



The Case of the Missing Championship Trophy

Grade 6 math · Multiplication, Word problems, Multi-step word problems, Percentages, Division · Reading level grades 5-6

Detective: _____ Date: _____

Just hours before the state championship game, the legendary Golden Ball trophy went missing from the Hoopplex locker room! The culprit left a trail of chalk dust and squeaky sneaker tracks on the court. It is up to you to decode the clues, solve the math, and find the sneaky player who took it.

1. Solve each math problem. The answer is a number, and the letter beside it is what that number stands for.
2. In the clue boxes, write that letter in every box showing the same number, then read the secret clue.
3. Use each clue to cross suspects off the list. The one suspect left at the end is the culprit!

My answer: the court bandit is _____

Possible suspects

Cross off a row as each clue rules it out. The one left at the end is the culprit.

NAME	SIGNATURE MOVE	ON-COURT GEAR	SHOOTING HAND	HAIRSTYLE	DEFENSIVE WEAKNESS
Luka Doncic	Dunk	Wristband	Left-handed	Dreadlocks	Fullcourt press
Paul George	Buzzerbeater	Wristband	Left-handed	Buzzcut	Fullcourt press
Stephen Curry	Buzzerbeater	High-tops	Right-handed	Afro	Fullcourt press
Nikola Jokic	No-look pass	High-tops	Left-handed	Dreadlocks	Zone defense
Jimmy Butler	Dunk	Arm sleeve	Left-handed	Afro	Fullcourt press
Ja Morant	Dunk	Arm sleeve	Right-handed	Dreadlocks	Double team
Russell Westbrook	Dunk	Arm sleeve	Left-handed	Afro	Double team
Kevin Durant	Skyhook	Mouthguard	Left-handed	Afro	Fullcourt press
Kobe Bryant	Dunk	Headband	Left-handed	Dreadlocks	Fullcourt press
Anthony Davis	Skyhook	Headband	Left-handed	Afro	Double team
Kyrie Irving	Buzzerbeater	Wristband	Left-handed	Dreadlocks	Fullcourt press
Michael Jordan	Dunk	High-tops	Right-handed	Dreadlocks	Fullcourt press
Jaylen Brown	No-look pass	Arm sleeve	Left-handed	Afro	Zone defense
Trae Young	Skyhook	Mouthguard	Left-handed	Dreadlocks	Fullcourt press
Jayson Tatum	No-look pass	Headband	Left-handed	Dreadlocks	Fullcourt press
Chris Paul	Dunk	Mouthguard	Right-handed	Buzzcut	Zone defense
Giannis Antetokounmpo	Buzzerbeater	High-tops	Left-handed	Buzzcut	Zone defense
Damian Lillard	Buzzerbeater	Headband	Left-handed	Dreadlocks	Zone defense
Devin Booker	No-look pass	Arm sleeve	Left-handed	Dreadlocks	Zone defense
Kawhi Leonard	Crossover	Arm sleeve	Left-handed	Dreadlocks	Zone defense
James Harden	No-look pass	High-tops	Left-handed	Afro	Zone defense

CLUE 1

Multiplication facts (1-12)

Coach Miller needs to audit the inventory room because some sneaky player swapped the labels on the ball racks.

Solve each problem, then write its letter in every clue box that shows the same number.

T																	T
90	60	24	99	80	132	132	28	80	27	88	48	24	100	27	48	90	

							T								
35	24	28	108	28	120	48	25	90	60	55	25	28	108	88	

$9 \times 10 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{T}}$

$6 \times 4 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{E}}$

$10 \times 8 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{I}}$

$4 \times 12 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{O}}$

$11 \times 8 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{D}}$

$12 \times 9 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{R}}$

$3 \times 9 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{N}}$

$5 \times 11 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{G}}$

$12 \times 10 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{M}}$

$5 \times 7 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{W}}$

$7 \times 4 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{A}}$

$11 \times 12 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{L}}$

$10 \times 10 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{S}}$

$5 \times 5 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{U}}$

$11 \times 9 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{V}}$

$6 \times 10 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{H}}$

Scratch space:

CLUE 2

Word problems

To unlock the high-tech sneaker locker, we need to calculate the total studs on the new shoe shipment across several identical crates.

Solve each problem, then write its letter in the boxes to fill in the missing word.

A witness saw the villain was L D D .

27
19
34
10
98
82
105
19

Coach Miller lined up 3 rows of 9 jerseys. How many jerseys in all?

Answer: → L

Coach Miller lined up 5 rows of 2 jerseys. How many jerseys in all?

Answer: → T

Coach Miller found 3 water bottles yesterday and 95 more today. How many water bottles in all?

Answer: → H

There were 29 whistles. 10 were used up. How many whistles are left?

Answer: → E

There were 66 basketballs. 32 were used up. How many basketballs are left?

Answer: → F

Coach Miller found 79 sneakers yesterday and 3 more today. How many sneakers in all?

Answer: → A

Coach Miller found 7 whistles yesterday and 98 more today. How many whistles in all?

Answer: → N

Scratch space:

CLUE 3

Multi-step word problems

A strange receipt shows a player buying several jerseys and returning some old shorts, leaving a weird balance on the team card.

Solve each problem, then write its letter in the boxes to fill in the missing word.

Someone scared the villain off with

F										P		E	S	S	.
37	79	71	71	18	82	79	81	62		81					

Coach Miller earned 7 sneakers in each of 4 rounds, plus 22 bonus sneakers. Then 13 sneakers were lost. How many sneakers are left?

Answer: → **F**

There were 481 sneakers in all. 7 sneakers were set aside. The rest were shared equally among 6 The All-Stars. How many sneakers did each get?

Answer: → **U**

There were 502 water bottles in all. 4 The All-Stars used 19 water bottles each. The other 6 The All-Stars shared the rest equally. How many water bottles did each of the other The All-Stars get?

Answer: → **L**

Coach Miller earned 4 basketballs in each of 4 rounds, plus 8 bonus basketballs. Then 6 basketballs were lost. How many basketballs are left?

Answer: → **C**

Coach Miller collected 17 water bottles in the morning and 293 water bottles in the afternoon, then split them equally among 5 The All-Stars. How many water bottles did each get?

Answer: → **T**

There were 519 basketballs in all. 3 The All-Stars used 9 basketballs each. The other 6 The All-Stars shared the rest equally. How many basketballs did each of the other The All-Stars get?

Answer: → **O**

There were 834 sneakers in all. 24 sneakers were set aside. The rest were shared equally among 10 The All-Stars. How many sneakers did each get?

Answer: → **R**

Scratch space:

CLUE 4 Percentages

The arena scoreboard is acting up, only displaying the shooting percentages of the team's top players instead of their total points.

Solve each problem, then write its letter in every clue box that shows the same number.

T												T						
6	21	31	39	16	43	11	16	19	19	31	35	6	2	31	21	13	43	11
11	34	31	16	11	19	28	7	8	41	21	16	13	34					

$10\% \text{ of } 60 = \square \rightarrow \text{ T }$

$50\% \text{ of } 32 = \square \rightarrow \text{ A }$

$25\% \text{ of } 124 = \square \rightarrow \text{ E }$

$5\% \text{ of } 220 = \square \rightarrow \text{ D }$

$10\% \text{ of } 410 = \square \rightarrow \text{ S }$

$50\% \text{ of } 70 = \square \rightarrow \text{ F }$

$5\% \text{ of } 420 = \square \rightarrow \text{ H }$

$20\% \text{ of } 40 = \square \rightarrow \text{ K }$

$20\% \text{ of } 195 = \square \rightarrow \text{ V }$

$20\% \text{ of } 170 = \square \rightarrow \text{ R }$

$5\% \text{ of } 260 = \square \rightarrow \text{ I }$

$25\% \text{ of } 112 = \square \rightarrow \text{ O }$

$5\% \text{ of } 380 = \square \rightarrow \text{ L }$

$20\% \text{ of } 10 = \square \rightarrow \text{ B }$

$20\% \text{ of } 35 = \square \rightarrow \text{ C }$

$50\% \text{ of } 86 = \square \rightarrow \text{ N }$

Scratch space:

CLUE 5**Division facts (1-12) - the last clue**

To find which locker contains the stolen playbook, we must divide the total team practice bibs equally among the five starting squads.

First solve each problem. Then find each answer in the numbered list below and cross that sentence out. One sentence will be left - that is exactly what the villain did!

Step 1 - solve these:

$44 \div 4 = \boxed{}$

$77 \div 11 = \boxed{}$

$7 \div 7 = \boxed{}$

$28 \div 7 = \boxed{}$

$80 \div 8 = \boxed{}$

$6 \div 3 = \boxed{}$

$18 \div 2 = \boxed{}$

$30 \div 5 = \boxed{}$

$144 \div 12 = \boxed{}$

$72 \div 9 = \boxed{}$

$27 \div 9 = \boxed{}$

Step 2 - cross out the sentence with each answer:

1. The villain slams a dunk, then wipes a wristband.
2. The villain hits a buzzerbeater, then adjusts some high-tops.
3. The villain sinks a skyhook, then tugs an arm sleeve.
4. The villain slams a dunk, then adjusts some high-tops.
5. The villain throws a no-look pass, then pulls up a headband.
6. The villain sinks a skyhook, then wipes a wristband.
7. The villain slams a dunk, then pulls up a headband.
8. The villain hits a buzzerbeater, then bites a mouthguard.
9. The villain performs a crossover, then tugs an arm sleeve.
10. The villain sinks a skyhook, then pulls up a headband.
11. The villain hits a buzzerbeater, then wipes a wristband.
12. The villain hits a buzzerbeater, then tugs an arm sleeve.

Answer Key

The Case of the Missing Championship Trophy

Culprit: Jayson Tatum

No-look pass · Headband · Left-handed · Dreadlocks · Fullcourt press

Trail: Start 21 → Clue 1 18 → Clue 2 15 → Clue 3 6 → Clue 4 4 → Clue 5 1

Clue 1 (Multiplication facts (1-12)): "THE VILLAIN DOES NOT WEAR A MOUTHGUARD"

$9 \times 10 = 90$ (T) · $6 \times 4 = 24$ (E) · $10 \times 8 = 80$ (I) · $4 \times 12 = 48$ (O) · $11 \times 8 = 88$ (D) · $12 \times 9 = 108$ (R) · $3 \times 9 = 27$ (N) · $5 \times 11 = 55$ (G) · $12 \times 10 = 120$ (M) · $5 \times 7 = 35$ (W) · $7 \times 4 = 28$ (A) · $11 \times 12 = 132$ (L) · $10 \times 10 = 100$ (S) · $5 \times 5 = 25$ (U) · $11 \times 9 = 99$ (V) · $6 \times 10 = 60$ (H)

Clue 2 (Word problems): "LEFT HANDED"

Coach Miller lined up 3 rows of 9 jerseys. How many jerseys in all? = 27 (L) · Coach Miller lined up 5 rows of 2 jerseys. How many jerseys in all? = 10 (T) · Coach Miller found 3 water bottles yesterday and 95 more today. How many water bottles in all? = 98 (H) · There were 29 whistles. 10 were used up. How many whistles are left? = 19 (E) · There were 66 basketballs. 32 were used up. How many basketballs are left? = 34 (F) · Coach Miller found 79 sneakers yesterday and 3 more today. How many sneakers in all? = 82 (A) · Coach Miller found 7 whistles yesterday and 98 more today. How many whistles in all? = 105 (N)

Clue 3 (Multi-step word problems): "FULLCOURT PRESS"

Coach Miller earned 7 sneakers in each of 4 rounds, plus 22 bonus sneakers. Then 13 sneakers were lost. How many sneakers are left? = 37 (F) · There were 481 sneakers in all. 7 sneakers were set aside. The rest were shared equally among 6 The All-Stars. How many sneakers did each get? = 79 (U) · There were 502 water bottles in all. 4 The All-Stars used 19 water bottles each. The other 6 The All-Stars shared the rest equally. How many water bottles did each of the other The All-Stars get? = 71 (L) · Coach Miller earned 4 basketballs in each of 4 rounds, plus 8 bonus basketballs. Then 6 basketballs were lost. How many basketballs are left? = 18 (C) · Coach Miller collected 17 water bottles in the morning and 293 water bottles in the afternoon, then split them equally among 5 The All-Stars. How many water bottles did each get? = 62 (T) · There were 519 basketballs in all. 3 The All-Stars used 9 basketballs each. The other 6 The All-Stars shared the rest equally. How many basketballs did each of the other The All-Stars get? = 82 (O) · There were 834 sneakers in all. 24 sneakers were set aside. The rest were shared equally among 10 The All-Stars. How many sneakers did each get? = 81 (R)

Clue 4 (Percentages): "THE VANDAL LEFT BEHIND DREADLOCKS HAIR"

10% of 60 = 6 (T) · 50% of 32 = 16 (A) · 25% of 124 = 31 (E) · 5% of 220 = 11 (D) · 10% of 410 = 41 (S) · 50% of 70 = 35 (F) · 5% of 420 = 21 (H) · 20% of 40 = 8 (K) · 20% of 195 = 39 (V) · 20% of 170 = 34 (R) · 5% of 260 = 13 (I) · 25% of 112 = 28 (O) · 5% of 380 = 19 (L) · 20% of 10 = 2 (B) · 20% of 35 = 7 (C) · 50% of 86 = 43 (N)

Clue 5 (Division facts (1-12)): surviving statement is box 5 → Jayson Tatum

$44 \div 4 = 11$ · $77 \div 11 = 7$ · $7 \div 7 = 1$ · $28 \div 7 = 4$ · $80 \div 8 = 10$ · $6 \div 3 = 2$ · $18 \div 2 = 9$ · $30 \div 5 = 6$ · $144 \div 12 = 12$ · $72 \div 9 = 8$ · $27 \div 9 = 3$