One egg is left in the basket. How could this be possible?
70. If two hens lay 2 eggs in 2 days, how many eggs does one hen lay in 1 day? Arithmetically the answer would be “half-egg” which is not logical. Think of various alternatives and give at least three *logical probable answers* for ‘one egg’.
71. A cook in a restaurant has a four minute hourglass, and a seven minute hourglass, made of sand that shows the exact time. A customer orders a nine-minute egg. Using the two glasses, how to cook exactly in the time given, not to a difference of even few seconds?
72. I take a private car from my house to my office located at the outskirts of the city in the morning and back home in the evening. It costs me 300 rupees everyday. One day the taxi driver informed me that there are two students who wish to go to their college every day in the morning along with me! Their get-in point is exactly halfway between my house and office. Their college is adjacent to my office. On the first day I told them, "If you tell me the mathematically correct price that each one of you should pay for your portion of the trip, I

will let you travel free along with me." How much should the individual student pay for his journey?

73. A passenger train starts at 5 p.m. from Agra and reaches Delhi at 10 p.m. From Delhi, a train starts for every one hour throughout the day, at 5.30, 6.30 7.30 etc. How many such trains would cross the passenger rail before it reaches Delhi?

74. The distance from Station to Bus-stand, Via Tank Bund is 8 miles. From Tank Bund to Bus-stand via Station is 7 miles. From Station to Tank Bund via Bus-stand is 11 miles. Calculate the distances between: 1. Station and Bus-stand, 2. Station and Tank Bund and 3. Bus-stand and Tank Bund.

75. There are some eggs in each bucket, named A, B, C, D, E. If $A = 5$; $B+A = 6$; $E+B = C$; $E+C+B = 8$, choose the values of A, B, C, D, E from 1, 2,3,4,5.

76. As in the same question above, find out the values of A, B, C, D, E from 1, 2,3,4,5 if $D+B = A+C$; $2E = C+5$; $D+C = E$. This is a more complicated question.

77. Three friends divide eggs from a bag equally. After each of them eat 4 eggs, the total number of eggs remaining with them, is equal to $\frac{1}{3}$ of total eggs. Find the original number of total eggs.

78. You have two cups, one containing orange juice and one containing equal amount of lemonade. One teaspoon of the orange juice is taken and mixed with the lemonade. Then a teaspoon of this mixture is mixed back into the orange juice. Is there more lemonade in the orange juice or more orange juice in the lemonade?

79. A student is studying for his examinations and the lights go off. It is around 1:00 AM. He lights two uniform candles of equal length but one is thicker than the other. The thick candle is supposed to last 6 hours and the thinner one illuminates for 4 hours. When he finally goes to sleep, the length of the thick candle is twice longer than the thin one. For how long does the student study in candle light?

80. There are 3 switches, 1, 2 and 3 in a hall in the ground floor. One of them is connected to a dining room bulb in the third floor. You can't see it from the ground floor, whether the dining room light is on or off. How can you identify the correct switch? You can on and off the switches as many times as you want, but you are supposed to go to the second floor dining room only once and should announce the switch number from there.

81. A man decides to buy a horse for 600 rupees. After a year, he sells it for 700. He buys it again for 800. And finally sells it for 900. What is his overall profit?

82. A swimmer jumps from a bridge into a canal and swims 1 kilometre against the stream. There he passes a "floating cork" coming in opposite direction, going towards the bridge. He continues swimming forward for *half an hour* more and then turns around and swims back to the bridge. The swimmer and the cork arrive at the bridge at the same time. How fast does the water in the canal flow?

83. Two cars (A and B) are travelling in opposite direction with 60 and 40 miles per hour. The distance between them is 100 miles. A bird starts along with car A, and flies at a speed of 80 miles per hour towards B. When it reaches car B, it turns back and when it reaches the car A, again it turns to the opposite direction. What is the total distance that the bird has travelled when the two cars met?

84. You drive at 20 mph from point A to B and return at 30 mph. what is the average speed?

85. If you drive at 20 mph from point A to B, how fast must you drive back to attain an average speed of 40 mph?

ENHANCING LANGUAGE AND OTHER SKILLS

86. Here is a Red Indian. Can you see anything else?



87. Are you a decoding specialist? Try this: You find a note written in code on your classmate's desk. It reads: "Abc'd ebbf ghi ibajckgldmkf". And later, there was a signature. "dbemji". You could decode the first part. It reads: *Let's keep our relationship*. The curiosity is getting to you. Can you figure out the signature in just one minute? Try...quick.
88. How many different words can you create from the word "STRANGE"? For example: A ... An ... Star... Range etc. Don't repeat one alphabet in the same word twice (That means: you can not make words like Rare, Tree etc). If you can create about 10 words it's good. If you can work out more than 25 it's excellent. Try.
89. Write a sentence *as lengthy as possible*, without using alphabets A and E, such as "Sky is only limit if you try to work with your solid spirits on tough, difficult jobs". The sentence should be meaningful, grammatically correct. You should not repeat the same word twice. Can you write a sentence consisting of more than 40 words? Try. Difficult but not impossible.
90. Prepare thirteen words using the alphabets from the word "THIRTEEN".
91. Here are some palindromes, which spell the same from both sides. RACECAR, DEED, LEVEL, PIP, ROTOR, CIVIC, POP. Try to list out at least two more.
92. The above are just words. Can you make some group of words that gives the same sounding from both sides? E.g. Bar crab, borrow or rob, live evil, evil olive.
93. You have a jug that holds five gallons, and another jug that holds three gallons. You have no other container, and there are no markings on the jugs. You need to obtain exactly seven gallons of water from a well. How can you do it?
94. In the above question if you need to obtain four gallons how do you do it?

95. You have three jugs, 12, 8 and 5 litres. None of the jugs have any markings. The 12 litres jug is full and the other two are empty. How can you divide 12 litres of water equally into first two jugs so that first two jugs have exactly 6 litres of water and the third is empty)?

96. Can you find a word in this diagram?



97. Which are the countries that touch Indian border?

98. Take the numbers from 1 to 9 and create “ten” by adding or subtracting them *without changing the order*. For example, 100 can be made as $123-45-67+89 = 100$. Now make 10 in the same fashion.

99. I bet that I would lift an elephant with one hand. You challenged and brought an elephant. You lost and paid me. Why?

100. I was going to the market and came across a family comprising father, mother, two sons and three daughters and a puppy. How many male members are going to the market?

101. The word HEROINE contains other English words *in a row*... like He, Her, Hero, In. Likewise, find out a seven-letter word, which contains nine English words *without any rearrangement*. Here is a tip: the first four letters are: THER (The, He, Her...). Find out the next three letters.

102. Here is a question testing your verbal I.Q. If someone asks you to explain him, how to cut a cake into eight pieces with just three cuts. You *know* that a ‘plus’ (+) cut above the cake, followed by a horizontal slice in the middle can make it eight pieces. But you have to explain orally. Verbal thinking is different from oral communication. Can you explain vocally in simple words to your friend or a blind man without showing/ using your hands? Don’t confuse us with words like ‘perpendicular... parallel ... axis’. How to cut the cake into 8 pieces with just three cuts? Tell us in any language either English or your colloquial.

103. This exercise improves your language skills. Take a single letter and expand it into a word, by adding just one letter to it. For example if you take ‘a’ you can continue like this: A... At. Now add one more letter to make it a three letter word: Mat. Make it four: Team. Five letter: Steam. Six: Stream. Seven: Steamer. With the letter ‘B’ you can make: Be, Bet, Beat, Abate etc. Now start with ‘E’ and create words like Me, Met... try to create at least three more words.

104. A hunter walked 1 kilometre *straight* from his hut, found a bear, chased it to his left exactly at 90 degrees perpendicular for 1 kilometre, caught it, turned to his left perpendicularly and dragged it straight for 1 kilometre. Surprisingly he found his hut,

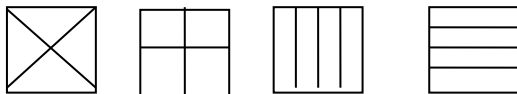
without turning to his left and walking again for another 1 kilometre to complete the square. Now the question is: What is the colour of the bear?

105. A woman had two sons who were born on the same hour of the same day of the same year. But they were not twins. How could this be so?

106. Unable to bear the passenger's non-stop talking, the taxi driver said that he is deaf and cannot hear anything without an aid machine. The passenger kept quiet but realised that the driver told him a lie when got down. How?

107. Rohit is a 5-year old boy. He is presented with two situations: In the first incident a little boy breaks a cup when he secretly climbs over the refrigerator to steal a cake placed above it. In the second incident, a little girl breaks six cups by accident while helping her mother in the kitchen. Giving him these two situations, Rohit was asked: Who should receive more punishment? The little boy or the girl? According to you, which answer that Rohit is going to choose among these four? 1. The little boy should be punished, because he broke the cup while *stealing the cake*. 2. The girl should be punished 6 times more than the boy, because she did more damage. 3. The boy and girl equally, as breaking valuable pieces is wrong. 4. Both of them have not broken the cups intentionally and hence nobody should be punished.

108. There are 4 squares underneath. Each square is divided into 4 equal parts in different shapes. How many shapes can you make other than the ones below? You can make at least 6 more. If you are intelligent and understand the technique, you can make millions. Try.



109. A and B participated in a 100 meter running race. When the race was over, B was behind A by 5 meters. To encourage him, this time A stood 5 meters back from the starting line. Now who will win? A / B / Both reach the end line at same time?

110. Golkonda Express from Hyderabad at 60 miles per hour and Krishna Express from Vijayawada at 70 miles per hour started at the same time and met in between. Which train is nearer to Vijayawada? Golkonda/ Krishna/ Both.

111. Desert express in Afghanistan starts at 8 a.m. proceeds to Kabul at 80 miles per hour, and Toofan mail starts from Kabul at 60 miles per hour in the opposite direction at 9 a.m. When they meet, which train will be nearer to Kabul, if the distance between stations is 480 miles?

112. If A1 is A; A2 is B; A3 is C; and B1 is B; B2 is C; then what is: H2 J3N2P7A5 L2B4.

113. "NEW NEW DOOR": Re-arrange these 10 letters to make *one new word*.

114. I have two notes amounting to five hundred and fifty rupees in my purse. One is not a fifty note. How can this be possible?

115. Two teachers differed in their opinion when they saw an answer sheet wherein it was written $81=9 \times 9$. Why?

116. A young bachelor stays on the top floor of a flat. He has the following things to do before going to office: Heating water/ bath / pooja / coffee preparation / wearing shoes / dress / lift / cooking: each work consumes 10 minutes, total being 80 minutes. Journey to office: another 40 minutes. Grand total: 2 hours. He cannot start any work before 9 in the morning due to obvious reasons. Hence he reaches office at 11.00. But his office is at 10.30 a.m. Here is another big trouble. His fiancée stays in the ground floor and he cannot go to his work without seeing/talking to her at least for few minutes in the morning. He doesn't

like to see her before his bath. She leaves for her office in the opposite direction at 10 o'clock. Can you suggest him how to manage his time?

117. By mistake, a golfer hit the ball into a paper bag that had blown onto the ground. He has two options: play it with the paper bag or incur one stroke penalty. Can you suggest him any alternative?

118. Which was the highest mountain before Mount Everest was found.

119. Which was the largest island in the world before Australia was discovered?

120. One midnight a cat enters your room. You want to know its weight. You have a weighing machine, but as you put the cat on the machine, it jumps away before you look into the meter reading. Tell 5 different methods how you can find out its weight?

121. Which is correct: "Seven eights are fifty four" or "Seven eights is fifty four"?

122. When British left our country, the officials were surprised to see the bungalows of army commanders having four servant toilets in the back yard. Army commanders are being allotted with only four servants at any given time. Having separate bathrooms for male and female is understandable. But why four rooms for four servants?

123. A black mailer sent a ransom note by post. The prosecution could prove and get the black mailer convicted using the postal cover as perfect undisputed evidence. It is not by his hand writing. There were no finger prints. Then how?

124. If Russia and America launch their "everything-equal" missiles at the same time America will be destroyed first. Why?

125. How many days can you be without sleep?

126. Police knew that one Mr. Subrabanyam was the thief, and was now playing cards in a particular hotel room. They knew only his name and nothing else. Neither his identity nor photograph was available. When they reached there, four people were playing cards. Without even calling the name, they straight away went to him and arrested. How?

127. How could a baby fall in twenty-story building onto the ground and live?

128. A married couple goes to a movie. During the movie the husband kills his wife. He is able to get her body home without attracting attention and nobody noticed him pulling her body out of the theatre. How?

LATERAL THINKING AND LOGICAL INFERENCE

SIMPLE COMMON SENSE:

129. Can you solve this? If one orange and one apple cost 2 rupees, how much two oranges and three apples do cost?
130. How can Ram be behind his wife, when she is behind him?
131. What would you do if you find a fire station burning?
132. What would you do if you find a fire station burning where there is no nearby fire station?
133. On which side of the cat is the greater fur (hair) contained?
134. What is that you can hold it only with your right hand, but not with your left?
135. A man walked down a lonely country lane with no streetlights. There was no moon. He was dressed all in black. Suddenly he heard a speeding car turned towards him from the side lane. The car did not have its headlights on. There was no foot-path or room for him to step out of the way and avoid being struck by the car. But yet, the driver of the car screeched to a halt just in time in fraction of a second. How did the driver see?
136. I want to pluck a mango from the tree. A peacock is sitting just by the side of the fruit. How can I get the same fruit without disturbing the bird?
137. I inserted seven doughnuts to a rope and tied the two ends of it. I wanted to eat a doughnut without cutting the rope or breaking doughnut. How?
138. In a running race, if you overtake the person running second, where (which position) would you be?
139. If you overtake the last... then where would you be?
140. A dog is tied to a 10 meters long rope. A bone is 15 meters away. The dog got the bone. How?
141. Price of an article goes up by 10% and after one year comes down by 10%. When is the price at a lower level? Before raise or after the fall or equal to original?
142. Are you adventure oriented? In a time machine you can go to future or past and return to exactly the same spot in space, after one hour. Would you try if it comes free of cost?
143. Here is an interesting question based on maths and physics. The TV news says that the present day's temperature in Kashmir is 0 degrees Celsius and it would be twice colder the next day. What would be the temperature the next day?
144. If I show you a painting and say, 'His father is my father's son', who is he to me, if I have no brothers? Is it me or my son or my father or my grand father?
145. This question is to test your high quality logical perception. You are at a three-road junction and confused which one leads to your destination Rampur. You find two brothers standing there and you know that one is 'always' a liar and the other is always a truth-teller. But don't know who is a liar and who is a truth-teller. Can you find your route by asking just 'only one' of them 'only one question'. How you can?
146. Here is a more complicated question. Three men are standing at a three road junction. You're not sure either to turn left or right to reach your destination. One of these men tells always the truth, one always lies and the third tells either the truth or lie. Each of the three men knows each other, but you don't know who is who. If you can ask only one of these men (chosen at random, since you don't know which man is who) only one yes/no question, what question would you 'frame' to determine the correct road?
147. Test your quick reflexes. While trekking through a remote jungle I was captured by cannibals. The chief told me, "You may now speak your last words. If your statement is true, we will burn to kill you in flames. If your statement is false, we will boil to kill you in oil". I thought for a moment, and made my statement. Perplexed, the clever cannibal chief realised he could do nothing but let me go. What did I tell them?

148. The following problem was posed at an M. N. C interview. You are shown three boxes with labels that contain respectively oranges, apples and a mixture of both of them. You were told that all labels were wrongly pasted on the boxes. You are asked to close your eyes and put your hand into any box of your choice and blindly take one fruit. You can now open your eyes, see the fruit in your hands. You are asked to re-paste the labels correctly. Can you? If so how?

149. This is a question on your capacity to shift your paradigm. A doctor and his (own) son met with a car accident. The doctor's hand was broken. The son is rushed to the hospital with a brain injury. In the operation theatre, the surgeon sees the boy and says, "I can't operate on this boy, he is my own son!" How can this be?

150. When compared to the previous question, this is more complicated and tests your capacity to think beyond normal limitations. A doctor, his wife and their own son were going in a car and met with an accident. The doctor broke his hands, other had a head injury, but the mother escaped. Outside the operation theatre, the mother was weeping, and inside the neurosurgeon says, "I can't operate. He is my own son!" How can this be?

TRUTH HEAD-ACHES:

151. In a bank robbery, A, B and C are suspected robbers. A says B is guilty, B says C is guilty and C says A is guilty. Who is/are the real culprit(s) if all are telling lies?

152. In a bank robbery, A, B and C are the suspects. A says B is guilty. B says C is guilty. C says B is guilty. If two people are telling the truth, who is/are guilty?

153. In a bank robbery, among A, B and C, one is a sure culprit. A says B is guilty. B says A is guilty. C says A is guilty. If nobody is telling the truth who is/are guilty?

154. In a bank robbery, A, B and C are the suspects. A says he is not guilty. B says he is not guilty. C says, "B is guilty". Who is the real culprit, if only one among them is telling the truth?

155. This is a question to challenge your lateral thinking. Suppose you are going in a deep forest on a stormy night. It is totally dark and you have to travel further three hours to reach nearby town. You have only one seat in your car. You noticed 3 people underneath a tree. One is a doctor, who took you in his vehicle to the hospital, gave his blood and saved your life when you were a kid. The other is a 90-year-old lady suffering from asthma requiring immediate hospitalisation. The third one is your dream girl / boy to meet whom you would bargain anything. This is the opportunity for which you are dreaming since long. Whom do you take in your car? Around 87% prefer to take the old lady and are called sentimentalists. Approximately 22% prefer to give lift to the doctor. They are realists. 1% are the materialists who of-course prefers to go with their dream person. What do you do?

156. "What is today?" I asked. "If tomorrow is yesterday, today is Saturday" he replied. What is today?

157. A flock of sheep was going down on a narrow highway. There was a huge hillock on the left side, and a deep valley on the right. A torrent river was violently flowing down the valley. As the Sheppard was steering his herd, a truck came from behind blowing the horn. The young driver was in a rush to take his ailing mother to the hospital. He urged the Sheppard to move the sheep aside, so that he could pass through. The Sheppard declined to do so, fearing that the cramped sheep dreading by the horrifying sound of the truck, might panic and fall down into the overflowing waters. The boy explained the situation. But there was no other way except to follow the sheep slowly from behind till the road widens, which would take another half an hour. The condition of the ailing mother was deteriorating. Sensing the severity of the situation, the Sheppard was struck by an idea. What was the idea?

158. A king wanted more warriors in his country. He proposed to increase the population of male compared to female. Hitherto it was 1:1. He set down a law that required every couple to continue having male children until they had their first female baby and then to stop having children further. Excellent idea. First: Male baby? Continue for another. Second male? Congratulations. Third female? Stop. The family has now two males and one female. If your first baby is female, you cannot take risk of another baby, as there is a possibility for the second one also being a female. The idea of the king appears to be logical. After two generations what would have happened? How much would have been the growth of males compared to females? Double? Triple?

159. Three soldiers have to cross a river. There is a boat and two children who can row it and are willing to take the soldiers with them to the other side. But the problem is that the boat can bear the weight of two children or only one soldier. Along with the soldier, even if one child steps on, it would sink. One of the soldiers is intelligent and with his idea, all the three went to the other side of the river and safely handed over the boat to the children. What is the idea?

160. During an examination, a medico was asked to identify a femur that he recognised as a human thigh bone. "How many of them do you have?" was the next question. The student replied, "Two". The examiner passed him and failed another student, who said "Three". He also failed two female students who said "four" and "Five" respectively. All the three students appealed to higher ups and won the case after explaining their reasons. What may be their reasons?

161. I wrote this story when I was 18 years old. This was my first story and was published in a children magazine 'Chandamama'. Solve this riddle: Unable to find any food or charity, a beggar prayed God, "O God! Give me something. I promise to offer you half of what I get today." Amazingly he found a purse containing two hundred rupees. He was in high spirits and spent everything. From next day his inner conscious started warning him about God's punishment. Day by day his agony and fear increased. Then one night he had an idea, and implemented it. Without paying a single pie to the God, he relieved from his tension. What might have been the idea?

162. A lady listened to the continuous ringing of phone bell while reading a news paper, but does not bother to rise from the chair. Tell at least five reasons. The reasons may be humorous or even stupid also, but this riddle is to test your calibre as to how fast can you think of various probabilities.

163. I married an ugly, poor and unhealthy person. Pleased by my act, an angel offered only one of the three to my spouse: Beauty, Money or Health. What should I take?

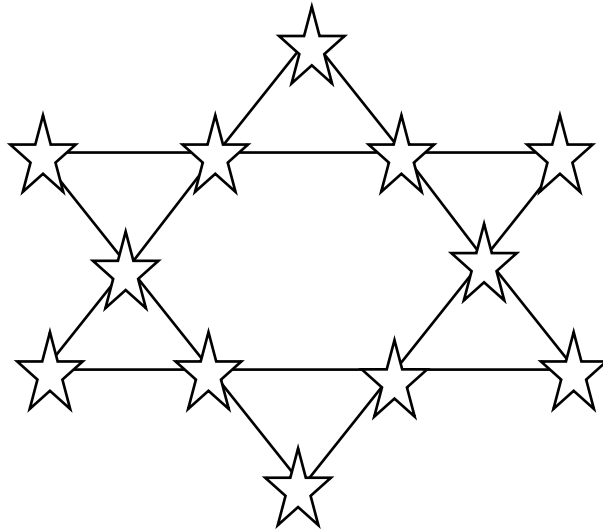
164. Happy with my answer for the above question, after giving health the angel wants to make my spouse beautiful, but only for 8 hours a day. Which time should I prefer? Morning? Afternoon? Evening? Night?

165. Why did a perfectly healthy office-going girl put a full plaster cast on her arm when it was not injured in any way? Give at least four reasons.

166. A person wanted to purchase a talking bird, went to an auction and expected the price to be thousand rupees. But the bid went up to ten thousands. There were no other competitors. Still the bid rose to such a huge amount. What would have happened?

167. A person demonstrates a fake note manufacturing machine. He inserts a white paper into a printing machine and a perfect thousand rupee note comes out from the other side. The buyer also personally inserts a paper and gets another note. Both the notes are scrutinized by Reserve Bank officials and certified them as original. The buyer purchases the machine for one million rupees and later finds out that he has been cheated. How?

168. Fill the stars with numbers from 1 to 12, using every number only once. The total of 4 stars connected by lines should be 26.



MORE COMPLICATED PUZZLES

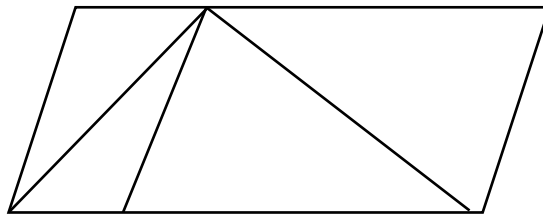
169. An office is located in a hilly area *exactly in between* two bus stops A and B. This office is nearer to stop A than B. But A woman passes stop A and gets off the bus at stop B and walks back every day. Why? She has no other work at that bus stop like: purchases, friend's house etc. Surprisingly, while coming back in the evening she takes on at stop A. Why?

170. This question tests your ability of rational assumptions. A, E, I, O, U are the vowels, and as you know 2, 4,6,8,10,12 etc are the even numbers. You have to pick up only two cards from the following 4 cards to prove that "Vowels have 'even numbers' on their reverse". Which two cards do you pick up from the above?

E	K	4	7
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171. Two boys love an intelligent sheikh's daughter. The sheikh is not interested in getting his daughter married to either of them. So he makes a proposition. The two boys will ride their own camels in a race, and whichever camel enters the city second, *the owner* of the said camel will win the girl. During the race, the two boys wander aimlessly for days, neither of them willing to enter the city first. Thus the sheikh has his last laugh. In desperation, the boys ask a wise-man for advice. He tells them something. Then they leap onto the camels and charge rapidly towards the city. What does the wise-man say?
172. You are on a game show. You are shown 3 closed doors. A prize is hidden behind one of the three doors. You are asked to select a door. Before you open it, the host opens one of the remaining 2, which is empty. Now he gives you an option, whether to stick on to your original selection or change your option to the other one. What would you do among these three? 1. Change your option to the other one? 2. Stick to the original 3. Think that it does not matter, as it is anyway a lottery between the two closed doors.
173. A dog can run fifty miles in a day. How far could he run straight into a 900 square mile forest in two days?
174. A farmer had nine sheep and all but seven died. How many did he have left?
175. You are a bus driver. At the first stop of the day, eight people get on board. At the second stop, four get off, and eleven get on. At the third stop, two get off, and six get on. At the fourth stop, thirteen get off, and one gets on. At the fifth stop, five get off, and three get on. At the sixth stop, three get off, and two get on. What is the colour of bus driver's eyes?
176. A certain five letter word becomes *shorter* when you add two letters to it. What is the word?
177. An electric train is travelling northwest at 95 miles per hour and the wind is blowing southwest at 95 miles per hour. In which direction does the smoke blow?
178. There is a palindrome (a word that is spelled the same forward and backwards) which is the name of one language in India. What is it?
179. Panama hats are made in which country? Ecuador/ Panama/ Australia?
180. When do Russians celebrate the October Revolution? October / November / December
181. An assistant at a grocery shop is five feet tall and wears size 11 shoes. What does he weigh?
182. 25% can be written as $\frac{1}{4}$, 75% can be written as $\frac{3}{4}$ and 33.3% can be written as $\frac{1}{3}$. How would 58 $\frac{1}{3}$ % be written as a fraction (when reduced to the lowest denominator)?
183. Name the only English word that ends with the letters ".....mt"?
184. Name 3 English words that end in "....dous."
185. Find one English word that have "...u...u" in it.
186. There are two English words that has all the five vowels, A, E, I, O, U in same alphabetical order. One word is "facetious." Name another one?
187. Three very intelligent monkeys came to a solid river that was wide and deep. Unfortunately they didn't know how to swim and there were no boat or material to make a bridge. However, they went across in just a few minutes. How did they cross the river?
188. A woman is driving in the middle of the desert while listening to music and suddenly left tyre of her car's rear side becomes flat. While removing the flat tyre to fix the spare one, she accidentally drops all nuts (the nuts that hold the tyre to the wheel) down a hole in the sand. The hole is ten feet deep and only a few inches wide. She knows that it is dangerous to dig the hole as there can be a poisonous desert rattle snake sleeping therein. She'll die of thirst if she can't find immediately a way to put that spare tire on securely enough to drive out of the desert. Just using what is normally available in any car; can you come up with at least two ways to solve this problem?
189. A person born in no. 1964 and died in 1984 at the age of 30. How?

190. If a doctor gave you three pills and told you to take one every half-an-hour, how long would they last?
191. An archeologist claimed that he found some gold coins dated 34 B.C. His son believed it. His daughter smiled at it. Why?
192. Ravana was sitting on his throne. Anjaneya challenged: "I bet, I can make you stand, before I walk around your throne three times." Ravan replied, "May be you'll prick me with a knife or something". Anjaneya smiled, "I won't touch you either directly or with any object. By your own choice you will get out of the chair". Ravana thought for a while and said, "I accept the challenge. If you make me stand, I give back your master's wife to you. If you fail, she will be with me forever." Anjaneya won the challenge and got back Sita. How?
193. How can you remove one from 19 and make it 20?
194. Rama's mother had three children: One is Laxman. Other is Bharath. What is the name of the last one?
195. In a group of siblings, there are seven sisters, and each sister has one brother. How many are there in total?
196. Anusha went to America accompanying her husband Srinivas twice, but Srinivas has taken only one trip to America with his wife Anusha. How is this possible?
197. If the President dies, who would be the vice-president?
198. On Monday a rider comes to a village, stays for exactly 24 hours; and leaves on Friday. How?
199. A woman comes home from shopping, changes her dress and enters the bedroom. There she finds her husband hanging motionless. Looking at the lifeless husband, she hysterically bursts into tears, rushes to the phone, calls on the doctor and a police officer and goes with them for late night movie show. What's happening?
200. In a five star hotel, I ordered for a cup of tea. When I was about to sip, I found a fly in the tea. I complained. The manager apologised, took back the cup and brought another fresh hot one. But I realised that he bought the same tea. I sued the hotel in a consumer court and won compensation. The question is not how I won the case. How could I recognise that the manager has bought the same tea?
201. From the following diagram choose the correct answer: 1) AB is lengthier than AC. 2) AB is shorter than AC. 3) AB is equal to AC.



B

FUNNY BRAIN TEASERS

202. There are six glasses in a row, first three with water and the next three empty.

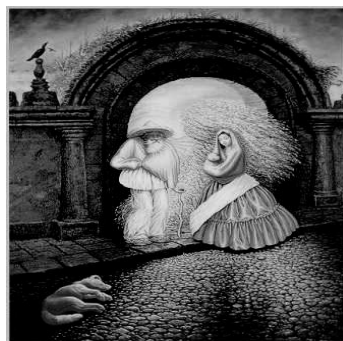


Can you arrange in such a way that it would be alternative... first with water, next empty and so on...! You are allowed touch and move only one glass.

203. A and B are walking on a road. A is the father of the father of B's son. Who is A to B?

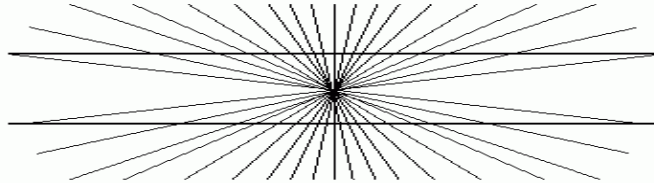
204. Your boat speed is 7 miles per hour in still water. The stream is flowing against you at 3 miles per hour. From 14 miles away a small cork is floating towards you. How much time does it take for your boat to meet the cork?

205. How many faces can you find in this :



206. To make one dozen, you require 12 one-rupee notes. How many ten-rupee notes do you require to make ten dozen?

207. Pour hot water into a thick drinking glass and into a thin wine glass. Which glass is more likely to crack?
208. The speed of sound in air is about 740 miles per hour. Suppose that a police car is sounding its siren and is driving towards you at 60 miles per hour. At what speed is the sound of the siren approaching you?
209. An ice cube floating in a glass of water hitherto on the water melts. Does the level of water 1. Rise 2. Go down? 3. Stay at same level?
210. Are these lines parallel and straight or curved?



211. This is a very interesting question testing your logical approach. People of SATYA Island always tell the truth. People of ASATYA Island always tell lie. You met three people A, B, C but don't know from which island they are from. May be two are from one, another one from second island. Or, all the three may be from one island. You ask A, from which island the other 2 are from? He says "Both are from same island". Then you put same question to B. He gives the same answer. Can you guess what C would answer to the same question? Give logic behind your answer.
212. Two cars start from Hyderabad and proceed to Secunderabad with same constant speed and on the same route. There are no road blocks, repairs, accidents, traffic jams or stoppages in between. One car reaches there after one day. Why?
213. A, B, and C are three co-workers who would like to know their average salary. How can they do it, without disclosing their own salaries to the other two?
214. A good pot without any holes is kept right under a running water tap but it does not get filled up. Why?
215. Answer to this problem is based on your imaginative judgment. A feudalist king has 4 bottles of wine. He is hosting a party in next one hour. As the guests are about to arrive, it was found that one of the bottles is poisonous, and even if a single drop of it is consumed, though the person behaves normally for the first hour, suddenly could collapse and die exactly after one hour. He would be normal without any symptoms till then. The king had some prisoners to be hanged next day. He can call 4 among them and ask them individually to drink "one drop" from each bottle. One of them would die after one hour and thus he can find out the adulterated bottle before the arrival of his guests. But the king wants to experiment with minimum number of prisoners on this job. With how many minimum numbers of prisoners he can locate the poisonous bottle?
216. In the above problem, if 8 bottles are to be tested, how many prisoners does the king require?
217. Many have devised various formulas to complicate the answer to the above two questions. After arriving at the solution to this question, write it down the formula on a paper and explain to your parents or friends. If you can make them understand what you are telling, you are a success. In the above question, suppose the king is giving a very lavish party and the bottles are 1,000. Then how many prisoners does he require?
218. Punctuate the following sentence so it makes sense: "That that is is that that is not is not is not that it it is."

219. What number, when multiplied either by $1\frac{1}{2}$ or added by $1\frac{1}{2}$ gives the same result?
220. SwInfr. What is this word? Three vowels are taken away from that word. It has no flavour but oil is extracted from it.
221. Can you give two alternative 4th number in this series: 2, 4, 8...
222. What is the fourth number? Can you give at least two alternatives? 10, 11, 12, ...
223. A man died, leaving 10,00,000 for his widow, 5 sons and 4 daughters. Each daughter received an equal amount, each son received twice as much as a daughter, and the widow received three times as much as a son. How much did the widow receive?
224. What number should come next in this series: 479126, 47926, 4796, 796 ?
225. How much more available capacity is there in: 20 four-gallon cans that are half full than in 24 gallon cans that are half empty?
226. Of these two, which number is bigger? The number of half-inches in 10 yards, or the number of half-seconds in 6 minutes.
227. Rearrange these letters to form the name of a famous play-writer in English based on whose play was made a film Omkara: I AM A WEAKISH SPELLER.

SIMPLE BUT FUNNY RIDDLES:

228. Why the chicken crossed the road? Here are six reasons: 1. Because it felt like crossing it. 2. It needed exercise. 3. Because that's what chickens normally do. 4. God ordained from the time of Creation that this chicken should come into the world and should cross the road. 5. It got bored. 6. It had a death wish. You try for another ten reasons.
229. What is that poor people have and extraordinarily rich don't need?
230. What number gives the same result when it is added to 5 and/or multiplied by 5?
231. How can you make seven even? Give two methods.
232. What is the speed of darkness?
233. How does a person get his hair cut on the moon?
234. What time is it when the number of hours since midnight 12 is two times the number of hours before noon 12?
235. As you have understood how to solve the above question, here is a slightly complicated one. What time is it when the number of hours since midnight is five times the number of hours before noon?
236. Based on the above, here is the most difficult one. What time is it when the number of minutes since midnight... is nine times the number of minutes before noon?
237. Start from the letter 's' and draw a straight line to the next grid, either to left, right or down. On '1' you can change the direction again to left, right, up or down according to your wish. But the condition is on '2' you have to compulsorily continue to go in same direction only. You should not pass any grid twice. At the end of the game, you should have covered all the grids and reached end.

1	1	1	1
2	1	1	2
2	<u>S</u>	2	1
1	2	2	END

238. Applying the same principle as in question 237, solve the puzzle below.

239.

240.

241.

242.

1	2	S	1	1
2	1	1	2	2
1	1	1	1	2
1	2	2	2	1
1	2	2	2	END

239. There is one number below 1000 that gives a remainder of 1 when it is divided by 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 or 8. What is that number?

240. A father, mother and a boy go for a 10 mile walk, starting from point A. The father and mother walk at 2 mph and the son at 4 mph. They also have a bicycle which only one of them can use at a time. When riding, either the father or mother can pedal at 12 mph while the boy can pedal at 16 mph. What is the shortest time in which all three can complete the trip?

241. This is an irritating puzzle. In a group, the chickens are double in number than the sheep. Their heads + legs are 99. How many chickens and sheep are there?

242. A fish is fifteen inches long, comprising of head, middle portion and tail. Its head is as long as its tail. If the head is twice as long as it really is, the head and tail would together be as long as its middle portion. How long is each part of the fish?

243. Which weighs more... one kilo of iron or one kilo of Cotton?

244. A teenaged priest in a Kali temple wants to become a mathematical genius but is poor even in adding two simple numbers. Every day he prays the deity to make him a whiz-kid in maths. Years passed but there is no positive result. Other gods appeal the Almighty Mother to bestow her blessings on the child but the Goddess Kali is reluctant saying that “success is accomplished only through genuine work and not just by praying Gods”. Later, convinced by his continued sincerity, she wants to teach him maths through practical training. The Goddess tells him one day, “As you know there are three adjacent temples for my sons, Vishnu, Siva and Brahma. Go and anoint them with equal number of flowers, and that is my first lesson to test your patience and determination to acquaint with maths”.

The priest was surprised, “What is there to learn in this? I will take 30 flowers and anoint each God with 10 flowers.” The Goddess smiled, “The twist is that when you wash the flowers in the pond, they multiply twice in number. Now here are the three conditions. Before going to each temple you should wash the flowers in the pond. Secondly, my three sons are to be offered ‘equal’ number of flowers. Thirdly, there should not be any flowers left out in your hand when you leave the last temple.” The priest first goes to Vishnu’s temple with ten flowers and washes them. As they become 20, he keeps 12 before Vishnu, and goes to the pond with remaining 8. The flowers multiply to 16. He keeps 12 at the feet of Shiva. And then he realises that if he washes the flowers again, they would become only 8. He understands that his initial take of 10 flowers is a mistake. How many minimum number of flowers should he take with him to start with and how many should he offer equally to each God?

245. You are on a boat in a small pond. You have a stone and a log in the boat. You throw the stone into the water. Does the water level in the pond rise, fall or remain the same? How about if you throw the log into water?

246. Some months have 30 days. Some have 31. How many months do have 28 days?

247. How many times can you subtract 2 from 19, till you get a negative (minus) answer?

248. If you are given numbers 2, 3, 4 and 9 and asked to make it 42 by keeping some symbols and brackets in between them you would work out $(9 \times 4) + (2 \times 3)$. Now based on the same principle, from the same numbers, can you make 42 again with different combinations? There are at least three other alternatives. Try.

249. How can you jump from the top of a 100-foot ladder onto a concrete floor without getting hurt?

250. I was driving at midnight on Jan. 31. It was freezing cold in Antarctica. I was on an isolated unpaved road when my car battery went dead. The headlights went off and I stopped my vehicle. There were no moon or stars out, and no human-made lights visible. Yet I clearly saw a small mouse cross the road and could tell that the colour of it was brown, not grey. How is this possible?

251. An American-built Lockheed airplane with a Swedish-built engine belonging to British Airways flying from Lanka to China carrying Japanese tourists crashes exactly on the border between India and Pakistan. In which country do they bury the survivors?

252. How many sheep must I have if I have two sheep before a sheep, two sheep after a sheep and one sheep in the middle?

253. Two suspects are brought in for questioning after a murder. In Narcotic tests, the only statement the police can get from each: Suspect A: I am innocent. Suspect B: Exactly one of us is telling the truth. Which one is the murderer?

254. Three Sadhus and three cannibals are on either side of a river, and there is only one boat on the cannibals' side. The boat can carry (at most) two people at a time. Cannibals are to go to the other side; and sadhus to come to this side. They both want to co-operate each other, but the sadhus know that cannibals are cunning and should not out-number the Sadhus at any point of time (on either side of the river bank). In other words, if a cannibal is waiting on one side of the river, and if another cannibal brings a sadhu in the boat, then both will kill the single sadhu and eat. Anyhow a single cannibal cannot harm a single Sadhu. Plan minimum number of trips in such a way that all the cannibals go to the other side and sadhus come to this side without any bloodshed. How do you plan it?

255. Three married couples (six persons) have to cross a river. The boat can carry only two. Constraint is that no woman can be in the presence of another man unless her husband is also present. In other sense, in the boat or on river bank, a woman can be with another woman, or with her husband, or single. A woman with another couple also should not stay, as her husband on the other feels suspicious. Can you solve the problem of these jealous and doubtful husbands and plan a way so that all the six can go to the other side with minimum number of trips?

256. This appears to be highly complicated puzzle, but once you know the clue it is easy. Try to work out on your own and if you cannot find a solution, take the help of your teacher, parent or a friend: There are 10 war prisoners to be hanged next day. The king says that before the execution, he will give a chance to the prisoners to try their luck. His offer goes like this: "Each prisoner is blind-folded, assigned a random hat, either red or blue, and asked to wear it and to stand in a single-line. After forming the queue, the blind-folds are removed. Now each can see the hats that are in front of him. They don't know the colour of their own hat or hats of those standing behind them. At this point, starting with the last prisoner, each one must say only one word... either "red" or "blue". If the word matches with his hat colour he is released and if not he will be killed on the spot." After listening to the offer, the intelligent minister who is also one among the war prisoners,

tells his colleagues that they can formulate a plan where by 9 of the 10 prisoners will definitely survive and the last person (who should answer first) has 50/50 chance of survival. What is the plan? The plan does not include voice change, mimicry or any of those sorts.

257. You are lost in the woods. All you have are the clothes on you back, your shoes and a single match. You stumble around in the dark before coming across a house. You try the door and luckily find it unlocked. So you enter the house. There is a fireplace with dry wood, an oil lamp and a candle. As said earlier, you have only a single match in your matchbox. What do you light first?

258. Ten Indian and same number of American couples met in a party. Indian ladies greeted men with a namasthe. All male members shook hands with other gents and American ladies, with the exception that American gents did not shake hand with their wives. All American and Indian ladies shook hands among themselves. How many shake-hands took place in total?

259. A man went into a fast food restaurant and ate a meal costing 100 rupees, gave the cashier a 500/- note and took the change. He had some Tiffin packed and gave 100 rupee note and received 20/- in change. Later the cashier found that both the notes are counterfeit. How much money did the restaurant lose if the restaurant's profit on food and Tiffin is equal to its cost?

260. Imagine that you are in a sinking boat and the boat is surrounded by sharks. How will you escape?

261. Forward it is heavy. Backward it is 'not'. What is it?

262. Why is it against the law for an Indian national living in Pak to be buried in India?

263. There is only one correct answer for this question. What is that?

A) Answer A

B) Answer A or Answer B

C) Answer B or Answer C

264. A farmer has 7 grey hens, 5 yellow hens and 1 black hen. How many hens can say that there is other hen with same colour?

265. I entered into a tunnel and have crossed $\frac{1}{4}$ of its distance and heard a whistle from a train behind. I turned and ran towards the train and could barely get out of tunnel before it could hit me at the entrance. Had I moved to the other side in the same direction with the same speed then also I could have crossed the tunnel before the train could have hit me exactly at the exit of the tunnel. Assuming that my speed and the speed of the train were uniform, how faster is the train as compared to my speed?

266. A vending machine offers three selections - Tea, Coffee or Random (Either tea or Coffee) but the machine has been wired up wrongly so that each button surely and certainly does not give what it claims. If each drink costs 50p, how much minimum money do you have to put into the machine to know which button gives which selection and paste the labels correctly?

267. Can you draw a rectangle with three lines?

268. $XI + I = X$ Can you correct the equation with out putting the pen or using a rubber? More complicated question: You found on a computer screen $XI + I = X$. Can you correct it by not touching the key-board?

269. My birthday is in January. What is the least number of 'yes/no' questions you need to ask me to guess the day of my birthday correctly?

270. I have with me two glass balls. If I throw the ball out of the window, it breaks if the floor number is equal or greater than 'X'. It never breaks if the floor number is less than

“X”. You are supposed to find out what is X with minimum number of throws. I can reuse the unbroken ball any number of times. Here is the example. Suppose I am in a 10 floor-building. I throw the ball from the fourth floor and if it breaks, I throw the second ball from first, second and third floors (Total 4 times). If the ball does not break from the fourth floor, I throw it from the 7th floor taking it as a second chance; and again from the 9th and 10th floors. Total 4 times. Hence the answer is “if it is a 10 storied building, I can find from which floor the ball breaks with minimum 4 throws.” Now find out if you have to test the balls in a 100 storied building.

271. There are 4 chess players of different strengths. If two of them play, the stronger one always wins. What is the minimum number of games they need to play, so that we can determine the order of their strengths?

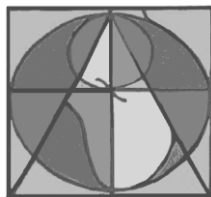
272. We have 11 balls of which two are radioactive. We have an electrical box in which if we put the balls, it can tell us whether there exists a radioactive ball among them or not. Using this tool is very expensive. So how can you find two radioactive balls with minimum number of trails?

273. Between Delhi and Agra suppose there are 2 existing halts A and B. If another 2 new stations C and D are built in between, the railways have to print 18 types of extra tickets (To and fro: Delhi to C and D, Agra to C and D, A to C and D, B to C and D and between the two new stations C- D). Taking this as an example, there were N existing stations on a railroad. After adding X stations 120 additional tickets have to be printed. Find N and X.

274. If you love someone you can arrange these 10 letters in 3 words I E O M U R E Y N A

275. If a bottle full of honey weighs 1 kilogram and with half the honey it weighs 600 grams, what is the weight of the bottle?

276. I find four alphabets A, C, P and Q in this diagram. How many more can you find?



277. Krishna and Radha have a conversation. Krishna says “I am certainly not over 40”. She says “I am also not 36 and you are not 6 years older to me”. If both statements are false, how old are they?

278. Krishna and Radha are playing cards for a stake of one rupee per game. At the end Krishna has won 3 games and Radha has won 3 rupees. How many games did they play?

279. You created a rumour and passed it on to four persons in 30 minutes. Each in turn passed it to another four in next 30 minutes and so on. Assuming that nobody heard it more than once and the population of the world is approximately 5.6 billions, how long would it take for everybody in the World to get to know the rumour?

280. A says "The horse is Brown." P says "The horse is not Black." S says, "The horse is either Brown or Grey." At least one is telling truth and at least one is lying. Can you tell the exact colour of the horse?

281. You are standing at the top of a 100 meter building, you have a rope 75 meters long and the only way you can come down is through the rope. You can cut the rope anywhere you want, you also can tie or hook it at any point on the building, but you can't jump and of-course don't even think about the stairs: Find out the best way to come down.

282. J lies a lot. He tells the truth on only one day in a week. One day he said: "I lie on Mondays and Tuesdays." The next day he said: "Today is either Sunday, Saturday or Thursday." The next day he said: "I lie on Fridays and Wednesdays." On which day of the week does Jim tell the truth?

283. If you find the answer quickly then you are an Engineer. If find out in two minutes, you are an IT Guy. If you don't understand the answer at all, then you belong to law. This is a simple problem: If $1 = 5$; $2 = 25$; $3 = 125$; $4 = 625$; $5 = ?$

284. Three men - Sanath, Chandra and Lal - are married to Chandini, Bhavana and Tripti, but not necessarily in the same order. Wife of Sanath and husband of Bhavana play Chandini and Tripti's husband at bridge. No wife partners her own husband and Chandra does not play bridge. Who is married to Chandra?

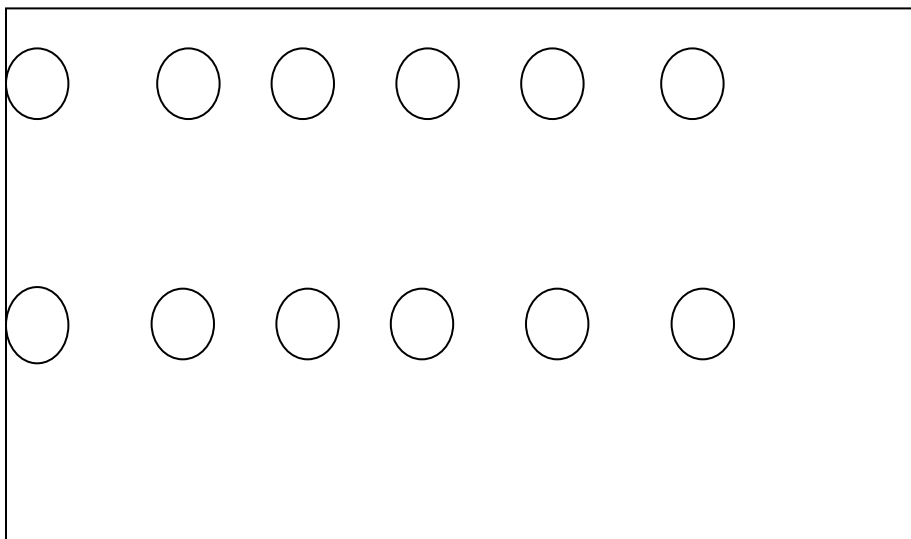
285. A rescuer has to climb 300 meters to a hill-top carrying ropes etc, and save a person there. He has 900 small oxygen packets but can carry a maximum of 300 only at a time. He can not travel unless he consumes 1 packet for every meter he climbs. He doesn't mind travelling 'up and down' any number of times carrying the packets in batches. How many maximum packets can he take to the final destination if he is intelligent? Time is not a constraint.

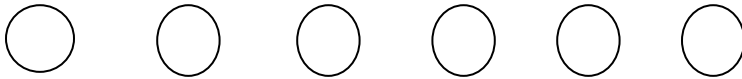
286. A cyclist drove one kilometre with the wind in his back in three minutes; and drove the same way back against the wind in four minutes. The Question: If we assume that the cyclist always puts constant force on the pedals, how much time would it take him to drive one kilometre without wind?

287. There is a tank with three different water taps. The smallest tap fills the tank in 20 minutes, middle one in 12 minutes and the biggest tap in 5 minutes. There is one more tap that empties the tank in 3 minutes. If four taps are opened how long does it take to fill the water tank?

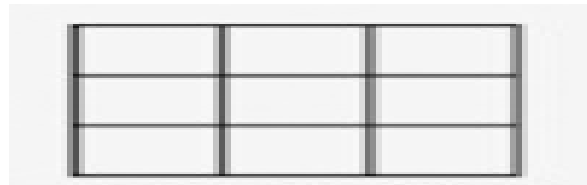
288. A young prince wants to marry a mathematician's daughter. The father decides to test the prince. He gives the prince two empty porcelain vases and 200 pearls of which 100 are white and 100 black. "You must put all the pearls in the two vases. In which ratio you mix them up is your choice" he tells the prince. "After this, I will call my daughter. She will take one each from the two vases. If those two pearls are white, you are allowed to marry my daughter." The prince knows that 100% it is not possible. Now the question is, if the prince is brave and intelligent, what is the best way the prince could divide the pearls between the two vases?

289. Draw a line to connect circle 1 and circle 1 on the other end; 2 and 2... and so on till 9 and 9. The lines should not intersect. All lines should be inside the rectangle.





290. Test your patience. Place the 9 alphabets A,B,C,D,E,F,G,H,I into the 3 x 3 box below. E is to the right of C. A to the right of G which is above B, which is to the left of F. 'I' is above D which is to the left of G.



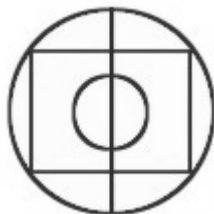
291. There are 3 triplet brothers looking identical. One is Dharmaraja, who always tells the truth. The second is Suyodhana, who always tells a lie. The third is Thenali Ramakrishna, who either tells the truth or a lie. You go to visit them one day. All the three are sitting side by side. You don't know who is who. So you ask each person a question, first the one who was sitting on the extreme left: "Who is the guy sitting in the middle?" The answer is "He is Dharmajara." You ask the one who in the middle: "What is your name?" The answer is "I am Suyodhana." You ask the one sitting on the right: "Who is the guy sitting in the middle?" The answer is "He is Thenali Ramakrishna." You get really confused. But with little thinking can you find out who is who. How?

292. Sita and Ram are on the two opposite banks of a river at point 'A' and 'B'. They start off at the same time and row their boats to the other side. They meet and pass each other at 720 meters from point 'B'. On reaching the opposite bank, they both rest for the same amount of time before they return. On the way back they pass each other at 400 meters from point 'A'. What is the width of the river?

293. There was a burglary in a shop. Three suspects: R, S, and T were caught and questioned. R said: S did not steal. S said: That is true. T said: R is innocent. Later the police found out that one thief did tell the truth. However, at least, one of them was lying. Who was the thief?

294. A lady and a gentleman are sister and brother. We do not know who is older. When someone asked them "Who is older?" the sister said "I am older". The brother said that he is younger. At least one of them was lying. Who is older?

295. Can you draw the figure shown below in one stroke? You should not lift your pen or pencil on the paper before finishing it. You should not draw a line on the 'already' drawn line.



296. Assume that there are 3 persons. If you multiply the number of fingers of one person's left hand with the next person's left hand and so on, it would be $5 \times 5 \times 5 = 625$. Assume that there are approximately 5,000,000,000 people on Earth. What would you estimate to be the result, if you multiply together the number of fingers on every person's left-hand? If you cannot estimate the number then try to guess how long the number would be... or how many zeroes would be there in that number.

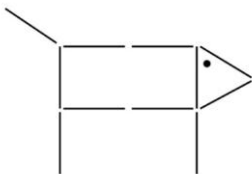
297. At the same thickness... is it the bunch of hair that is strong or a wire of iron?

298. How many times can you fold a paper?

299. Three code of conduct violations are found by the election commission 1. One influenced the voters with money and alcohol 2. One tampered with Ballot boxes 3. One made false promises. All we know that Rajasekhar Reddy, Chandrababu and Chiranjeevi have violated one code each. Here are the investigation statements. 1. Chandrababu said: *Chiranjeevi influenced the voters with money and alcohol.* 2. Rajasekhar Reddy said: *No. Chiranjeevi tampered with ballot boxes.* 3. Chiranjeevi said: *I neither influenced the voters nor tampered with ballot boxes.* Later the election commission found out that 1. the man who influenced the voters with money is a truth-teller 2. The man who made false promises told a lie. Can you find out which code is violated by whom?

300. The interviewer offered me two options, "Shall I pose one difficult question or three simple questions?" I chose the difficult one to be questioned and he asked: *Which is earlier, is it the hen or the egg?* I replied that it was the hen that came on to the earth early. He enquired how. I told him my explanation and got the job. What is that that I told him and how I could get the job?

301. You are walking along the street and suddenly two men jump out of a van. They blindfold you and bundle you into their vehicle. You are driven for miles before being taken into a house and your blindfold removed. You find yourself sitting in a dark, damp, room. There is a small table in front of you containing 11 matches and a small ball of paper. A hungry looking lion is sitting opposite you. It leans forward and arranges the matchsticks and paper ball into a dog-like shape as shown in the figure. He then turns



around, takes a piece of chalk from behind his ear and writes on the wall... can you make the dog look in the opposite direction by moving just two of the matchsticks and the paper ball? If not, I will eat you...and one thing more... the tail of the dog must remain pointing up. Can you escape with your life? Show the diagram, how you change the head position?

302. If 5 people dig a 5 meters hole in 5 hours, how many people are required to dig a 100 meters hole in 100 hours?

303. Find out what is 'x'? You get 'x' number of lemons for 16 rupees. For 'x' rupees you get 36 lemons.

304. 100 goats clear one acre fully grass field in 20 days. If it were 50 goats, they clear the same field in 60 days (because grass grows every day). If you want the field cleared in 25 days, how many goats do you require?

305. A father, mother and son have to reach a distance of 2 miles. They walk at 4, 4 and 8 miles per hour respectively. They have a bicycle which only one of them can use at a time. They pedal at 8, 8 and 16 mph. what is the shortest time that all the three can complete the trip?

306. King Heiro ordered for a 3 kilo crown with 2 kilos of gold and 1 kilo silver. On its delivery, he became suspicious about its quality. The king asked his friend and philosopher Archimedes to determine whether he was cheated. Suppose gold loses $1/20^{\text{th}}$ weight in water and silver $1/10^{\text{th}}$, and the newly manufactured crown in water weighed 2.75 kilos only, determine how much gold was siphoned off and replaced by silver.

307. A honey bottle weighs 500 grams. If it is replaced by oil, it weighs 350 grams. The weight of honey is double than the oil. What is the weight of the empty bottle?

308. I have equal number of brothers and sisters. My each sister has double the number of brothers than sisters. How many total are we?

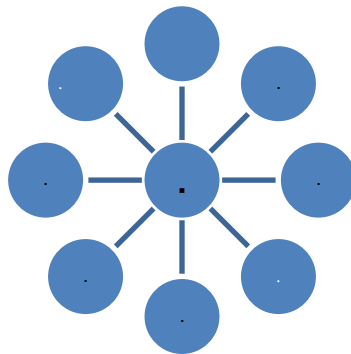
309. I have two sons. Each son has a sister. How many children I have?

310. This is a complicated question. Don't get confused. After two years, my son will be double his present age. After four years my daughter's age will be three times of her present age. Who is elder among both of them?

311. A beautiful lady reporter asked a young comedian about his age. "Multiply my age after 3 years by 3" he smiled, "Multiply my age 3 years ago by 3. The difference is my age". What is his age?

312. A duck swims in a perfectly circular pond. There is a fox at the shore, afraid of water and plans to catch the duck when getting out. The land speed of the fox is four times as high as the water speed of the duck but however, once the duck reaches the shore without the fox nearby, it can hide and escape. Can the duck reach the shore safely?

313. Fill the underneath nine circles with numbers from 1 to 9. The total of all three circles in a straight line should be 15. Don't use the number once used.



314. Through a window, a group of persons watch a bird coming towards them and they all die. Why?

315. Refreshing an earlier question: If you are facing east, which side is Australia? Back / Front / Left / Right? Between back and left? Between back and right? Between right and front? / Between left and front?
316. A stiff competition is going on between two rival companies manufacturing the same product. One company gives two promotions to a lazy, inefficient, unproductive candidate within one year superseding other highly qualified and intelligent executives. This newly promoted executive later resigns. Give two management-strategy reasons for the promotion.
317. A fish weighs 2 kilos plus half of its weight. What is the weight of the fish?
318. I travelled 100 miles on a nasty road by car with a flat tyre. How?
319. The distance between a town and village is 32 km of which the first 8 km is up and the next 24 is down. While going on a cycle, a boy takes 170 minutes and on return takes 270 minutes. What is his speed per hour while going up and down separately?
320. You tied a flag to a balloon and released. High in the sky the balloon is going towards East from South. Which side the flag flutters... East to west or West to east?
321. You are in a boat. By your side a cork is floating on the water. As you are not pedalling the boat, you and the cork are moving with the same speed along with the flow of the water. Now you want to go 'away' from the cork. Which is faster, quicker and less strenuous? Pedalling the boat back against the flow or rowing forward?
322. You have some burning char-coal. You want to have a cup of tea on a chilly midnight. Do you place the kettle on the coal or keep the coal on the kettle?
323. You want to chill a water bottle in a summer afternoon. You have an ice block. Which is better? Placing the bottle on the ice block or underneath it?
324. You feel heat and warmth in a woollen coat. Keep one ice cube in a woollen coat and another one outside. Which one does melt more quickly? Or does it not make any difference?
325. Why and how polished boots shine brighter than unpolished ones?
326. One typist can complete a job in 2 hours and another in 3 hours. If they were to type together, in what ratio they must share the work to complete it in minimum time?
327. There are six bags, each containing 15, 18, 20, 16, 19, 31 apples respectively. One person purchased 3 and another 2 bags. If the first person holds double the number of apples than the second person, what is the bag that is unsold?
328. Which weighs less in water – one kilo iron or one kilo stone?
329. Can we make out the speed of the train sitting in the compartment and listening to the wheel's sound?
330. Why a train initially moves a bit backwards before commencing its journey?
331. A steamer travels at 20 km/per hour along with the flow and 15 km/ph against it. Between two stations, the travel time difference is 5 hours. What is the distance between the two stations?
332. This question requires intelligence and common sense. Can you share 7 apples among 12 boys equally, with minimum cuts, not slicing any apple into more than 4 pieces?
333. Basing on the above question, can you share 5 apples among 6 people equally, not slicing the fruit more than 3 times?

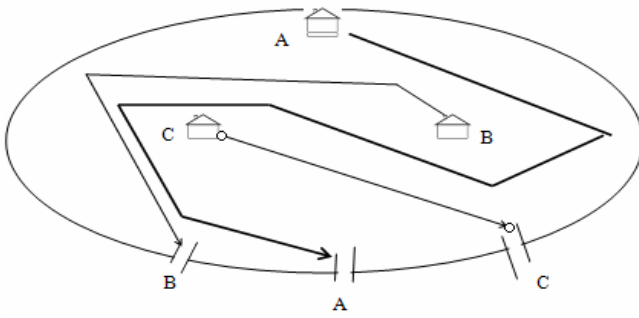
334. Test your common sense. Ram, Laxman and Bharat were standing at a Bus stop. Being bored with the delay, Ram proposed that they should go to the next bus-stop to save some journey time. Laxman said that if they walked back to the previous stop, they could catch the bus early. There is no consensus as Bharath was unwilling to both proposals. They parted. Who would reach the house early?

335. In which museum the first electric bulb (invented by Thomas Edison) is kept?

Answers for odd numbered questions

1. Two oranges would “remain” with you.
3. Three oranges. You gave one to your friend from “your” collection.
5. “Yes. I can answer the question” is the answer. “Two rupees” also sounds to be a correct answer but the former one is better.
7. Two minutes. Let us take the example of a marriage. If it takes 3 hours for a boy to marry a girl, it takes same time even for one thousand couples to marry - all at a time.
9. “In 64 people-days the consumption is 8 kilos. In 4 people-days how much would be the consumption”: is the question. Answer: $\frac{1}{2}$ kilo.
11. 5000? No. The correct answer is 4100. Don’t you believe it? Check it with a paper and pen or on your calculator!

13. The correct answer is 50. If you have answered 20, you might have calculated $20/2+10$. No. It is $(20 \div \frac{1}{2}) + 10$.
15. Lava was born on 28th Feb and his brother was born on 29th. This being not a leap year, the younger one has not celebrated his birthday.
17. Yes. This is a complicated question. At the time the mother went into labour, she was travelling in a ship. The older twin was born early on Sunday. The boat then crossed the international time zone and the younger sister was born on Saturday. Therefore, the younger twin celebrates her birthday a day before her older one. (In India, if it is morning 8, in US it would be still the previous day 8 p.m. This is the reason people adjust their watches while travelling abroad. The International Date Line is an imaginary line which runs from the North Pole to the South Pole and is 180° away from the Greenwich Meridian. Whoever crosses the said line, should change their calendar and adjust a day either + or -. For more interesting details about Greenwich, browse the internet). The second answer is that the brother and sister stay at different parts of the globe on the day of their celebration.
19. Suppose my birthday is on December 31, 2000. That means my ninth birthday is on December 31, 2009. And let's assume "today" is January 1, 2010. Then two days earlier would be December 30, 2009, the day before my ninth birthday. I was 8. Now let's get back to today's date, January 1, 2010. "Next year" is 2011. On January 1, 2011 I will only be 10, but on December 31 that same year, I'll be 11. Confusing but fact is a fact.
21. Manmohan Singh. He was the prime minister in 2006. His name is the same in 1984 also. The question is not "Who is our ruling prime minister in 1984?" The question is – "What is the name of our present prime minister in 1984". The question was asked in 2006.
23. Legs.
25. 8 Fs.
27. Light the two ends of one candle. It takes 30 minutes to burn out totally. Then light the second candle. ($30 + 60 = 90$ minutes).
29. Towards your left.
31. On your back side.
33. The correct answer is "One or more than one". All the crows fly away on hearing the pistol sound, but 'Zero' is not the correct answer, as one dead crow would be there because the birds are on a floor. At this stage, 'one' appears to be a correct answer. But never leave anything to escape logic. There may be some deaf crows. You may argue that those deaf birds may also fly-away noticing other crows. They can be both deaf and blind also are... may be sleeping. There can be one crow which wants to eat the flesh of the dead crow. No. Don't get irritated or confused. There is one more probability. What happens if the dead crow is the beloved child of a dead mother crow? Or may be it is just married. With all this inference, the conclusion is: one or more than would be there. Among the 4 given answers, this is the most logical one.
- 35.



37. This is to be worked on three steps. 1. According to the question there are two white and two black hats. C can see the hats of the two men in front of him. So, if 2 front hats are white, he would automatically know that his hat is “black”. If the front 2 hats are black, he would immediately shout that his hat is “white”. But, since he doesn't say anything, he inevitable must be seeing one black hat and one white hat ahead of him. 2. After it becomes clear to B that the man behind him can't figure out what he's wearing, he knows that there is one black hat and one white hat worn by himself and the other person in front man A. Knowing this, if the middle man saw a white hat before him, he tells that his own hat was black or vice versa. He tells the cannibals exactly the same. Thus all three people escaped death.

39. Total 8 cigarettes. With 49 he makes 7 and again with 7, he can make one more.

41. Don't take the offer. The fortune-teller simply tells that the scores are 0: 0 as the match is yet to start.

43. 4 games.

45. The answer is in the way the question is worded. You cannot add all the amounts (to balance with what someone else has ‘paid’) to arrive at a meaningful number. Lodgers, receptionist and the Boy received 3, 25 and 2 respectively, total being 30. It is a simple equation.

47. All the numbers. ‘2’ divides any number evenly into half. For example 5 can be divided evenly to 2.5.

49. 11.25 seconds. The clock takes “five seconds to strike five bells” means... five seconds to complete four intervals. (See the clarification for question No. 48.) In striking ten, there are nine intervals. To complete the same, it would take 9×5 divided by 4 i.e., 11.25 seconds.

51. Weigh 6 and 6 coins in two batches. From the batch that weighs less, weigh 3 and 3 again. From the batch that again shows less weight, take two coins and weigh them to know which is of less weight. You would know the answer. If both are equal, then the third coin is the odd one.

53. The stumbling block is the number of artisans. One hundred is just too many to handle. But it can be found. Take one toy from A, two from B... hundred from the last artisan. The total weight should have been $(1 + 2 + 3 \dots 100) \times 10$ grams. If one gram is short, the first artisan is the culprit. If fifty grams are short, the fiftieth artisan is the thief. Hi... now you know the culprit.

55. A should take 7 rupees and B should take 1. First calculate cost of chapattis. C ate $\frac{1}{3}$ and paid 8 Rupees. Hence, the total cost of chapattis is 24. Each chapatti is worth 3 rupees. It means; A has 5 (15 rupees worth) chapattis and B has 3 (9 rupees worth). A and B ate 8 rupees worth each and gave the extra to C. Hence A should get 7 Rupees (15-8) and B should get 1 rupee (9-8).

57. It would take 75 minutes for all the five to come out. Nakula takes the three others with his torch. For taking Sahadeva out, it takes 5 minutes, going back (5), bringing Arjuna (10), going back (5), bringing Bheema (20), going back (5) and finally bringing back Dharmaraja (25). Total: 75 minutes.

59. $1 \times 2 \times 3 = 1 + 2 + 3$

61. Both are equal.

63. He should have 6 litres of total paint. He should pour out 3 litres of mixture and add 3 litres of fresh white paint.

65. Two b ($a + b - a + b$)

67. One egg. For a simple question of this nature, some students say 'two or four or zero' eggs. Analyse the question. Note that this is only an arithmetic problem.

69. Last person took the egg with the basket.

71. Flip both hourglasses and start cooking. As the four minute hourglass runs out (4) flip it back and continue till the seven minute hourglass runs out (7) and twist it back. One minute later, the four minute hourglass runs out (8). At this point, flip the seven minute hourglass back over. The seven minute hourglass was running only for a minute, so when it is flipped over again it will run only for a minute (9) more. Total is nine minutes.

73. Ten trains. When the passenger started from Agra at 5 o' clock, there are already five trains on the track coming from the opposite direction. Another five trains start between 5 to 10 p.m. Hence the total is ten. A complicated answer, but you can visualise. There is another way to understand. When the vehicles travel in the opposite direction, their speed is to be added. This is what we learnt in our early classes while studying 'time and distance'. Hence each train coming in the opposite direction crosses the Agra train with an interval of 15 minutes.

75. $A=5, B=1, C=4, D=2, E=3$.

77. The answer is 18. Suppose the total eggs are A. The eggs eaten are 12, which is equal to $1/3^{\text{rd}}$ of the total eggs. Hence $A-12 = 1/3$ of A. Simplify it. $A = 18$.

79. He studied for 3 hours in candle light. Here is the calculation: Assume that the initial length of both the candles was L and he studied for X hours. In X hours, the thick candle burnt = $XL/6$. In X hours, thin candle burnt = $XL/4$. After X hours, thick candle remaining = $L - XL/6$. After X hours, thin candle remaining = $L - XL/4$. It is also given that the thick candle was twice as long as the thinner candle, when he finally went to sleep. Hence $(L - XL/6) = 2(L - XL/4)$ which works out to $(6 - X)/6 = (4 - X)/2$ which means $(6 - X) = 3(4 - X)$ that leads to $6 - X = 12 - 3X$ and hence $2X = 6$... i.e. $X = 3$. It means he studied for 3 hours in candle light.

81. Overall profit is 200. Total earnings: $700 + 900 = 1600$. Total expenses: $600 + 800 = 1400$. Hence the profit is RS. 200.

83. If you have calculated a full paper of mathematical formulas, you have been going totally in the wrong direction. It is obvious that the two cars meet after one hour. The bird has also flown all the time for one hour between two cars @ 80 miles per hour. Hence it travelled 80 miles in total.

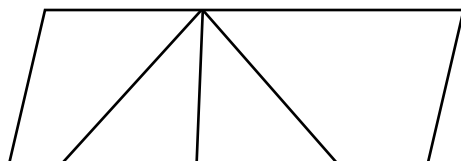
85. You can never attain the average speed of 40 mph, even if you travel at light's speed. It is an interesting question. Work out.

87. Sekhar

89. "It is up to you to know how I will kick you out of this city if you don't opt to show your support to my son, who is in politics for which I solicit your support". There is no A or E in the sentence. Try one more sentence.
91. Madam, eye, nun, radar, toot, kayak, noon, poop, solos, pop, tot, mom, dad.
93. Fill the 5 gallon jug with water and pour into the 3 gallon jug. 2 gallons would remain in the bigger one. Throw the water from the small jug, and pour those 2 gallons from the big jug into the small one. Then fill the 5 gallon jug. The total is seven gallons.
95. Fill the MIDDLE jug with the BIG jug, leaving 4 remaining. Fill the SMALL jug with the MIDDLE ONE, leaving 3 litres remaining. Empty the SMALL jug into the BIG jug. Now there are 9 litres in the BIG jug and 3 litres in the MIDDLE jug. Pour the 3 litres from the MIDDLE jug into the SMALL jug. Now fill the MIDDLE jug with water from the BIG jug, leaving 1 litre in IT. Fill the SMALL jug (which already has 3 litres in it) from the MIDDLE jug, leaving 6 in IT. Empty the SMALL ONE into the BIG jug. Now there are 6 litres in the BIG jug, 6 litres in the MIDDLE jug, and the SMALL jug is empty.
97. China, Pakistan, Bhutan, Bangladesh, Myanmar, Nepal.
99. You brought an elephant. But it has no hands. Can you bring an elephant "with one hand"? For that matter, do elephants have hands?
101. THEREIN. This word contains 9 English words: There, the, he, her, here, ere, rein, I, in.
103. Meat, Teams, Stream, Streams. Try different words with the letter "A" again.
105. Don't strain your brain with too much thinking. They are just triplets. (Or quadruplets). This puzzle stumps many people. They try outlandish solutions involving test-tube babies or surrogate mothers etc.
107. Your views, intentions, arguments and life perceptions change according to your age. Ram is a 5 years old kid. To answer a question of this sort at that age, kids take into consideration the loss to the property only. He says that the girl should be punished six times more than the boy. But as the children grow, they take into account the intent of the doer and the situational circumstances. Then they say that the Boy should be punished and not the girl because the boy's intention of stealing is bad. At the teen age, they surprisingly argue that neither the boy nor the girl should be punished as the breaking of the cups is unintentional. This is called Piaget and Kohlberg theory.
109. Even then A would reach first. Suppose, it took 100 seconds for A to reach 100 metres, in that time B ran only 95 metres. A's speed is 1 metre per second and B's is 0.95 meter per second. Now in the revised race, A has to travel 105 metres and it takes 105 seconds for him to reach the target. Within this time B runs 99.75 metres only.
111. There are no railway tracks in Afghanistan.
113. One new word (ten same letters).
115. They were looking at the answer sheet from opposite sides of the table.
117. He can burn the paper bag.
119. Green land. Australia is a continental land mass. It is separated from all other continents by young oceanic crust. Greenland is geologically part of North America, but if separation is the key factor then Antarctica should be considered as biggest island (making Australia second largest).
121. Both are wrong as seven eights fifty six, not fifty four.

123. The police could prove by the DNA of his saliva from the back side of the postal stamp.
125. You can be awake any number of days, as you can sleep in the night.
127. The child fell out from the first floor of the twenty-story building.
129. 'Can you solve the question?' is the question. "No. I cannot solve the question" is the answer.
131. Call another fire station.
133. Outer side. There are six sides: outside, inside, left, right, front and backside. Obviously, the hair is on the outside.
135. It was a day... not night.
137. By untying the knot.
139. If you answer that you would be 'second from last' you are wrong. How can you be behind the 'last'?
141. The price would be lower to the original price. Suppose the original price is 100. it goes up to 110 (10% on 100) and comes down by 11 (10% on 110) making it 99.
143. It is difficult to answer this question scientifically, but can be logically worked out. Convert the Celsius into Fahrenheit. 0 degrees Celsius means 32° F. 'Double chill' means... half of it (16° F). Convert back to Celsius. $16 \times \frac{5}{9}$ which works out to -8.80° C...! Funny? Yes. It does not stand good on technical grounds.
145. Ask any one of them a simple question, "*If I enquire your brother whether this road leads to Rampur; would he say 'yes' or no?*" If the reply is 'yes' the road does not lead to your destiny. Got the point? No..? Ok. Here is the explanation. Step one: Suppose you are asking the question to a LIAR BROTHER; and he 'yes'. Then it is understood that his brother (who is a truth teller) certainly says 'no' and that is the truth i.e. the road does not lead to the village. Step II: Suppose the person whom you are asking is the TRUTH TELLER and you are asking him what his brother would say, he replies 'yes', it is understood that the liar also says 'yes'. If the liar says 'yes' it means the road obviously does not lead to the village. Thus ... in any case... for any 'yes' answer, the road does not lead to your destination and vice versa.
147. I told them, "You will boil me in oil". If he boils, my statement becomes true and he cannot boil me. If he burns me, my statement becomes false and he cannot burn me.
149. The Surgeon is the mother of the child.
151. Nobody. To understand this answer, think the other way. If all the three are telling truth, all are culprits. Here it is the vice versa.
153. C is guilty.
155. Shift your paradigm of thinking. How about the doctor taking the old lady to the hospital? Doctor is a better person to take and join her at the hospital. You personally know him also to give your car keys. You can be with your dream girl / boy spending a beautiful rainy night at the forest! Your friend would certainly appreciate your lateral thinking.
157. He asked the boy to stop his ignition and put off the sound of the vehicle. He reversed his sheep and navigated them to the rear-side of the truck. Then he asked the truck to go ahead.

159. Two children go to the other side, one returns, one of the soldiers goes and the child from the other side comes back; both children again go to the other side.... And now you know the total answer.
161. He went to the temple and prayed: "God! Give me another two hundred rupees today. I give half of it". As he did not get anything, he went again to the temple in the evening and said, "Hope you have settled my account by adjusting past dues. Thank you".
163. Asking for her beauty and money is my selfishness. For 'her' comfort I ask for her health. But there is a better answer. Check up with the next question.
165. One: She went late to the office on that particular day and covered her act by telling that she met with an accident. Two: She wanted a long leave. Three: She wanted to avoid table/ typing work. Four: She is claiming false medical claim.
167. The machine simply washes away the white tint on the original thousand rupee notes.
- 169 Her office is on the road to a hilltop. The woman finds it easy to climb down the road to reach her office, rather than going up.
- 171 The wise man advises the brothers to change their camels. The camel that enters the city first is the loser and not the person who rides it. As they changed the camels, they rush to the finishing line, to see that the other camel stays behind.
173. Never answer any question how simple it may appear to be. "It depends on the width and length of the forest" is the correct answer. The dog can enter into the forest up to 30 miles only if the forest area is a square of 30x30 miles (900 square miles).
175. Whatever colour your eyes are... as you are driver of the bus.
177. There won't be any smoke. It's an electric train.
179. Ecuador
181. He weighs Groceries as he is working in a shop selling groceries.
183. Dreamt.
185. Vacuum
187. It is solid (frozen) river and hence they could simply walk across on the ice.
189. He was born (see the question again) in hospital room No. 1964.
191. How do the coin makers know that Christ is going to be born in next 34 years to print on the coins 34 B.C.?
193. Remove I from XIX (nineteen) it would become XX (twenty).
195. Eight.
197. The person who died is the President and not the Vice President. Hence the current vice-president would continue to be the vice-President.
199. Her Husband died long back. She looked at her husband's photo hanging to the wall and wept. Later she rang up to her sister and brother and went to the movie to over come her sorrowful mood.
201. Both are equal in length. Verify the diagram below.



203. A is B's either father or father-in-law (if B is a lady).

205. If you can find five faces, it is good. Excellent if you can find eight. We are sorry if the photograph is not clearly visible.

207. When hot water is poured, the glass expands. Chances are more for the thick glass to break as it cannot sustain the expansion.

209. As the ice melts, it contracts. Hence the water level decreases.

211. Step 1: A says that the other two are from the same island. Suppose A is from ASATYA Island, it means B and C are 'not' from same island. Then at least one among them must be truth-teller. Step 2: Suppose A is a truth teller, then both B and C must be from one island and are either liars or truth tellers. Step 3: Same rule is applicable to B also. Step 4: If A and B are truth-tellers, C must also be a truth teller. If they are from different islands, then C must be a liar. In any case... whether it is a lie or truth, C will tell, "They both are from same island". Complicated answer, but after solving all the previous puzzles, you might have understood by this time the logic in this answer.

213. Person A writes his salary plus 'x' amount and hands it to B, B then adds his salary plus 'x' amount and passes to C. C adds his salary + some more amount and passes on to A. Now A subtracts his 'x' amount and passes to B. B and C each subtract their random numbers. They have the total and thus the average.

215. This is a mind bobbling exercise. Even you derive the answer; it would be difficult to explain it to others in simple equations. Let us try. There are 4 bottles among which one is a poisonous one. With 2 minimum prisoners, the wrong bottle can be identified. Let us name the prisoners A and B. A consumes a drop of drink from Bottle 1. Same way B consumes from bottle 2. Then both A and B consume from bottle 3. Now you might have understood the equation. If A dies, bottle 1, if B dies bottle 2, if both A and B die bottle 3, and fortunately if nobody dies bottle 4 is spurious.

217. Same principle works out. If 2 prisoners can test 4 bottles; with same permutation 3 prisoners can test 8; 4 can test 16; 5 can test 32; and 10 can test 1024. Hence the king requires just 10 prisoners to test 1000 bottles.

219. Three (3). When added to or multiplied by $1\frac{1}{2}$ it gives the same result of $4\frac{1}{2}$.

221. It can be 16 ($2 \times 2 \times 2 \times 2$) or 14 (difference between first two numbers is 2, second two numbers is 4, and hence third can be 6)

223. It is simple mathematics. Consider that if each girl gets x amount, the boy would receive 2x and the widow wife 6x, total being 20x which is equal to 10,00,000. The widower's share is 3, 00,000.

225. Half of the 24 gallon vessel is empty means the vacant space is 12 gallons. Four gallons vessels numbering twenty are half-empty means the vacant space is 40 gallons. Hence the difference is 28 gallons.

227. William Shakespeare.

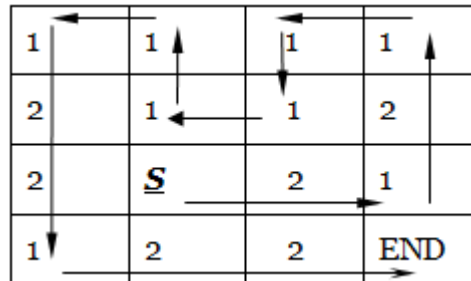
229. Nothing. Yes. It is "Nothing". Poor have nothing and the extraordinarily rich need nothing further.

231. How can you make seven even? 1. Add 'one' to it 2. Remove the letter 's' from it to make it even.

233. Sitting before a mirror with barber doing his job. Only difference is the hair falls slowly due to lesser gravitational force.

235. Morning ten! By this time 10 hours had passed since midnight, and 2 hours ($1/5^{\text{th}}$) to strike the noon.

237. Start from S and go to extreme right, go up till the end, take a left turn.



239. Multiply the numbers $3 \times 5 \times 7 \times 8$ leaving 1, 2 and 4 as 8 is divisible by all of them. The product is 840. Add 1 to it to get the remainder of 1. The final answer is 841.

241. Let S be the number of sheep and C be the number of chickens. Chickens are double in number than the sheep. So $2S = C$. This is first equation. Sheep has one head and four legs (5), chicken has one head and two legs (3) and hence $5S + 3C = 99$. From the two equations you can work out that $11S = 99$. So there are nine sheep and eighteen chickens.

243. A below-average student may say 'one kilo iron' that is obviously not the correct answer. Both weigh equally. Lateral-thinking says 'they may weigh equally at one place, but vary on a hill top'. Weights near Equator may also differ near North and South Pole.

245. When the boat carries the stone, more water is displaced by the boat due to its weight. When the stone is thrown into the water, it sinks and displaces less water. So the water level falls. On the other hand, the log floats on water and continues to displace the same amount of water as its weight as per Archimedes principle. So the water level stays the same.

247. Only once. Later it would become 17.

249. Lay the ladder flat on the floor and jump.

251. The survivors are alive and should not be buried.

253. Suspect A is the murderer. (If B's statement is true, then B is the only one who is truthful. So A is lying. If B's statement is false... then both are lying. Either way, A is guilty.

255. Suppose A, B and C are male and wives are a, b and c. First A goes along with his wife b and returns back to send both the ladies to other side. Then his wife b takes the boat to the other side. For further details see the chart below.

Trip number	Starting bank	Travel	Ending bank
1	Bb Cc	Aa →	Aa
2	Bb Cc	← A	a
3	A B C	bc →	abc
4	A B C	← a	b c
5	Aa	BC →	b c
6	Aa	← Bb	Cc
7	a b	AB →	Cc
8	a b	← c	A B C
9	b	a c →	A B C
10	b	← B	Aa Cc
11		Bb →	Aa Cc
(finish)			Aa Bb Cc

It is a complicated and laborious journey. But there is no other way with jealous husbands.

257. You must start with lighting the Match stick.

259. Loss to the hotel is 510 rupees (400 + 20 in cash and 50 in meal and 40 in Tiffin). The hotel paid 420 cash as change. It is a loss. Further, the cost of the meal is 100 which means 50 is its cost, which is obviously a loss to the hotel. Same way the Tiffin cost also.

261. TON

263. Answer A, because B or C are multiple answers. Check out the question again. It says there is only "one" answer.

265. Suppose the length of the tunnel is 4 miles. I travelled $\frac{1}{4}$ th of the distance when I heard the noise of the train. I ran back 1 mile to reach the beginning of the tunnel, when the train reached the same spot. If I ran in the opposite direction with the same speed, I might have travelled the same (1 mile) distance. That means: when the train reached the opening of the cave, I would exactly be at the centre spot of the tunnel. From there, the train (traveling for 4 miles) and I (running for 2 miles) reached the other side at the same time. It means: the train speed is double the speed of mine. This is one way of arriving at the answer. If you attempt algebraically, it is more complicated. Let the speed of the train be X and that of mine be Y. Let the length of the tunnel be T and the distance of the train from the entrance of the tunnel at the time I turned back is E. Now, we can form two equations with the given data. One: I covered $\frac{T}{4}$ distance and the train covered E distance in the same time, hence $\frac{E}{X} = \frac{(T/4)}{Y}$ or otherwise $\frac{X}{Y} = \frac{E}{(T/4)}$ which can be simplified as $\frac{X}{Y} = \frac{4E}{T}$. Two: I could have covered $\frac{3T}{4}$ distance and the train could have covered E + T in the same time, hence $\frac{(E+T)}{X} = \frac{(3T/4)}{Y}$ which means $\frac{X}{Y} = \frac{(E+T)}{(3T/4)}$ and to make it simple, it would be $\frac{X}{Y} = \frac{4(E+T)}{3T}$. Comparing one and two above we get, $\frac{4E}{T} = \frac{4(E+T)}{3T}$ that means $E = \frac{(E+T)}{3}$ or otherwise $3E = E + T$ or

$T = 2E$. Putting this value in equation (I), we get $X/Y = 4E/2E$ which denotes: $X/Y = 2$. Too complicated.

267. Yes. Draw a rectangle, draw three lines inside it.

269. Suppose my birthday is on 31st. Minimum 5 questions are required. 1. Does your birthday fall in first fortnight? (No) 2. Is it between 16th and 23 inclusive of both dates (No)? 3. Is it between 24th and 27th? (No) 4. Is it 28th or 29th? 5. Is it on 30th? (No).

271. Suppose the players are A, B, C, D. First A and B play. A is the winner. Then C and D play. C wins. Winners of both teams play the third match. Suppose A is again the winner. No doubt he is No. 1. Now B should play with C and if he wins, he is No. 2. If he is defeated, he should play for D for the 3rd and 4th positions. Total 4 or 5 games.

273. $N = 8$ and $X = 5$. (Forty tickets to new stations, 40 tickets from new stations to existing stations and 20 to-and-fro tickets among new stations).

275. $X + Y = 1000$ grams and $X + \frac{1}{2} Y = 600$ grams. Hence X (weight of the bottle) is 200 grams.

277. Reverse the conversation. He is over 41 and she is 36.

279. Everybody in the World would come to know your scandal in just 8 hours. When you passed it on to four, 5 persons would know about it in 30 minutes including you. By the end of one hour, 16 more persons would know about it and in 2 hours 340 ($4+16+64+256$) persons other than you would know. It can be deduced that the terms of the above series are the power of 4. Considering that the sum of the series must be 5.6 billions, it would be 8 hours. Scandals travel really fast. Isn't it?

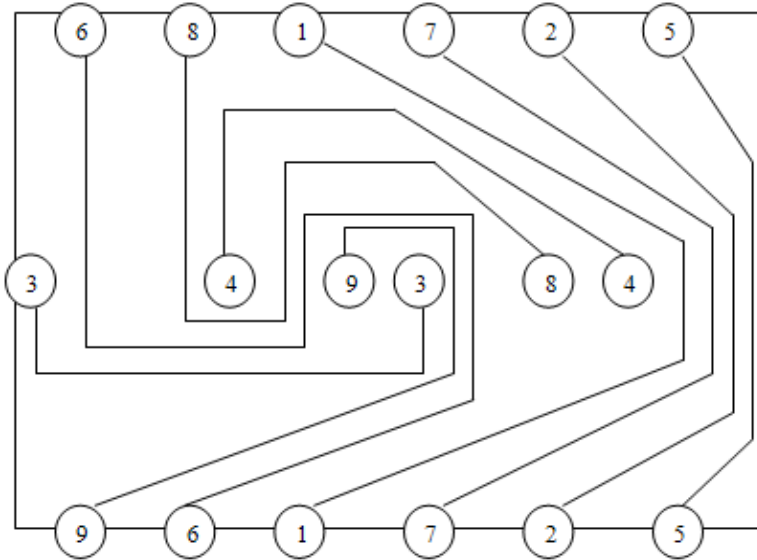
281. Step: 1. Cut the rope into two pieces of 50 and 25 meters. 2. Nail a hook at the top of the building. 3. Hang the 50 meters rope at the middle from the hook in such a way (Ω) that it would be hanging down to 25 meters both sides. 3. With the help of it, descend along with the small rope. 4. When you reach the end tie second rope there. 5. Now take the long rope, away from the hook by pulling it down. 6. Come down with the help of 25 meter rope. Now you are 50 meters away from the ground. 6. Use the 50 m rope to descend completely. DONE..!

283. The answer is either 3125 or 1

285. Total distance to be covered is 300 meters and the packets are 900. If he takes 300 (the maximum that he can carry) to the hill top, by the time he reaches there, he would be empty handed as he 'has' to consume a packet for one meter travelled. Hence there should be some other way to carry the maximum packets to the final destination. We should find out three or four places on the road to hilltop, to where he can carry the packets in batches... and store there. On these terms, here is the solution. First, he takes 300 packets to a distance of 60 meters. Let us call it Point A. While going he consumes 60 packets, keeps 180 packets there and returns with 60 packets to consume midway. Again he takes second batch of another 300 packets, breaths 60, keeps 180 and comes back with 60 packets to breathe while returning. Now he carries the last batch of 300. At Point A, now there are 600 ($180 + 180 + 240$) packets. From there, he takes 300 packets to a distance of further 100 miles... say Point B. He hides 100 there and returns with 100 packets to consume while travelling back. Then he carries the remaining 300 packets to B. now there are 300 packets at Point B. The final destination from point B to hill top is 140 meters. He carries the 300 packets and arrives there with 160 packets to save the person there. Both would come down with the help of the rope.

287. In 1 minute the small, middle and the large taps fill $\frac{1}{20}$, $\frac{1}{12}$ and $\frac{1}{5}$ tank respectively. Together they fill $\frac{1}{3}$. With them the water-cask is filled in 3 minutes. But the tap that empties the tank takes 3 minutes for it. Therefore the tank can never be filled up with four taps simultaneously working.

289. If you start from 1 to 1 and 2 to 2, you can never join the lines. Start from 3 to 3, 4 to 4, 1 to 1, 2 to 2, 5 to 5 and so on and you would find it very easy.



291. Since Dhrmaraja always tells the truth, you can first find him by false logic. If the person sitting on the left was Dhrmaraja, he would not say (when asked who the guy in the middle was), "He is Dhrmaraja" because Dhrmaraja never lies. So the person sitting on the left can not be Dhrmaraja. If the one in the middle is Dhrmaraja, he should say "I am Dhrmaraja". But he said that he is Suyodhana. So he can not be Dhrmaraja, the truth teller. Considering these two statements, it is clear that the person on the right is Dhrmaraja. His statement is always true. Therefore the middle one is Thanali Ramakrishna. That leaves Suyodhana on the left.

293. T is the thief. For logical analysis, go through the answer 291 that is based on the same inference.

295. A terminal point is defined as a connection point with odd number of lines connected to it. If there are 2 terminal points in the figure then one must be the starting point and the other must be the ending point. If there is no terminal point at all in the figure, then the drawing can start from any point and finish at any point. Start from the terminal point A and finish it on the other terminal point B as shown in the figure.



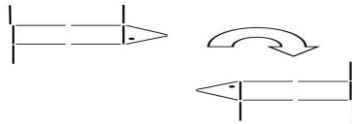
297. Obviously the hair.

299. Solution: Step one: Chandrababu is not a truth teller. If he is a truth teller; he would not have told that Chiranjeevi influenced the voters. It is because, the person who influenced the voters would always tell the truth and Chiranjeevi is denying it. Step Two: Chiranjeevi has not influenced the voters. If so, he would have accepted it because “the person who has influenced voters” always accepts the truth. Hence Rajasekhar Reddy is the truth teller and has influenced the voters. According to his statement Chirnanjeeve tampered with ballot boxes and Chandrababu made false promises.

301. Your task is to make the dog look backwards in the opposite direction, and still have his tail pointing up.



Second alternative is: turn the entire table around...



303. The cost of 36 lemons is 24 rupees. For 16 rupees you get 24 lemons. This riddle can be worked out algebraically also. Try.

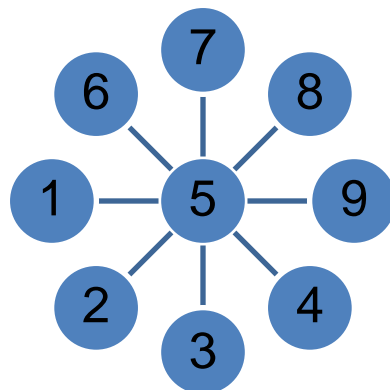
305. The cycle should never be kept idle. On this basis, this riddle should be worked on trail and error method. Father goes on cycle for 1.24 miles at 4 mph and walks from there to the end that takes 20.42 minutes. Meanwhile son takes the cycle, travels backwards a distance of 0.74 miles, hands over the cycle to his mother and walks till the end. They both reach the destiny in 20.36 minutes.

307. The weight of the empty bottle is 200 grams, honey 300 and oil 150 (half of honey’s weight). You may work out algebraically also.

309. Total three children, two sons and one daughter.

311. Suppose his present age is x . The equation is: $3(x+3) - 3(x-3)$. His present age is 18. There is another way. Suppose his present age is 13. After three years he would be 16. Three years ago he was 10. Multiply both by 3 and deduct $(48-30)$. It works out to be 18. You would get the same answer for any guess.

313.



315. Between your front and right.

317. If your answer is 3 kilos you are wrong. The correct answer is 4 kilos as under: Suppose the total weight of the fish is 'x' kilos. The formula is $x = 2 \text{ kilos} + \frac{1}{2}x$ which means $x - \frac{1}{2}x = 2$. Hence $x = 4$. Many students miscalculate in a hurry and say "3". Never answer a question in a hurry.

319. While going: for 8 km climbing up + 24 km down it takes 170 minutes (a)
On return: for 24 km climbing up + 8 km down, it takes 270 minutes (b)
Multiply 'a' by 3: for 24 km climbing up + 72 km down, it takes 510 minutes (c)
Now c - b: for 64 km going down: 240 minutes. Hence the answer is: the speed while going down is 16 km per hour and while climbing up 6 km per hour.

321. Many, including those who are well experienced in rowing or for that matter, the navigators also feel that rowing forward is a better option. No. Both are equally strenuous and take same time. When the boat, water and the cork are going at the same speed, either you move forward or backward, it makes no difference.

323. You have to keep the ice block above the bottle. Cold water always flows down. If you keep the bottle on the ice, the cool water at the bottom obstructs the surface water from cooling.

325. Light rays shatter unevenly on rough surfaces and reflect back uniformly on smooth ones. The word 'smooth' is relative. If you observe an edge of a razor-blade under a microscope, you find its surface uneven with many ups and downs. "Polish" itself does not shine but makes the surface unvarying. Light rays falling on it reflect back uniformly, making things bright and that is called 'shining'.



327. First person purchased first two bags (33 apples) and the second purchased the last two bags (66 apples). The middle bag is unsold.

329. Certainly yes. The joint of the railway track is the cause for the rhythm-sound that we hear sitting in the compartment. The length of a track is 15 meters (15/1000 km). Multiply it with the number of rhythms per minute. You would know the speed per minute.

331. Without algebraic equations, this problem can be worked out in a simple manner. While going it takes 3 minutes per km and on return it is 4 minutes. The difference is 1 minute. The travel time difference is 5 hours (300 minutes). Hence the distance is 300 km.

333. Each should get $\frac{3}{6} + \frac{2}{6}$ apple i.e. $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3}$. Cut 3 apples into half (6 pieces), another 2 apples into 3 pieces each (6 pieces) and distribute. Each boy gets $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3}$ piece.

335. It broke on the first day, while the nervous servant was preserving it in safe custody.

Answers for even numbered questions

2. Two oranges. You gave one to your friend from 'it' i.e., basket.
4. The answer is "Four rupees". Very easy to work out and answer, but your intelligence lies in not calculating individually the cost of Apple (two rupees) and Orange (one rupee). The answer is given in the question itself. Just check the question again.
6. Two minutes.
8. Four minutes.
10. $\frac{1}{4}$ kilo. Four people eat 1 kilo in 1 day according to the question. Hence one person eats $\frac{1}{4}$ th kilo in a day.
12. Half-rupee. Do you think the correct answer is One rupee? No..... If the cost of Blouse is one rupee (according to you), then the cost of the sari should be 11 rupees (because: the

sari cost is ten rupees more than the blouse cost). Then the total of the two would be 12/-which does not tally with the question. Not convinced? Then go for algebraically. The question says $S + B = 11$ and $S - B = 1$. Calculate. It works out to $S=10.50$ and $B=0.50$.

14. Only one. All others are anniversaries.

16. The first boy was born on Feb. 28th and the second was born the next day on March first as it was not a leap year. The present year in question is a leap year and Lav has to wait for one more day to celebrate his birthday.

18. Ram and Kamala respectively.

20. $R + C$ (heads) = 72; $4R + 2C$ (legs) = 200. Work out on the equation; you get 44 chickens and 28 rabbits.

22. Kasturibaa, Mahatma Gandhi's wife.

24. The beggar is a lady.

26. Old ten is better than one new rupee note. Isn't it?

28. Suppose the radius of earth is r . The circumference would be $2\pi r$. When you tie a ribbon above the earth at 1 meter height, the circumference is $2\pi(r+1)$. The difference in circumferences would be $2\pi(r+1) - 2\pi(r)$. The difference is $2\pi(1)$. It is just 6.3 meters approximately. Notice that the difference doesn't depend on the radius of the earth. Whether you wrap the ribbon around a football, or around earth or around waist of an ant, and if you increase the height by 1 meter, you require just 6.3 meters more ribbon!! Amazing, isn't it?

30. Front. You are facing the same sea.

32. Right side.

34. The woman is the assistant to a person who throws knives around her. The new shoes have higher heels than what she normally wears, making the thrower to misjudge his aim.

2. The woman is a tight rope walker with bare-foot. She missed her regular walking habit on normal floor with new high heel-shoes; and though she was bare footed, she could not adjust on the ropes, and met with an accident.

36. Take the chicken across and leave it on the other side. Then go back. Get the fox and bring it to the other side and take the chicken back with you. Take the grain to the other side and leave it there. Then go back and get the chicken.

38. Zero as $(M-M) = 0$.

40. Bet 60/- on England and 40/- on India. You will get a profit of 20/- whichever country wins.

42. If you think of 'No balls', you never get the answer, as a six from a no ball makes seven runs and the team wins. The other batsman does not get an opportunity to complete his century. Here is the correct answer: First batsman hits for three runs, but runs one short (When a batsman does not keep his bat properly in the crease while running, it is called a short run. In short run, one run is less counted, but the batsmen won't change their positions.). Meanwhile there was an overthrow for a four, and in Toto six were credited to the batsman, who is on the other side now. The team is one run short of victory. Next batsman hits a six, to reach his century. There is one more answer. Think.

44. 49 games.

46. It is a kind of trick question. The side-by-side pillars are 15 meters high, and the cable is hanging 7 meters above the floor. That means the cable goes 8 meters down and 8 meters up again. Hence the distance between the pillars is “zero” meters.

48. Four seconds. When a clock strikes two, between those two rings, there is one interval. It takes 2 seconds according to the question. (Bell...Interval... Bell). Between three bells, there are two intervals (Bell...Interval... Bell... Interval... Bell) and hence the answer is ‘four’ seconds.

50. 66 seconds. It is given that at 6'o, the time between first and last ticks is 30 seconds. Total time gaps (number of intervals) between first and last ticks at 6'o = 5. So time gap between two ticks = $30/5 = 6$ seconds. Now, total time gaps (number of intervals) between first and last ticks at 12'o = 11. Therefore time taken for 12 ticks = $11 \times 6 = 66$ seconds.

52. If you take 6 and 6 as you have done for the previous question, you can never derive the correct answer, because you don't know whether the said odd coin (culprit) weighs less or more. First let us divide those twelve coins into three groups as you suggested, consisting 1, 2, 3 and 4 in first group 5, 6, 7 and 8 in second group and remaining 9, 10, 11, 12 in third group. Now let us compare first group and second group, if these two groups are equal it's easy to find the defective one as you explained. When if these two are unequal, let us suppose first group (1, 2, 3, and 4) is lighter and second group (5, 6, 7, and 8) is heavier, from this we can conclude that --- 9,10,11,12 are not defective. The *lighter* one among 1, 2, 3, and 4 might be defective or the heavier one among 5, 6, 7, 8 might be defective. STEP II. Now let us put 1,2,3 and 12 aside and compare 4,5,6,7 and 8, 9, 10, 11 where 9, 10 and 11 are standard(not defective) ones. Here, if these two groups are equal, we can confirm that *lighter* one among 1, 2, 3 is defective and that can be found out in next one chance, that is an easy task But if not equal, need not be baffled....we have the way, it's proved that 1,2,3 are not defective and the defective one is among 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and also remember that it can be *lighter* 4 or can be heavier among 5, 6, 7, 8. If NOT EQUAL, other possible two thing are, group of 4,5,6,7 can be heavier or can be lighter. If 4, 5, 6, 7 group is heavier, we can infer that defective one is heavier among 5, 6, 7 but not 4 or 8 because in the earlier comparison 4 being in lighter group it can't be heavier now and can't be defective and likewise 8 also can't be defective as earlier it's in heavier group and now it's in lighter group. So we can the defective heavier one among 5, 6, 7 in next one chance. And finally if 4, 5, 6, 7 group is lighter, here we can conclude that 5, 6, 7 are not defective because these are in heavier group in earlier comparison. Hence lighter 4 can be defective or heavier 8 can be defective. In the next chance compare 4 (or 8) with standard one and if it is equal heavier 8 is defective. If not equal, it can not be heavier but must be lighter and lighter 4 is defective.

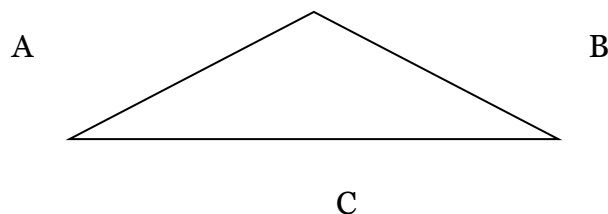
54. Ram was travelling at 60 km per hour and reached the temple in 3 minutes. It means the temple is 3 kilometres away from the girl. It would take one hour for the girl to travel this distance. During this time, Ram is continuously roaming between her and the temple. Hence he would travel 60 kilometres. Such simple is the answer. It takes for a computer more time than human brain and common sense.

56. The mistake is in step three $A-B=0$. You cannot conclude that $4 = 5$ just because $5 \times 0 = 4 \times 0$.

58. Think in a different way. First Nakula and Sahadeva come out (5 minutes). Nakula goes back (5 minutes). Nakula and Arjuna (10), Nakula goes back (5), Bheema and Dharmaraja (25), Sahadeva goes back with torch (5) and finally both youngsters come back (5). Total 60 minutes.

60. The end figure is 294-2. Even if you could not calculate correctly, don't worry. You have the capacity to work till the end, and that is 'patience'.
62. Six litres. Water should be double than the milk content. the present content is 4 litres. Hence, the total water should be 8. it has 2 litres already. So, another 6 litres are to be added.
64. Three. Do you know BODMAS principle? B: Brackets first. O: Orders (i.e. Powers and Square Roots etc.) DM: Division and Multiplication (left-to-right) AS: Addition and Subtraction (left-to-right). According to BODMAS Rule, multiplication and division are to be worked out first, additions and subtraction next and hence $2+2/2 = 3$.
66. 4 eggs. If you said 2, you are in a hurry to answer.
68. Not even a single egg. With the single bite of the first egg, your stomach will cease to be empty.
70. The answer can be either nil or one or two. For convenience, let us suppose that there are two hens A and B. The question is "two hens give two eggs in two days", that gives us 3 alternative probabilities. Each hen laying one egg on alternative day, or A laying one egg per each day or A laying two eggs on alternative day (other hen B is not laying eggs). Here are the various answers: 1. one egg, if A lays one egg every day 2. Zero eggs, if it is hen B. 3. One or zero egg, if each hen lays one egg on alternative days, depending on the day and the hen we chose. 4. Two eggs if A lays 2 eggs every alternative day and if it happens to be A's egg-laying day.
72. The individual student should pay 50 rupees for his journey. Here is the calculation. Divide the entire journey in to four parts: My house to middle point, and from there to my office (their college) and vice versa while coming. The students catch me up at the middle point and travel along with me till destination. I travel four parts. They are two people making it total six parts. Each part costs $1/6^{\text{th}}$ which works out to Rupees 50/-.

74. See the diagram for better clarification.



Consider that the distance between the three places is A, B, and C respectively. According to the question, $A+B=8$, $B+C=7$ and $C+A=11$. Add them up. $2A+2B+2C= 26$ miles. Hence $A+B+C =13$. Now the answer is simple. Bus stand to Station is 5 km ($13 - 8$), from Station to Tank Bund = 2 km ($13 -11$) and from Bus stand and Tank Bund is 6 km ($13 - 7$).

There is another simple way to do this. Take two turns around the three places. You would touch every place twice. You would notice that you travelled in total 26 miles. For two rounds if the distance travelled were 26 miles means, one circle would be 13 miles. With this backdrop, calculate the distance between two stations.

76. $A=5$, $B=4$, $C=1$, $D=2$, $E=3$.

78. This appears to be a mind-blowing puzzle but the answer is simple. The ratio would be the same. There's the same amount of lemonade in the orange juice in first cup, as orange juice in the lemonade in the second cup. X being the lemonade, Y being orange, assuming that the cup contains 100 spoons of liquid, you can make a complicated mathematical equation such as: $100X - X + 1/100 (100Y + X) = 100Y + X - [1/100 (100Y - X)]$. Too complicated. Isn't it? Let us think a simple way. Take some quantity of the lemon juice and mix it with orange and vice versa. Whatever may be the ratio in the first cup, the reverse would be in the second cup, *ratio being the same*.

80. Switch on A, wait for few minutes and switch it off and put on B. enter the room. If the light is on: the switch is B. If the bulb is hot: it is A. If there is no light and the bulb is not hot: then it is C.

82. If you work on mathematical formulas, it is too complicated. It is a simple question if you think more logically with common sense. It is obvious that the cork has the same speed as the water. So if the swimmer is swimming away from the cork for half an hour it will take him another half hour to swim back to the cork again, because the swimmer is swimming with constant speed relatively to the speed of the water! Suppose the water doesn't move, then the cork doesn't move, and the swimmer swam a certain time away from the cork and then back. So in that one hour time, the cork has floated from 1 kilometre up stream to the bridge i.e. the canal flows at a speed of 1 km/h.

84. Don't try hard with x, y, z equations. Suppose if the distance is 60 miles, it takes 3 hours to go, and 2 hours to come i.e. 5 hours to travel 120 miles. 24 mph is the average speed.

86. An Eskimo holding a light.

88. A, an, ran, anger, range, tear, star, stare, rat, rate, rage, gear, tan, stage, gate, eat, ate, gas, sage, tag, gate, great, grate. You can work out another five to ten words if you further try... eager, tea...ant, ants etc. Try further.

90. Thirteen: The, Teen, I, He, Her, Thin, Nit, Tin, Three, Tree, Hen, There... Total 12. Find the last word.

92. These six phrases sound the same from both sides: Straw warts, Pull up if I pull up, Step on no pets, Ten animals I slam in a net, Was it a bat I saw? Was it a car or a cat I saw?

94. Take the water into the big 5 litre jug and pour into small jug. You are left with 2 litres in the big jug. Empty the small one and transfer the water from bigger one to smaller one. Now the small jug has 2 litres. Take another 5 litres and top up the small one. You have the required 4 litres in the big jug. This is one way of doing. There is an alternative method. Take water in the small 3 litre jug, pour into the bigger 5 litre one, and again repeat the same thing. You will be left with one litre in the small jug. Empty the big jug, and fill it with that one litre, and again with 3 litres. Total 4 litres.

96. Liar.

98. $12+3+4+5-6-7+8-9 = 10$. There are many other ways. Try.

100. If I am a male only one is going to the market. They are 'coming out' from the market and crossed me.

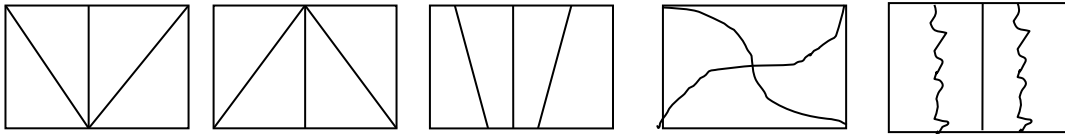
102. Knowing the answer is different from communicating it. Don't expect the opposite person to be of your standard. Never confuse with words like "horizontal, vertical, parallel and perpendicular". How best may be you are in communicating, the other person some times may not understand you. The best way is to use your mental flexibility. Here is the

answer: “cut the cake into four parts with a plus cut. Then place the 4 pieces one above the other. Cut them into half to make eight pieces”.

104. White. Longitudes join in a triangular shape only in polar region. See the diagram. Bears are white in colour in the said region.

106. How could the driver take her to the destination if he is deaf?

108.



110. Both are at equal distance from Vijayawada as they meet. This is one level of intelligence. The second level of intelligence is: When the Engines meet, the last compartment of Krishna Express would be nearer to Vijayawada.

112. I love me.

114. One is Five hundred and the ‘other note’ is Fifty.

116. For this question, people give various solutions like: he can go down-stairs before bath, sacrifice cooking for love, before dressing etc. These are not satisfactory answers. Time management is based on two important concepts, first being ‘prioritising’ and the second is ‘allocating’. In the above hypothetical situation, if the young boy prepares coffee while taking bath, and dresses while cooking, wears shoes in the lift, he can complete every thing by 9.40, save ten minutes to talk to his fiancée till 9.50 and reach his office by 10.30.

118. Mount Everest without its name.

120. Many would answer, “I keep the milk and weigh while it drinks/ I will tie its legs etc”. Such simple answers do not give you full marks in an interview. ‘Circumstantialities’ is the word used, when the answer is incomplete, stops with a comma and not with a full stop. Here are the full answers. 1. I keep the milk in a bowl, note its weight, and while the cat drinks the milk I note the total weight. I subtract the first one from the later. 2. I hold the cat and stand on the machine. Total weight minus my weight gives the answer. 3. Tie the legs of the cat and weigh and then minus the weight of the rope. 4. Keep it in a gunny bag, weigh and deduct the bag’s weight later. 5. Mix sleeping pills to the milk, let it drink and then weigh it when it sleeps.

122. British have separate toilets for white and black servants.

124. Because earth rotates from west to east and the missiles go out of earth atmosphere and enters into it again.

126. He was the only male in the group playing cards.

128. The couple was watching the movie sitting in a car at a drive-in theatre.

130. By turning their back to each other.

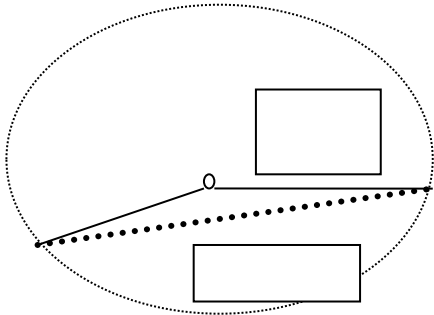
132. Fire station is burning but not the fire engine that is holding water. This applies to question No. 131 also.

134. Left hand (or left finger, left wrist).

136. Wait till the bird goes.

138. If you answer that you would arrive first, you are absolutely wrong. When you overtake the second, you take his place and will be in second position.

140. The other side of the rope is not tied. This is one answer. The next best answer is: if the dog is on the other side of the pillar, then it can go to a distance of 20 meters. See the diagram underneath.



142. No. If I accept the offer, I would be thousands of kilometres away from the earth in space. The pilot is going to leave me “exactly at the same space” from where he has taken me. In one hour the earth will be travelling away from the said spot.

144. My son” is the answer. Watch the underlined three words in the question. ‘My father’s son’ can be replaced by a single word, ‘me’, as I have no brothers. The statement thus can be read, as “His father is me”. Means, the person in the painting is my son. This is how you have to eliminate the complications and confusion in a question to make it simple.

146. Pick any one of them and ask, "If I were to ask you my second question, ‘whether the left road leads to where I'm going?’”, and you chose to answer that question with the same degree of truth as you answer this first question, would you then answer 'yes'?" The truth-teller will say "yes" if the left road leads to where you're going and "no" otherwise. The liar will answer the same, since he will lie about where the left road leads, and he will lie about lying. The third man may either lie or tell the truth for this question, but you are not concerned because... any way he is behaving like either the truth-teller or the liar. Complicated answer, but try to understand.

148. Blindly take a fruit from the box labelled “MIXTURE”. If you get an orange, then the entire box contains them, as there cannot be mixture in it. Write the label “ORANGE” on it. Now you have two other bottles with titles ‘Oranges’ and ‘Apples’. The box on which the label “Oranges” is pasted cannot have oranges in it because all the labels are wrongly pasted. Hence write “MIXTURE” on the apples box, and “APPLES” on the bottle labelled as mixture.

150. Both father and son were doctors. Son broke his hands and father had a head injury. The neurosurgeon is the grand father of the younger one and he said, “I cannot operate on my son”.

152. B is guilty.

154. You have to work on logical inference. If A is the robber, then only one (B) is telling the truth. If B is the thief, then two (A and C) are telling the truth. If C is the thief, then two (A and B) are telling the truth. According to the question only one is telling the truth. Hence A is the culprit.

156. Thursday. To arrive at the answer, we have to work out from backwards. If today were Thursday, tomorrow would be Friday. If Friday was yesterday, today is Saturday (He said ‘today is Saturday’).

158. No. Sorry. It won't happen the way the king thought. Suppose there are 100 couples in the country. Fifty percent of couples after giving birth to 50 female babies would stop further due to the king's order. The parents of 50 male babies would continue for second pregnancy. But don't forget that before the martial law, the ratio was 1:1. Hence, in all probability the next baby would be a girl. And then they also stop. Now the total babies are 150, of which the female would be 100, male 50. That way, after one generation, the female population would be double than the males, shattering the plans of the stupid king.

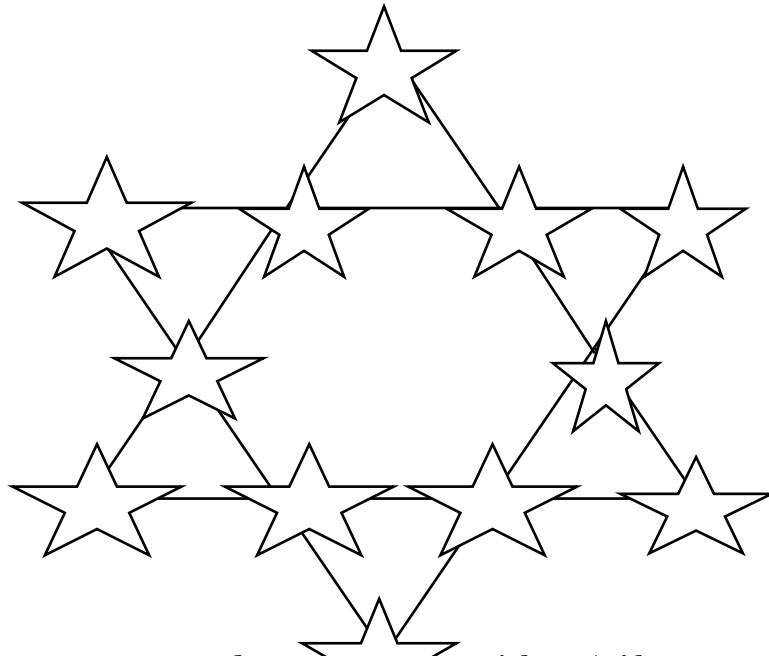
160. The student who said "three" included the bone in her hand. The other girls who said four and five were pregnant.

162. Three probabilities. 1. She has some problems like back pain etc 2. It is her mother-in-law's mobile phone 3. The ring is from the neighbour's flat. 4. She is deaf. 5. She was angry and it is from her husband.

164. Who am I to decide? I will give it to my spouse to decide.

166. The talking bird wanted to help its owner and increased its own price by bidding itself.

168.



70. You have to turn E and 7. You ~~not~~ not pick up 'K' because you are not concerned what is behind it (because it is not a vowel). Same way 4 need not be picked up because; even there is no vowel it does not matter. The question is just to prove that vowels have even numbers on their back, *and not the vice versa*.

172. You have to opt to change the doors. Remember that the host "knows" where the prize is. When you pick up a door, there's a $\frac{2}{3}$ chance that you're wrong and $\frac{1}{3}$ that you are correct. Let us suppose you are wrong. Then the gift is in one of the other two doors. The host will always open the one door that anyway doesn't contain the prize. So if you were wrong (66.7% chance), it is better to switch to another door that the host keeps closed with 50% failure (of 66.7 i.e. 33.3%) chance. What you are really being asked here is: whether the odds are better with your first choice, or with any of the other two. The chance of failure is only 33.3% if you shift. Another way to look at it is this: Consider that there are 100 doors. You pick one. Before you open it, the host opens 98 of the 99 remaining doors

(that he surely knows that they are not the correct doors). There's 1% chance you guessed correctly, but the host is better positioned than you. So you better change your guess and shift to the other door to reduce the probability of the failure.

174. Seven.

176. Short...er.

178. Malayalam

180. November

182. 7/12. The easiest way to do this: $58 \frac{1}{3}\%$ means $58.3/100$. Multiply it by 3. You have $175/300$. Now just reduce it. It works out to be $7/12$

184. Tremendous, stupendous, and hazardous.

186. Abstemiously

188. Two of the many possibilities: 1. Break a music-speaker and remove the magnet from it. Then pull ten feet of wire from the trunk or any other part of the car (where the wire isn't necessary for the car to run). Knot pieces of wire together, tie the magnet to the end of it and lower it down the hole. The magnet should pick up the lug-nuts easily. 2. Remove one lug-nut from each of the other three tyres and use them to fix the spare tyre. This should be sufficiently secure until you reach a nearest town.

190. One hour. (Two half-an-hour intervals)

192. After turning around Ravana twice, Anjaneya said: "I'll come back to take the third round after preparing for the war, may be after a fortnight. Sit here till I come." Ravana accepted defeat without war.

194. Ram. (Ram's mother has three children only).

196. She has married twice, both husbands' names being the same.

198. The names of the horses are Monday and Friday.

200. In a star hotel tea and sugar are served separately. I mixed it and about to sip before noticing the fly. The manager bought the tea which tasted sweet and I found that he bought the same.

202. Empty the second glass into the fifth glass and keep it in its original place.

204. There are two ways of doing this puzzle, simple and mathematical. Simple: Forget about the water speed, because anyway, the cork is coming towards you with the same speed. As you are travelling with 7 miles per hour, it would take 2 hours. Mathematical: your speed: 4 (7-3) miles per hour. Cork speed: 3 miles (water flow). You are travelling in the opposite direction. Hence the speeds are to be added up. It works out to be 7mph. The distance of 14 would be covered in 2 hours.

206. 120 (ten dozen).

208. The speed of the sound is the same whether coming from a still object or moving car.

210. Verify the width between the two lines with a scale. They are straight and parallel. The back ground misleads us.

212. Because it started 5 minutes late.

214. Because it is kept upside down.

216. The king requires 3 prisoners. A takes bottle one, B takes bottle 2, C consumes from bottle 3, A and B from bottle 4, B and C bottle 5, A and C from bottle 6; and finally A, B and C from bottle 7. If A dies bottle 1, if B dies bottle 2 Same way, If all the three die then the bottle 7 is the spurious bottle. If nobody dies, then the last bottle is poisonous.

218. "That that is, is; that that is not, is not. Is not that it? It is."

220. Sunflower. The letters u, o, e are taken out.

222. 13 and 1 (in the clock)

224. 79. The least digit is being eliminated.

226. Both are equal. Here is the explanation. "12 inches (or 24 "half-inches") make a foot. A yard means 3 feet, and hence there are 720 half-inches are there in 10 yards. Same is the number of half-seconds in 6 minutes (60x6x2).

228. Here are another ten reasons. 1. It had already crossed the road 999 times that day and wanted to make it 1000. 2. It wanted to catch the bus into town. 3. It was confused. 4. It was trying to find its roots. 5. It was daydreaming and did not notice it. 6. The chicken was looking for love on the other side of the road. 7. The chicken was running late and took a short cut. 8. The other chickens told it to go away. 9. The chicken wanted to learn about his family history (i.e. which came first? the chicken or the egg?) So it crossed the road to get to the library on the other side. 10. The chicken was feeling confident, it was a nice spring day, traffic was light, and the visibility was good, all the other chickens crossed the road so naturally this one didn't want to appear anti-social, contrary, and oddly different. Now you try for another 20 reasons.

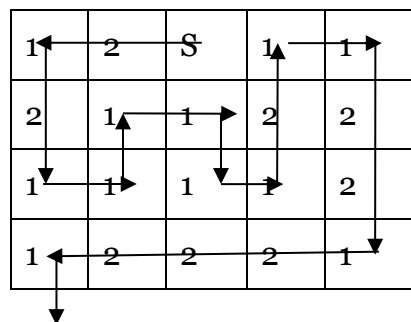
230. "If $5x=5 + x$, what is x ?" is the question. Simplify it. $4x=5$. Hence $x=1\frac{1}{4}$.

232. May be it is 186,200 miles per second. If light travels at this speed, it will also dissipate and envelop the area at the same speed. This may not be scientifically correct but there is no more rational answer.

234. Eight a.m. By this time, eight hours have gone since midnight and four hours to strike the noon.

236: From midnight to noon, it is 12 hours or 720 minutes. Divide them in the ratio of 9:1 as per the question. It is 648:72. Hence the answer is morning 10.48. By this time, 648 minutes have gone since midnight, and 72 minutes are remaining for the noon.

238. Puzzles of this nature, when worked out in a reverse order, make things easier. Try.



1	2	2	2	END
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240. The father starts off on the bike, and travels 5.4 miles. At this point, he drops the bike and completes the rest of the trip on foot. The son eventually reaches the bike, and takes it *backward* 0.8 miles, hands it over to his mother and then makes his own running. Finally it takes minimum 2.75 hours for all of them.

242. It is a slightly complicated puzzle. Suppose the head of the fish is x inches long. The tail would also be x inches. Body length is tail + twice the head size, i.e. $3x$. Now calculate total length, x plus x plus $3x = 15$ inches. The head, tail and body lengths are 3", 3" and 9" respectively.

244. The priest carries 7 flowers that become 14 in the pond and offers 8 flowers to each God.

246. All months have 28 days.

248. Alternate Solution $3 \times ((9 \times 2) - 4)$, another alternative $(4 + (2 \div 3)) \times 9$ and it can also be $((3 \times 4) + 9) \times 2$.

250. The information about Kutztown, PA is irrelevant, since I happened to be driving in Antarctica, where it was broad daylight even at midnight.

252. Three.

254. Let us name cannibals as C and Sadhus as S. The boat is at cannibals' side. First, one cannibal goes to the other side and two sadhus come to this bank. Then one cannibal and one sadhu go to the other side and two sadhus come to this end. The remaining one cannibal go to the other side, without any bloodshed.

CCC	→	SSS
CC	>C	SSSC
CCSS	<SS	SC
CS	>CS	SSCC
SSSC	<SS	CC
SSS	>C	CCC

256. The guard suggested to prisoners to have a code. The code is that the prisoners should give "value" to the colour of hats as Red Hat =1 and Blue Hat = 2. The last prisoner should count the values of all the 9 hats before him and if the total is an even number, he should say 'blue', or if the total number is an odd number, he should say 'red'. He takes the risk (50-50 chance). Here is the example: The last guard totalled the value of all the 9 hats before him. Suppose he finds 3 red and 6 blue hats before him, the value of the hats is 15 (3×1) + (6×2). It is an odd number and hence he said his hat colour is "red". If he is correct, he is fortunate to be saved or if he is wrong, he is killed on the spot. Now the guard in front of him knows that the value of hats (including his) is 15. He calculates the value of remaining 8 hats standing before him. If it is 13, his hat is 'blue' and if it is 14, his hat is 'red'. Too complicated? No. Try to understand. It is easy once you comprehend the logic. Even if there are 1,000 prisoners and 1,000 hats, you can know the colours of everybody's hat except the last one.

258. Here is a small tip to solve this puzzle. Suppose there are four people, how many shake hands would be there among them? First man shakes hands with the other 3, second man with other 2 and the third with the last one. It means $3+2+1=6$. In other sense, it is $(3) \times (4/2)$. This is called $(N-1) \times (N/2)$ formula. Basing on this principle calculate. Separate Indian ladies. The other 30 people shook hands with each other $(29 \times 30/2)$. Deduct ten shake hands as American ladies did not shake hands with their husbands. Now add to it the shake hands of all the ladies among themselves. Work out.

260. Stop imagining.

262. You can not bury any living person anywhere.

264. Hens cannot talk.

266. You have to put just 50p. Put 50p and push the button for Random. There are only 2 possibilities. It will give either Tea or Coffee. If it gives Tea, then the button named Random is for Tea. Tea button cannot have tea in it. Hence it is coffee. And the button named Coffee is for Tea.

268. Yes... By turning the paper/ turning the computer upside down.

270. We need to derive a formula in such a way that the sum of the number of trials consumed by first crystal ball and that of the second ball (if the first breaks) remains the minimum. 14 is the answer. You throw the first ball from 14, 27, 39, 50, 60, 69, 77, 84, 90, 95, 99 floors. From 14th floor if the first ball breaks, you'll require a maximum of another 13 drops. If the first ball doesn't break then select the next floor not exceeding 27, because you tried once already.

272. Divide them into 5 groups of two each A, B, C, D, E. If only one group reacts positively, the answer is easy. Both the balls are radio active. If two groups (say A and D) are positive, then you require testing each group once, to know which ball from A and D are radio-active. Total thus 7.

274. You are mine.

276. All the alphabets can be found in the diagram.

278. They played total of 9 games. Krishna won 3 games. "Radha has 3 rupees left with her" means she won 6 games and paid him 3 rupees for the losing games. Hence total 9 games.

280. The color of the horse can be any color other than Black and Brown. If the color of the horse is Black - all are lying. If the color of the horse is Brown - all are telling truth. Thus, the horse is neither Black nor Brown. If the color of the horse is Grey - P and S are telling truth whereas A is lying. If the color of the horse is other than Black, Brown and Grey - P is telling truth whereas S and A are lying. You must have noticed that for the given conditions, P is always telling truth whereas A is always lying.

282. J tells the truth on Tuesday. As J tells truth only on one day in a week, his statement on day 1 and day 3 both can not be false. Otherwise he tells truth on more than one day in a week. Also, all three statements are made on *three consecutive days*, statement made on day 1 and day 3 both can not be true. Thus, either the statement made on day 1 or day 3 is true and other is false. Also, the statement made on day 2 must be false i.e. day 1 is not Saturday, Friday or Wednesday. Let's assume that the statement 1 is true. Then from the statement 3, day 1 must be either Friday or Wednesday. But it is already deduced that day 1 is not Saturday, Friday or Wednesday. Hence, the statement made on day 1 is false and the last statement is true. Then from the statement 1, day 3 must be either Monday or

Tuesday. But it is already deduced that day 1 can not be Saturday i.e. day 3 can't be Monday. Hence, J tells the truth on Tuesday.

284. Chandini is married to Chandra. "Sanath's wife and Bhavana's Husband play Chandini and Tripti's husband at bridge." It means that Sanath is not married to either Bhavana or Chandini. Thus, Sanath is married to Tripti. As Chandra does not play bridge, Bhavana's husband must be Lal. Hence, Chandini is married to Chandra.

286. The cyclist drives one kilometer in three minutes with the wind in his back, so in four minutes he drives $1\frac{1}{3}$ kilometer. Against the wind, he drives 1 kilometer in four minutes. If the wind helps the cyclist during four minutes and hinders the cyclist during another four minutes, then - in these eight minutes - the cyclist drives $2\frac{1}{3}$ kilometers. Without wind, he would also drive $2\frac{1}{3}$ kilometers in eight minutes and his average speed would then be 17.5 kilometers per hour. So it will take him $3\frac{3}{7}$ minutes to drive one kilometer.

288. If the prince mixes all black and white pearls and divides them equally into two vases, the chances of the girl picking the two whites would be 50% only. The best way is to put one white pearl in the first vase... and all other 199 pearls in the second vase. Then, the probability of grabbing a white pearl from the first vase is 1 (100%), and the probability of grabbing a white pearl from the second vase is $99/199$. Thus the total probability of grabbing a white pearl is $1 + (99/199)/2 = 298/398$ (approximately 74.9%).

290.

I	C	E
D	G	A
H	B	F

292. Let us name the speed with which Ram rows as 'R', the speed with which Sita rows as 'S', the time that both rest when reaching the bank as 'T' and the asked width of the river as 'W'. Now it holds that the time in which Ram travels its first 720 meters, equals the time in which Sita travels the width of the river minus 720 meters. In equation form it would be: $720 / R = (W - 720) / S$.

The second equation can be derived as under: The time in which Ram travels the remaining distance to the bank + his resting time + the time to travel further 400 meters = the time in which Sita travels the remaining 720 meters to the bank + her resting time + the time in which she travels the width of the river - 400 meters. $((W - 720) + 400) / R + T = (720 + (W - 400)) / S + T$. This can be simplified to: $(W - 320) / R = (W + 320) / S$. When we combine the two equations we get the following: $720 / S : (W - 320) / R = (W - 720) / S : (W + 320) / S$. Therefore $720 / (W - 320) = (W - 720) / (W + 320)$. When we solve this equation we find that $W = 1760$. The river therefore is 1760 meters wide.

294. Since there is no conflict between what they said, it meant that either they both told a lie or both told the truth. According to the question at least one told a lie. Hence the answer is that the brother is older.

296. The answer is Zero. Surprised? There would be at least one person in this world without fingers on his left hand. Anything multiplied with zero is zero. Isn't it?

298. A normal piece of paper can be folded in half... not more than seven times.

300. I told him that according to our agreement, he is not supposed to ask a second question.

302. Even for that job also 5 people are adequate. According to the question, 5 people take 5 hours to dig 5 meters hole. In other words, they take 1 hour to dig 1 meter hole... 100 hours to dig 100 meters.

304. Assume that 1 goat eats 1 unit of grass per day. As per question, 100 goats in 20 days eat 2000 units of grass and 50 goats in 60 days eat 3000 units. It means 'the extra growth' of grass in 40 days is: 1000 goat-units. In other words, 25 units of grass grow every day. To eat this extra grass, we require 25 goats. With this clarification, let us solve the question. Grass available for the goats on first-day is: (the total amount eaten in 20 days) minus (the growth during that 20 days period) i.e. $2000 - (20 \times 25) = 1500$. The question is: the field is to be cleared in 25 days. Hence $(1500 / 25 = 60)$ goats are required. Add 25 to eat extra grass during these 25 days. Total 85 goats are required.

306. Every 1 gram of weight-loss in water indicates that 20 grams of gold is siphoned off $(1/10 - 1/20)$. If the crown is made by 2000 grams gold and 1000 grams silver, it should weigh 2800 grams in water (100 and 100 grams weight loss for gold and silver). The crown weighed 2750 only, i.e. 50 grams less. Hence 1000 grams of gold is substituted by silver.

308. Total 7. I have three sisters and three brothers. My each sister has two sisters and four brothers.

310. Both are at the same age. My daughter is 2 years old and after two years she will be 4 (double the present age). My son is also 2 years old and after 4 years he will be 6 (three times more than the present age.)

312. Yes. The duck can reach the shore! Assume that the pond has radius r . While the duck is strictly within radius $r/4$ of the center of the pond, it is faster than the fox. In other words, while staying in this small radius the duck can reach the "opposite side" of the fox. Once the duck reaches that opposite point, it will swim straight to the shore. The remaining distance is $3r/4$. The fox on the other hand has a distance of $\pi \times r$, for which he needs $\pi \times r/4$ time. Since $3 < \pi$ the duck wins.

314. The passengers are in an airplane and see the bird get sucked into an engine. The engine stalls and the plane crashes.

316. One: The rival company is desperate to win over, by taking on the top executives of the first concern. Hence it head-hunted the person for a huge salary, and thus the first company could burden the rival with a dud. Two: If the company fires the incompetent official, him it has to pay heavy terminal compensations. It made him to leave to join other company for a higher salary.

318. It was my spare tyre.

320. As the speed of the air and the balloon is the same, the flag does not flutter. It would be still without movement.

322. You have to keep the kettle above the char-coal.

324. If you keep a thermo-meter in a woollen-coat, its temperature does not rise. Woollen coat does not generate heat. It just keeps the warmth of body from exposure. The same

principle applies when an ice cube is kept in it. It maintains the coolness inside. Hence the cube inside the coat does not melt quickly compared to the other cube outside.

326. In one hour first clerk can do $\frac{1}{2}$ of the job and another clerk $\frac{1}{3}$. Hence they should share the work 3:2. Both can together complete $\frac{5}{6}$ th job in one hour. Hence it would take 72 minutes for them to finish it.

328. The volume of stone is more than the iron. Hence it displaces more water. Remember Archimedes principle? The loss of weight is equal to the weight of the water displaced. So the stone loses more weight in water.

330. When a train stops, all compartments move forward towards the engine before coming to a stand still position. With this effect, when the train re-starts, the engine has to pull the entire train 'at one stretch' which is demanding on its capacity to pull. To overcome this type of strain on the engine, the driver pushes the train slightly backwards, to loosen the chains between the compartments. With this effect, when the train starts moving forward, it pulls the compartments each one by one. This eases the pressure on the engine. The same example stands good for bullock carts also. The driver jumps on to the cart after it starts moving to lesson the burden on the bulls.

332. Each boy should get $\frac{7}{12}$ apple. Or you can say $\frac{3}{12} + \frac{4}{12}$. Now you know the answer. Cut 3 apples into 4 pieces each, 4 apples into 3 pieces each. Give every boy one $\frac{1}{4}$ and $\frac{1}{3}$ piece.

334. All would reach home at the same time travelling in the same bus.

If you find any mistake or complication in understanding a question or error, write to yandamoori@hotmail.com . For pointing out a genuine mistake you would get a gift from the author.
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