

1971 AHSME Problems

Problem 1

The number of digits in the number $N = 2^{12} \times 5^8$ is
 (A) 9 (B) 10 (C) 11 (D) 12 (E) 20

Problem 2

If b men take c days to lay f bricks, then the number of days it will take c men working at the same rate to lay b bricks, is
 (A) fb^2 (B) b/f^2 (C) f^2/b (D) b^2/f (E) f/b^2

Problem 3

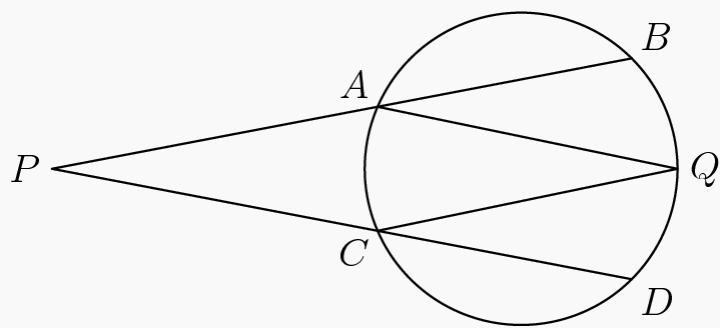
If the point $(x, -4)$ lies on the straight line joining the points $(0, 8)$ and $(-4, 0)$ in the xy -plane, then x is equal to
 (A) -2 (B) 2 (C) -8 (D) 6 (E) -6

Problem 4

After simple interest for two months at 5% per annum was credited, a Boy Scout Troop had a total of \$255.31 in the Council Treasury. The interest credited was a number of dollars plus the following number of cents
 (A) 11 (B) 12 (C) 13 (D) 21 (E) 31

Problem 5

Points A, B, Q, D , and C lie on the circle shown and the measures of arcs \widehat{BQ} and \widehat{QD} are 42° and 38° respectively. The sum of the measures of angles P and Q is
 (A) 80° (B) 62° (C) 40° (D) 46° (E) None of these



Problem 6

Let $*$ be the symbol denoting the binary operation on the set S of all non-zero real numbers as follows: For any two numbers a and b of S , $a * b = 2ab$. Then the one of the following statements which is not true, is

- (A) $*$ is commutative over S (B) $*$ is associative over S
 (C) $\frac{1}{2}$ is an identity element for $*$ in S (D) Every element of S has an inverse for $*$ (E) $\frac{1}{2a}$ is an inverse for $*$ of the element a

Problem 7

$2^{-(2k+1)} - 2^{-(2k-1)} + 2^{-2k}$ is equal to
 (A) 2^{-2k} (B) $2^{-(2k-1)}$ (C) $-2^{-(2k+1)}$ (D) 0 (E) 2

Problem 8

The solution set of $6x^2 + 5x < 4$ is the set of all values of x such that

- (A) $-2 < x < 1$ (B) $-\frac{4}{3} < x < \frac{1}{2}$ (C) $-\frac{1}{2} < x < \frac{4}{3}$
 (D) $x < \frac{1}{2}$ or $x > -\frac{4}{3}$ (E) $x < -\frac{4}{3}$ or $x > \frac{1}{2}$

Problem 9

An uncrossed belt is fitted without slack around two circular pulleys with radii of 14 inches and 4 inches. If the distance between the points of contact of the belt with the pulleys is 24 inches, then the distance between the centers of the pulleys in inches is

- (A) 24 (B) $2\sqrt{119}$ (C) 25 (D) 26 (E) $4\sqrt{35}$

Problem 10

Each of a group of 50 girls is blonde or brunette and is blue eyed or brown eyed. If 14 are blue-eyed blondes, 31 are brunettes, and 18 are brown-eyed, then the number of brown-eyed brunettes is

- (A) 5 (B) 7 (C) 9 (D) 11 (E) 13

Problem 11

The numeral 47 in base a represents the same number as 74 in base b . Assuming that both bases are positive integers, the least possible value of $a + b$ written as a Roman numeral, is

- (A) XIII (B) XV (C) XXI (D) XXIV (E) XVI

Problem 12

For each integer $N > 1$, there is a mathematical system in which two or more positive integers are defined to be congruent if they leave the same non-negative remainder when divided by N . If 69, 90, and 125 are congruent in one such system, then in that same system, 81 is congruent to

- (A) 3 (B) 4 (C) 5 (D) 7 (E) 8

Problem 13

If $(1.0025)^{10}$ is evaluated correct to 5 decimal places, then the digit in the fifth decimal place is

- (A) 0 (B) 1 (C) 2 (D) 5 (E) 8

Problem 14

The number $(2^{48} - 1)$ is exactly divisible by two numbers between 60 and 70. These numbers are

- (A) 61, 63 (B) 61, 65 (C) 63, 65 (D) 63, 67 (E) 67, 69

Problem 15

An aquarium on a level table has rectangular faces and is 10 inches wide and 8 inches high. When it was tilted, the water in it covered an 8×10 end but only $\frac{3}{4}$ of the rectangular room. The depth of the water when the bottom was again made level, was

- (A) $2\frac{1}{2}$ " (B) 3" (C) $3\frac{1}{4}$ " (D) $3\frac{1}{2}$ " (E) 4"

Problem 16

After finding the average of 35 scores, a student carelessly included the average with the 35 scores and found the average of these 36 numbers. The ratio of the second average to the true average was

- (A) 1 : 1 (B) 35 : 36 (C) 36 : 35 (D) 2 : 1 (E) None of these

Problem 17

A circular disk is divided by $2n$ equally spaced radii ($n > 0$) and one secant line. The maximum number of non-overlapping areas into which the disk can be divided is

- (A) $2n + 1$ (B) $2n + 2$ (C) $3n - 1$ (D) $3n$ (E) $3n + 1$

Problem 18

The current in a river is flowing steadily at 3 miles per hour. A motor boat which travels at a constant rate in still water goes downstream 4 miles and then returns to its starting point. The trip takes one hour, excluding the time spent in turning the boat around. The ratio of the downstream to the upstream rate is

- (A) 4 : 3 (B) 3 : 2 (C) 5 : 3 (D) 2 : 1 (E) 5 : 2

Problem 19

If the line $y = mx + 1$ intersects the ellipse $x^2 + 4y^2 = 1$ exactly once, then the value of m^2 is

- (A) $\frac{1}{2}$ (B) $\frac{2}{3}$ (C) $\frac{3}{4}$ (D) $\frac{4}{5}$ (E) $\frac{5}{6}$

Problem 20

The sum of the squares of the roots of the equation $x^2 + 2hx = 3$ is 10. The absolute value of h is equal to

- (A) -1 (B) $\frac{1}{2}$ (C) $\frac{3}{2}$ (D) 2 (E) None of these

Problem 21

If $\log_2(\log_3(\log_4 x)) = \log_3(\log_4(\log_2 y)) = \log_4(\log_2(\log_3 z)) = 0$, then the sum $x + y + z$ is equal to

- (A) 50 (B) 58 (C) 89 (D) 111 (E) 1296

Problem 22

If w is one of the imaginary roots of the equation $x^3 = 1$, then the product $(1 - w + w^2)(1 + w - w^2)$ is equal to

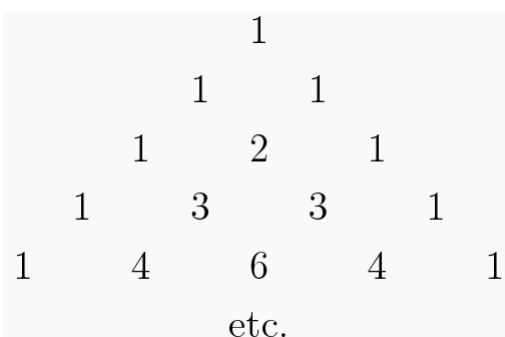
- (A) 4 (B) w (C) 2 (D) w^2 (E) 1

Problem 23

Teams A and B are playing a series of games. If the odds for either to win any game are even and Team A must win two or Team B three games to win the series, then the odds favoring Team A to win the series are

- (A) 11 to 5 (B) 5 to 2 (C) 8 to 3 (D) 3 to 2 (E) 13 to 6

Problem 24



Pascal's triangle is an array of positive integers(See figure), in which the first row is 1, the second row is two 1's, each row begins and ends with 1, and the k^{th} number in any row when it is not 1, is the sum of the k^{th} and $(k - 1)^{\text{th}}$ numbers in the immediately preceding row. The quotient of the number of numbers in the first n rows which are not 1's and the number of 1's is

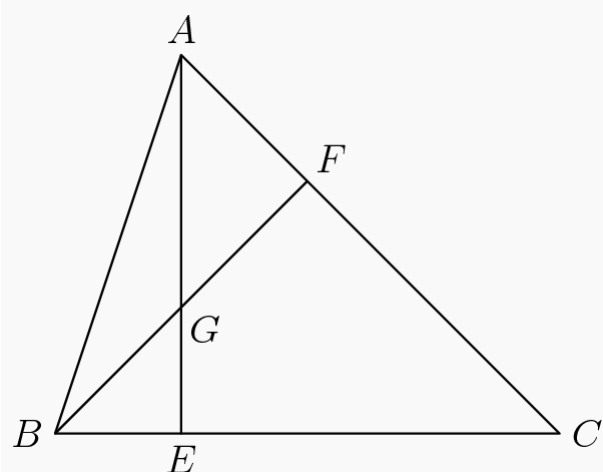
- (A) $\frac{n^2 - n}{2n - 1}$ (B) $\frac{n^2 - n}{4n - 2}$ (C) $\frac{n^2 - 2n}{2n - 1}$ (D) $\frac{n^2 - 3n + 2}{4n - 2}$ (E) None of these

Problem 25

A teen age boy wrote his own age after his father's. From this new four place number, he subtracted the absolute value of the difference of their ages to get 4,289. The sum of their ages was

- (A) 48 (B) 52 (C) 56 (D) 59 (E) 64

Problem 26



In $\triangle ABC$, point F divides side AC in the ratio 1 : 2. Let E be the point of intersection of side BC and AG where G is the midpoint of BF . The point E divides side BC in the ratio

- (A) 1 : 4 (B) 1 : 3 (C) 2 : 5 (D) 4 : 11 (E) 3 : 8

Problem 27

A box contains chips, each of which is red, white, or blue. The number of blue chips is at least half the number of white chips, and at most one third the number of red chips. The number which are white or blue is at least 55. The minimum number of red chips is

- (A) 24 (B) 33 (C) 45 (D) 54 (E) 57

Problem 28

Nine lines parallel to the base of a triangle divide the other sides each into 10 equal segments and the area into 10 distinct parts. If the area of the largest of these parts is 38, then the area of the original triangle is

- (A) 180 (B) 190 (C) 200 (D) 210 (E) 240

Problem 29

Given the progression $10^{\frac{1}{11}}, 10^{\frac{2}{11}}, 10^{\frac{3}{11}}, 10^{\frac{4}{11}}, \dots, 10^{\frac{n}{11}}$. The least positive integer n such that the product of the first n terms of the progression exceeds 100,000 is

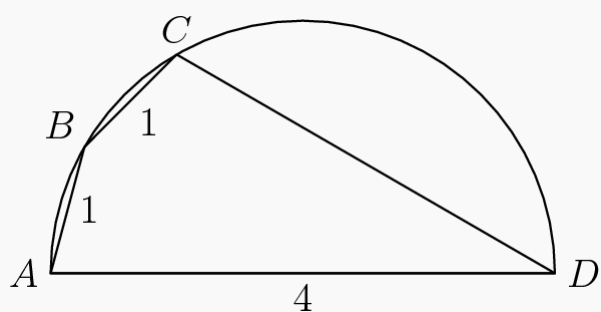
(A) 7 (B) 8 (C) 9 (D) 10 (E) 11

Problem 30

Given the linear fractional transformation of x into $f_1(x) = \frac{2x-1}{x+1}$. Define $f_{n+1}(x) = f_1(f_n(x))$ for $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$. Assuming that $f_{35}(x) = f_5(x)$, it follows that $f_{28}(x)$ is equal to

(A) x (B) $\frac{1}{x}$ (C) $\frac{x-1}{x}$ (D) $\frac{1}{1-x}$ (E) None of these

Problem 31



Quadrilateral $ABCD$ is inscribed in a circle with side AD , a diameter of length 4. If sides AB and BC each have length 1, then side CD has length

(A) $\frac{7}{2}$ (B) $\frac{5\sqrt{2}}{2}$ (C) $\sqrt{11}$ (D) $\sqrt{13}$ (E) $2\sqrt{3}$

Problem 32

If $s = (1 + 2^{-\frac{1}{32}})(1 + 2^{-\frac{1}{16}})(1 + 2^{-\frac{1}{8}})(1 + 2^{-\frac{1}{4}})(1 + 2^{-\frac{1}{2}})$, then s is equal to

(A) $\frac{1}{2}(1 - 2^{-\frac{1}{32}})^{-1}$ (B) $(1 - 2^{-\frac{1}{32}})^{-1}$ (C) $1 - 2^{-\frac{1}{32}}$
 (D) $\frac{1}{2}(1 - 2^{-\frac{1}{32}})$ (E) $\frac{1}{2}$

Problem 33

If P is the product of n quantities in Geometric Progression, S their sum, and S' the sum of their reciprocals, then P in terms of S , S' , and n is

(A) $(SS')^{\frac{1}{2}n}$ (B) $(S/S')^{\frac{1}{2}n}$ (C) $(SS')^{n-2}$ (D) $(S/S')^n$ (E) $(S/S')^{\frac{1}{2}(n-1)}$

Problem 34

An ordinary clock in a factory is running slow so that the minute hand passes the hour hand at the usual dial position (12 o'clock, etc.) but only every 69 minutes. At time and one-half for overtime, the extra pay to which a \$4.00 per hour worker should be entitled after working a normal 8 hour day by that slow running clock, is

(A) \$2.30 (B) \$2.60 (C) \$2.80 (D) \$3.00 (E) \$3.30

Problem 35

Each circle in an infinite sequence with decreasing radii is tangent externally to the one following it and to both sides of a given right angle. The ratio of the area of the first circle to the sum of areas of all other circles in the sequence, is

- (A) $(4 + 3\sqrt{2}) : 4$ (B) $9\sqrt{2} : 2$ (C) $(16 + 12\sqrt{2}) : 1$
(D) $(2 + 2\sqrt{2}) : 1$ (E) $3 + 2\sqrt{2} : 1$