

## CONTEST #3.

## SOLUTIONS

**3 - 1.**  $(2x + 5)(x - 3)$  The factoring is of the form  $(2x + A)(x + B)$  in order to obtain a lead term of  $2x^2$ . Note that  $AB = -15$  and  $2B + A = -1$ . This system can be solved to obtain  $A = 5$  and  $B = -3$ , so the factoring is  $(2x + 5)(x - 3)$ .

**3 - 2.** **677710** The sum of the first  $n$  terms of an arithmetic sequence is  $\frac{n}{2}(a_1 + a_n) = \frac{n}{2}(5 + 2015) = 1010n$ . But what is  $n$ ? Well,  $2015 = 5 + (n - 1)(3) \rightarrow n = 671$ , so the sum is  $1010 \cdot 671 = \mathbf{677710}$ .

**3 - 3.**  $(\frac{2}{3}, \frac{1}{3})$  Find the equation of the perpendicular bisector of the segment connecting  $(2, 6)$  and  $(6, 0)$ ; this line is the line of reflection. First, the midpoint of the segment connecting  $(2, 6)$  and  $(6, 0)$  is  $(4, 3)$ . Next, the slope of the line connecting  $(2, 6)$  and  $(6, 0)$  is  $-\frac{3}{2}$ , so the slope of the perpendicular bisector is  $\frac{2}{3}$ . The equation of the perpendicular bisector is  $y - 3 = \frac{2}{3}(x - 4) \rightarrow y = \frac{2}{3}x + \frac{1}{3}$ . Thus, the ordered pair  $(m, b)$  is  $(\frac{2}{3}, \frac{1}{3})$ .

**3 - 4.** **3** Extend  $\overline{MU}$  to  $T$  on  $\overline{GR}$ , then  $\triangle GUM \cong \triangle GUT$  by ASA, so  $GT = 11 \rightarrow TR = 6$ . Notice that  $U$  and  $P$  are midpoints of  $\overline{MT}$  and  $\overline{MR}$ , respectively, so  $UP = \frac{1}{2} \cdot 6 = \mathbf{3}$ .

**3 - 5.** **3** For a quadratic equation to have two real roots, its discriminant is positive. Thus,  $25 - 4 \cdot 2 \cdot k > 0 \rightarrow k < 3.125$ . The greatest such integer  $k$  is **3**.

**3 - 6.** **36** Approach the problem by cases. Suppose first that all four letters are distinct. In this case, there are  $\binom{6}{2} = 15$  sets of four letters. Next, suppose that there is exactly one pair among the four. In this case, there are two possible pairs, and  $\binom{5}{2} = 10$  ways to choose the remaining two letters, so there are 20 of these sets. The last set is the set  $\{D, D, I, I\}$ . There are altogether  $15 + 20 + 1 = \mathbf{36}$  distinct sets of four letters.

**R-1.** In a triangle of perimeter 2016, the three sides have measures  $x$ ,  $2x - 672$ , and  $3x - 1344$ . Compute the degree measure of the greatest angle in the triangle.

**R-1Sol.** **60** Solve  $x + 2x - 672 + 3x - 1344 = 2016$  to find  $x = 672$ , which means that all sides measure 672. The measure of each angle is **60**.

**R-2.** Let  $N$  be the number you will receive. In parallelogram  $SCAM$ , angles  $S$  and  $C$  differ by  $N^\circ$ . If angle  $C$  is obtuse, compute the number of degrees in the measure of angle  $A$ .

**R-2Sol.** **60** Solve  $A + A + N = 180 \rightarrow A = 90 - \frac{N}{2}$ . Substituting,  $A = \mathbf{60}$ .

**R-3.** Let  $N$  be the number you will receive. Jimmy, Timmy, and Kimmy are playing a game. Their total score is  $N$  points. Timmy has the average score of the three players. Kimmy beat Jimmy by 10 points. Compute Jimmy's score.

**R-3Sol.** **15** The average score is  $\frac{N}{3}$ . Kimmy's score is  $J + 10$  where  $J$  is Jimmy's score. Thus,  $J + \frac{N}{3} + J + 10 = N \rightarrow 2J + 10 = \frac{2N}{3} \rightarrow J = \frac{N}{3} - 5$ . Substituting,  $J = \mathbf{15}$ .

**R-4.** Let  $N$  be the number you will receive. In a room with  $N$  people, every child shakes hands with every adult once. A total of 54 handshakes take place. There are more children than adults in the room. Compute the number of children.

**R-4Sol.** **9** The equation that needs solving is  $K(N - K) = 54$ . Substituting,  $K(15 - K) = 54$  implies that  $K = \mathbf{9}$ .

**R-5.** Let  $N$  be the number you will receive. Old Mother Hubbard had  $N$  children, and the difference between the ages of any two consecutive children is 2 years. The sum of their ages is 234 years. How old is the oldest child?

**R-5Sol.** **34** Substituting, we know that there are 9 children. Therefore, the middle child is age  $234 \div 9 = 26$  years old. The oldest is  $26 + 8 = \mathbf{34}$  years old.

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