# "The Nine Chapters on the Mathematical Art" Contest (NCC) 2016 © 

## Section A

A1
What is $(1+2+3+4) \times 10$ ?
Solution. The order of operations says that we should compute the stuff inside brackets first. We can compute this from left to right.

$$
(1+2+3+4) \times 10=(3+3+4) \times 10=(6+4) \times 10=10 \times 10=100
$$

Answer to A1: 100

## A2

How many days are in 120 hours?
Solution. There are 24 hours in a day. Hence, there are

$$
120 \div 24=5
$$

days in 120 hours.

Answer to A2: 5

## A3

A pencil costs $50 \xi$, a pen costs $60 \xi$, and an eraser costs $\$ 1$. How much do 10 pencils, 5 pens, and 2 erasers cost in total? Give your answer in dollars.

Solution. Recall that $\$ 1=100 \%$. We want to calculate

$$
10 \times 50 \zeta+5 \times 60 \xi+2 \times \$ 1=\$ 5+\$ 3+\$ 2=\$ 10
$$

Answer to A3: 10

A4
You have 12 cookies. You and each of your friends eat 3 cookies each, and none are left over. How many friends do you have?

Solution. Since every person ate 3 cookies, there must be

$$
12 \div 3=4
$$

people. But that includes myself. Excluding myself, then, I have $4-1=3$ friends.

Answer to A4: 3

## A5

Amy brings $\$ 15$ with her to the book store. She spends one third of it on a notebook, then another $\$ 3$ on a pen. How much does she have left?

Solution. A third of $\$ 15$ is $\$ 5$, so the notebook cost $\$ 5$. After buying the notebook, she would have

$$
\$ 15-\$ 5=\$ 10
$$

left. Then after buying the pen, she would have

$$
\$ 10-\$ 3=\$ 7
$$

remaining.

Answer to A5: 7

A6
Eric and Jamie have 18 gummies in total. Jamie has 2 more gummies than Eric. How many gummies does Eric have?

Solution. If the gummies were split evenly, then both Eric and Jamie would have

$$
18 \div 2=9
$$

gummies. But we are given that Jamie has 2 more gummies than Eric. If we transfer one gummy from Eric to Jamie, then Jamie would gain 1 gummy, and Eric would lose 1 gummy, so in total Jamie would get two more gummies than Eric. Therefore, the split is that Jamie has 10 gummies and Eric has 8.

Answer to A6: 8

Including both 1 and 21, how many odd numbers are there between 1 and 21?
Solution. The odd numbers between 1 and 21 are: 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 19, 21, and there are 11 of them.

## A8

How many triangles are in this picture?


Solution. All the triangles are highlighted in blue. There are 13.


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Answer to A8: 13

