



The Case of the Missing MVP Trophy

Grade 5 math · Addition, Fractions of a number, Order of operations, Multiplication, Division · Reading level grades 5-6

Detective: _____ Date: _____

The golden MVP trophy has vanished from the display case right before the championship game! The Arena Commissioner is in a panic. Solve the math problems to uncover clues about the Court Phantom before tip-off!

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 Phantom 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	SUPER GEAR	DRIBBLE HAND	HAIR STYLE	IN-GAME WEAKNESS
Luka Doncic	No-look Behind-the-back Pass	Spring-loaded Jump Insoles	Left-handed dribbler	Neon green buzzcut	Loud crowd airhorns
Kevin Durant	No-look Behind-the-back Pass	Spring-loaded Jump Insoles	Right-handed dribbler	Neon green buzzcut	Squeaky polished floors
Damian Lillard	Shutdown Full-court Press	Neon Lightning Sneakers	Left-handed dribbler	Frosted tips Mohawk	Loud crowd airhorns
Steph Curry	Half-court Buzzer-beater	Magnetic Hoop Wristband	Left-handed dribbler	Neon green buzzcut	Loud crowd airhorns
Jalen Brunson	Gravity-defying Windmill Dunk	Magnetic Hoop Wristband	Left-handed dribbler	Braided cornrows	Double-team defense
Paul George	Shutdown Full-court Press	Magnetic Hoop Wristband	Right-handed dribbler	Braided cornrows	Loud crowd airhorns
Bam Adebayo	Shutdown Full-court Press	Anti-gravity Warmup Jacket	Left-handed dribbler	Braided cornrows	Loud crowd airhorns
Anthony Davis	Half-court Buzzer-beater	Sticky Grip Basketball Gloves	Right-handed dribbler	Braided cornrows	Loud crowd airhorns
Donovan Mitchell	No-look Behind-the-back Pass	Anti-gravity Warmup Jacket	Right-handed dribbler	Neon green buzzcut	Double-team defense
Ja Morant	Ankle-breaker Crossover	Sticky Grip Basketball Gloves	Right-handed dribbler	Braided cornrows	Loud crowd airhorns
DeAaron Fox	No-look Behind-the-back Pass	Neon Lightning Sneakers	Right-handed dribbler	Neon green buzzcut	Loud crowd airhorns
Tyrese Haliburton	Half-court Buzzer-beater	Spring-loaded Jump Insoles	Right-handed dribbler	Braided cornrows	Loud crowd airhorns
Kawhi Leonard	Gravity-defying Windmill Dunk	Magnetic Hoop Wristband	Left-handed dribbler	Braided cornrows	Loud crowd airhorns
Jayson Tatum	Gravity-defying Windmill Dunk	Anti-gravity Warmup Jacket	Right-handed dribbler	Braided cornrows	Loud crowd airhorns
James Harden	Shutdown Full-court Press	Sticky Grip Basketball Gloves	Left-handed dribbler	Neon green buzzcut	Squeaky polished floors
Jimmy Butler	No-look Behind-the-back Pass	Spring-loaded Jump Insoles	Right-handed dribbler	Frosted tips Mohawk	Loud crowd airhorns
Domantas Sabonis	Ankle-breaker Crossover	Spring-loaded Jump Insoles	Right-handed dribbler	Frosted tips Mohawk	Double-team defense
Kyrie Irving	Gravity-defying Windmill Dunk	Neon Lightning Sneakers	Left-handed dribbler	Braided cornrows	Squeaky polished floors
Anthony Edwards	Shutdown Full-court Press	Sticky Grip Basketball Gloves	Left-handed dribbler	Braided cornrows	Squeaky polished floors
LeBron James	Half-court Buzzer-beater	Spring-loaded Jump Insoles	Right-handed dribbler	Frosted tips Mohawk	Loud crowd airhorns
Devin Booker	Shutdown Full-court Press	Anti-gravity Warmup Jacket	Right-handed dribbler	Braided cornrows	Squeaky polished floors

CLUE 1 Addition

We totaled up the championship jerseys left in the home locker room and the visitor locker room to get our first lead.

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

T															T				
3496	5740	7771	7488	2139	7771	9053	5163	5163	7846	7771	9320	9053	7846	3496	2246	7771	6252	9821	

9320	9125	9821	2139	9053	7240	4086	4381	5241	9125	2139	9053	9320	7846	3070	7771	9320

$1339 + 2157 = \square \rightarrow \text{[T]}$	$783 + 1463 = \square \rightarrow \text{[W]}$	$4746 + 3100 = \square \rightarrow \text{[O]}$
$3497 + 1666 = \square \rightarrow \text{[D]}$	$3497 + 5556 = \square \rightarrow \text{[N]}$	$2179 + 3062 = \square \rightarrow \text{[M]}$
$670 + 1469 = \square \rightarrow \text{[I]}$	$2348 + 5423 = \square \rightarrow \text{[E]}$	$5949 + 3176 = \square \rightarrow \text{[P]}$
$1810 + 1260 = \square \rightarrow \text{[L]}$	$5022 + 4799 = \square \rightarrow \text{[R]}$	$3995 + 1745 = \square \rightarrow \text{[H]}$
$2389 + 1992 = \square \rightarrow \text{[U]}$	$3367 + 2885 = \square \rightarrow \text{[A]}$	$5011 + 2229 = \square \rightarrow \text{[G]}$
$4740 + 2748 = \square \rightarrow \text{[F]}$	$3917 + 5403 = \square \rightarrow \text{[S]}$	$2736 + 1350 = \square \rightarrow \text{[J]}$

Scratch space:

CLUE 2

Fractions of a number

The arena manager said a certain fraction of the basketballs in the equipment rack were deflated by the runaway culprit.

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

T										T								
6	19	20	22	2	22	12	20	29	6	3	38	39	33	33	26	20	22	

		T		T						T					
24	39	6	19	6	19	20	38	39	16	19	6	19	37	10	3

$$3/6 \text{ of } 12 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{T}}$$

$$1/3 \text{ of } 114 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{R}}$$

$$5/10 \text{ of } 74 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{A}}$$

$$4/8 \text{ of } 20 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{N}}$$

$$6/10 \text{ of } 5 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{D}}$$

$$2/8 \text{ of } 132 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{B}}$$

$$2/5 \text{ of } 55 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{S}}$$

$$1/6 \text{ of } 174 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{C}}$$

$$1/6 \text{ of } 120 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{E}}$$

$$3/8 \text{ of } 32 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{P}}$$

$$1/8 \text{ of } 16 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{U}}$$

$$1/3 \text{ of } 78 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{L}}$$

$$1/5 \text{ of } 95 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{H}}$$

$$3/6 \text{ of } 78 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{I}}$$

$$1/8 \text{ of } 128 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{G}}$$

$$5/10 \text{ of } 48 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{W}}$$

Scratch space:

CLUE 3 Order of operations

The electronic scoreboard glitched out, displaying a complex mathematical equation that we need to solve in the correct order.

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

T																			
72	47	78	50	70	75	76	30	35	70	16	76	31	32	35	47	70	35	23	58

						T									
35	75	32	23	78	76	72	47	78	32	35	25	70	30	75	58

$37 + 5 \times 7 = \square \rightarrow$ T	$23 + 5 \times 7 = \square \rightarrow$ S	$61 + 3 \times 3 = \square \rightarrow$ O
$2 \times 12 - 1 = \square \rightarrow$ N	$9 \times 3 - 2 = \square \rightarrow$ F	$17 + 6 \times 3 = \square \rightarrow$ R
$5 \times 12 - 28 = \square \rightarrow$ I	$6 + 4 \times 6 = \square \rightarrow$ C	$12 \times 8 - 20 = \square \rightarrow$ D
$8 \times 10 - 30 = \square \rightarrow$ L	$22 + 8 \times 7 = \square \rightarrow$ E	$4 + 3 \times 4 = \square \rightarrow$ W
$59 + 4 \times 4 = \square \rightarrow$ U	$20 + 3 \times 9 = \square \rightarrow$ H	$17 + 2 \times 7 = \square \rightarrow$ A

Scratch space:

CLUE 4

Multiplication facts (1-12)

We found rows of energy drinks left near the court, and multiplying the rows by the cans in each row revealed our next clue.

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

A				A							A				
96	77	49	121	96	54	100	20	30	33	121	96	60	100	5	100
	A				A										
6	96	60	121	70	96	77	20	54	49	6	5	121	60	36	

$12 \times 8 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{A}}$

$1 \times 6 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{H}}$

$1 \times 5 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{E}}$

$4 \times 5 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{O}}$

$9 \times 6 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{N}}$

$10 \times 7 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{W}}$

$3 \times 10 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{F}}$

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

$11 \times 11 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{R}}$

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

$3 \times 11 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{B}}$

$11 \times 7 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{S}}$

$7 \times 7 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{T}}$

$12 \times 3 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{M}}$

Scratch space:

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

The referee divided the leftover practice pinnies equally among the team captains to crack the final security code.

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:

$30 \div 6 = \boxed{}$

$12 \div 3 = \boxed{}$

$42 \div 6 = \boxed{}$

$12 \div 12 = \boxed{}$

$45 \div 5 = \boxed{}$

$55 \div 5 = \boxed{}$

$14 \div 7 = \boxed{}$

$60 \div 6 = \boxed{}$

$24 \div 4 = \boxed{}$

$64 \div 8 = \boxed{}$

$24 \div 2 = \boxed{}$

Step 2 - cross out the sentence with each answer:

1. The villain swishes a buzzer-beater shot, then bolts away in lightning sneakers.
2. The villain passes without looking, then floats off in a warmup jacket.
3. The villain slams a windmill dunk, then floats off in a warmup jacket.
4. The villain crosses up the defender, then snatches the ball with sticky gloves.
5. The villain swishes a buzzer-beater shot, then snatches the ball with sticky gloves.
6. The villain swishes a buzzer-beater shot, then floats off in a warmup jacket.
7. The villain locks down the offense, then activates the magnetic wristband.
8. The villain passes without looking, then snatches the ball with sticky gloves.
9. The villain passes without looking, then activates the magnetic wristband.
10. The villain slams a windmill dunk, then bolts away in lightning sneakers.
11. The villain locks down the offense, then floats off in a warmup jacket.
12. The villain swishes a buzzer-beater shot, then activates the magnetic wristband.

Answer Key

The Case of the Missing MVP Trophy

Culprit: Jayson Tatum

Gravity-defying Windmill Dunk · Anti-gravity Warmup Jacket · Right-handed dribbler · Braided cornrows · Loud crowd airhorns

Trail: Start 21 → Clue 1 15 → Clue 2 7 → Clue 3 5 → Clue 4 4 → Clue 5 1

Clue 1 (Addition): "THE FIEND DOES NOT WEAR SPRING JUMP INSOLES"

$1339 + 2157 = 3496$ (T) · $783 + 1463 = 2246$ (W) · $4746 + 3100 = 7846$ (O) · $3497 + 1666 = 5163$ (D) · $3497 + 5556 = 9053$ (N) · $2179 + 3062 = 5241$ (M) · $670 + 1469 = 2139$ (I) · $2348 + 5423 = 7771$ (E) · $5949 + 3176 = 9125$ (P) · $1810 + 1260 = 3070$ (L) · $5022 + 4799 = 9821$ (R) · $3995 + 1745 = 5740$ (H) · $2389 + 1992 = 4381$ (U) · $3367 + 2885 = 6252$ (A) · $5011 + 2229 = 7240$ (G) · $4740 + 2748 = 7488$ (F) · $3917 + 5403 = 9320$ (S) · $2736 + 1350 = 4086$ (J)

Clue 2 (Fractions of a number): "THE SUSPECT DRIBBLES WITH THE RIGHT HAND"

$\frac{3}{6}$ of 12 = 6 (T) · $\frac{1}{3}$ of 114 = 38 (R) · $\frac{5}{10}$ of 74 = 37 (A) · $\frac{4}{8}$ of 20 = 10 (N) · $\frac{6}{10}$ of 5 = 3 (D) · $\frac{2}{8}$ of 132 = 33 (B) · $\frac{2}{5}$ of 55 = 22 (S) · $\frac{1}{6}$ of 174 = 29 (C) · $\frac{1}{6}$ of 120 = 20 (E) · $\frac{3}{8}$ of 32 = 12 (P) · $\frac{1}{8}$ of 16 = 2 (U) · $\frac{1}{3}$ of 78 = 26 (L) · $\frac{1}{5}$ of 95 = 19 (H) · $\frac{3}{6}$ of 78 = 39 (I) · $\frac{1}{8}$ of 128 = 16 (G) · $\frac{5}{10}$ of 48 = 24 (W)

Clue 3 (Order of operations): "THE LOUD CROWD AIRHORNS RUINED THEIR FOCUS"

$37 + 5 \times 7 = 72$ (T) · $23 + 5 \times 7 = 58$ (S) · $61 + 3 \times 3 = 70$ (O) · $2 \times 12 - 1 = 23$ (N) · $9 \times 3 - 2 = 25$ (F) · $17 + 6 \times 3 = 35$ (R) · $5 \times 12 - 28 = 32$ (I) · $6 + 4 \times 6 = 30$ (C) · $12 \times 8 - 20 = 76$ (D) · $8 \times 10 - 30 = 50$ (L) · $22 + 8 \times 7 = 78$ (E) · $4 + 3 \times 4 = 16$ (W) · $59 + 4 \times 4 = 75$ (U) · $20 + 3 \times 9 = 47$ (H) · $17 + 2 \times 7 = 31$ (A)

Clue 4 (Multiplication facts (1-12)): "A STRAND OF BRAIDED HAIR WAS ON THE RIM"

$12 \times 8 = 96$ (A) · $1 \times 6 = 6$ (H) · $1 \times 5 = 5$ (E) · $4 \times 5 = 20$ (O) · $9 \times 6 = 54$ (N) · $10 \times 7 = 70$ (W) · $3 \times 10 = 30$ (F) · $6 \times 10 = 60$ (I) · $11 \times 11 = 121$ (R) · $10 \times 10 = 100$ (D) · $3 \times 11 = 33$ (B) · $11 \times 7 = 77$ (S) · $7 \times 7 = 49$ (T) · $12 \times 3 = 36$ (M)

Clue 5 (Division facts (1-12)): surviving statement is box 3 → Jayson Tatum

$30 \div 6 = 5$ · $12 \div 3 = 4$ · $42 \div 6 = 7$ · $12 \div 12 = 1$ · $45 \div 5 = 9$ · $55 \div 5 = 11$ · $14 \div 7 = 2$ · $60 \div 6 = 10$ · $24 \div 4 = 6$ · $64 \div 8 = 8$ · $24 \div 2 = 12$