The Case of the Stolen World Cup

Grade 4 math · Rounding, Addition, Subtraction, Multiplication, Division · Reading level grades 3-4

Detective: _____ **Date:** _____

Just before the final whistle, the golden World Cup trophy vanished from its stand at the center of the field. The crowd gasped, the lights flickered, and muddy boot prints led straight to the locker tunnel. Someone fast and sneaky grabbed it, and only smart detective work can track the Pitch Bandit down.

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 Pitch Bandit is _____

Possible suspects

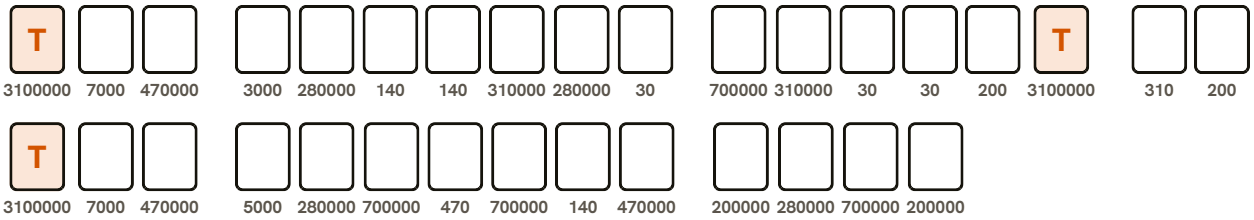
Cross off a row as each clue rules it out. The one left at the end is the culprit.

NAME	POSITION	SIGNATURE MOVE	KICKING FOOT	BOOT COLOR	WEAK SPOT
Yusuf Dane	Defender	the rainbow flick	right footed	neon green boots	slips on muddy grass
Rafa Lindo	Goalkeeper	the rainbow flick	left footed	icy blue boots	slips on muddy grass
Pablo Quill	Winger	the sneaky nutmeg	left footed	icy blue boots	freezes at a loud whistle
Kai Mendez	Midfielder	the bicycle kick	right footed	icy blue boots	slips on muddy grass
Tomas Belo	Winger	the sneaky nutmeg	right footed	neon green boots	slips on muddy grass
Sami Okoro	Midfielder	the rainbow flick	left footed	neon green boots	slips on muddy grass
Dario Penn	Winger	the sneaky nutmeg	left footed	fiery orange boots	loses focus at snack time
Niko Sol	Striker	the bicycle kick	right footed	fiery orange boots	slips on muddy grass
Bruno Tagg	Midfielder	the sneaky nutmeg	right footed	icy blue boots	slips on muddy grass
Nando Reyes	Striker	the sneaky nutmeg	right footed	fiery orange boots	slips on muddy grass
Karim Bolt	Defender	the diving header	left footed	icy blue boots	loses focus at snack time
Andre Pim	Striker	the curling free kick	right footed	icy blue boots	slips on muddy grass
Diego Falla	Midfielder	the diving header	right footed	neon green boots	loses focus at snack time
Juno Fender	Striker	the rainbow flick	right footed	icy blue boots	freezes at a loud whistle
Omar Sika	Winger	the rainbow flick	right footed	icy blue boots	slips on muddy grass
Gus Halloran	Striker	the curling free kick	left footed	fiery orange boots	slips on muddy grass
Vince Aldo	Goalkeeper	the curling free kick	left footed	neon green boots	freezes at a loud whistle
Luca Brava	Defender	the curling free kick	right footed	icy blue boots	slips on muddy grass
Marco Vane	Defender	the rainbow flick	left footed	fiery orange boots	loses focus at snack time
Theo Castel	Goalkeeper	the bicycle kick	left footed	fiery orange boots	freezes at a loud whistle
Felix Roon	Goalkeeper	the diving header	right footed	icy blue boots	loses focus at snack time

CLUE 1 Rounding

> The giant scoreboard was glitching and only showed rounded numbers. Round the score readouts to uncover the bandit's first hint.

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



Round 3,100,473 to the nearest hundred thousand ☐ **T**

Round 313 to the nearest ten ☐ **D**

Round 7,382 to the nearest thousand ☐ **H**

Round 4,959 to the nearest thousand ☐ **B**

Round 150,159 to the nearest hundred thousand ☐ **K**

Round 281,740 to the nearest ten thousand ☐ **I**

Round 30 to the nearest ten ☐ **N**

Round 3,496 to the nearest thousand ☐ **M**

Round 470,736 to the nearest ten thousand ☐ **E**

Round 471 to the nearest ten ☐ **Y**

Round 153 to the nearest hundred ☐ **O**

Round 668,847 to the nearest hundred thousand ☐ **C**

Round 307,071 to the nearest ten thousand ☐ **A**

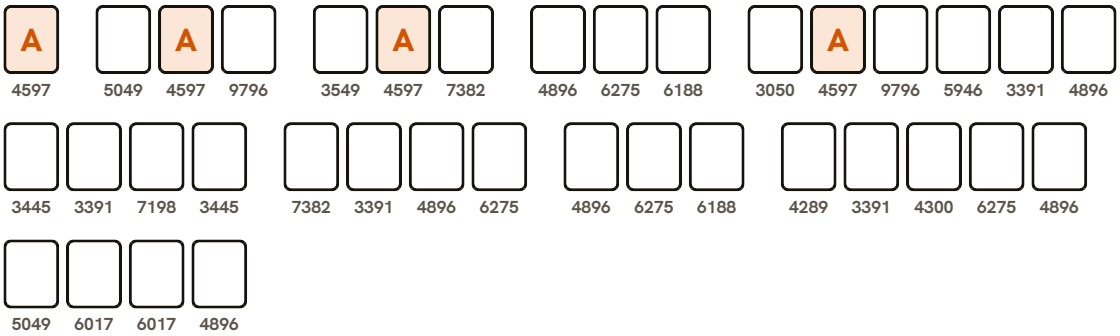
Round 138 to the nearest ten ☐ **L**

Scratch space:

CLUE 2 Addition

> Two ushers counted the muddy boot prints they each found in the tunnel. Add the two piles together to read the next clue.

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



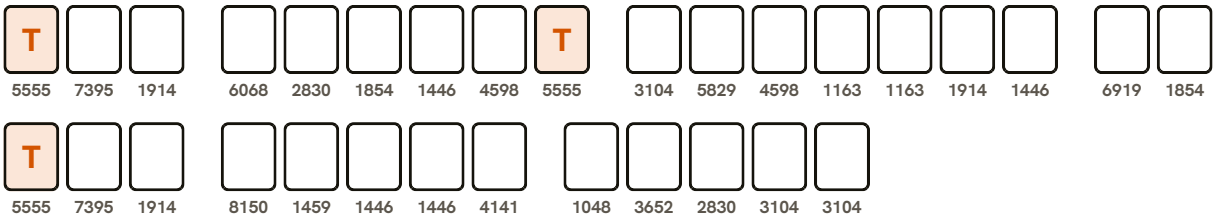
1962 + 2635 = ☐ **A**	1713 + 1337 = ☐ **B**	2744 + 2305 = ☐ **F**
5915 + 3881 = ☐ **N**	2630 + 2266 = ☐ **T**	1522 + 2778 = ☐ **G**
2724 + 3551 = ☐ **H**	3277 + 3921 = ☐ **C**	1972 + 1419 = ☐ **I**
1802 + 1643 = ☐ **K**	1818 + 2471 = ☐ **R**	3145 + 2801 = ☐ **D**
1510 + 2039 = ☐ **S**	5024 + 2358 = ☐ **W**	2171 + 3846 = ☐ **O**
3402 + 2786 = ☐ **E**		

Scratch space:

CLUE 3 Subtraction

> Some fans had already left their seats before the trophy vanished. Subtract the ones who went home to narrow things down.

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



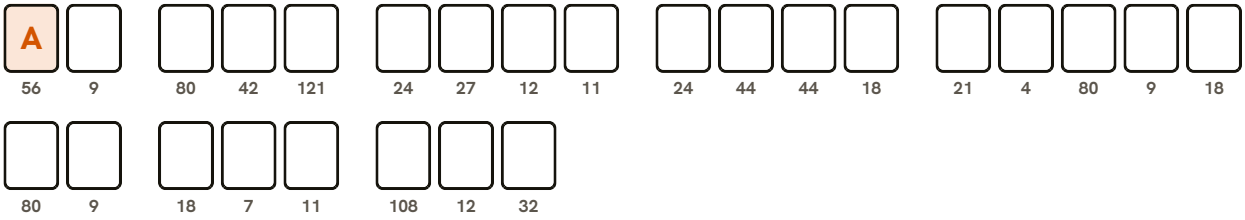
7385 - 1830 = ☐ **T**	5011 - 3963 = ☐ **G**	4159 - 2245 = ☐ **E**
5786 - 2682 = ☐ **S**	6600 - 4746 = ☐ **N**	8965 - 4367 = ☐ **I**
6416 - 587 = ☐ **L**	2431 - 1268 = ☐ **P**	1881 - 435 = ☐ **D**
11360 - 3965 = ☐ **H**	6774 - 3944 = ☐ **A**	11403 - 4484 = ☐ **O**
3408 - 1949 = ☐ **U**	12832 - 4682 = ☐ **M**	8233 - 4092 = ☐ **Y**
5680 - 2028 = ☐ **R**	7493 - 1425 = ☐ **B**	

Scratch space:

CLUE 4 Multiplication facts (1-12)

The empty stadium seats sat in neat, equal rows. Multiply the rows to crack the clue hidden in the stands.

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



7 × 8 = ☐ **A**	7 × 6 = ☐ **C**	7 × 3 = ☐ **P**
1 × 7 = ☐ **H**	9 × 2 = ☐ **T**	11 × 11 = ☐ **Y**
3 × 9 = ☐ **L**	12 × 9 = ☐ **M**	4 × 1 = ☐ **R**
8 × 10 = ☐ **I**	4 × 8 = ☐ **D**	9 × 1 = ☐ **N**
11 × 4 = ☐ **O**	8 × 3 = ☐ **B**	12 × 1 = ☐ **U**
1 × 11 = ☐ **E**		

Scratch space:

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

> The team's orange slices had to be shared evenly among the players. Divide them up fairly to reveal the final clue.

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:

70 ÷ 10 = ☐	72 ÷ 12 = ☐	12 ÷ 12 = ☐
18 ÷ 6 = ☐	60 ÷ 12 = ☐	40 ÷ 4 = ☐
6 ÷ 3 = ☐	144 ÷ 12 = ☐	12 ÷ 3 = ☐
121 ÷ 11 = ☐	32 ÷ 4 = ☐	

Step 2 - cross out the sentence with each answer:

1. The villain sprints down the sideline, then flicks a rainbow over defenders.
2. The villain sprints down the sideline, then scores with a diving header.
3. The villain races through the middle, then pulls off a bicycle kick.
4. The villain races through the middle, then flicks a rainbow over defenders.
5. The villain dives across the goal, then bends a curling free kick.
6. The villain races through the middle, then slips a sneaky nutmeg through the legs.
7. The villain blocks every tackle, then bends a curling free kick.
8. The villain blocks every tackle, then flicks a rainbow over defenders.
9. The villain blasts shots past the keeper, then bends a curling free kick.
10. The villain sprints down the sideline, then slips a sneaky nutmeg through the legs.
11. The villain dives across the goal, then flicks a rainbow over defenders.
12. The villain dives across the goal, then pulls off a bicycle kick.

TEACHER / PARENT

Answer Key

The Case of the Stolen World Cup

Culprit: Andre Pim

Striker · the curling free kick · right footed · icy blue boots · slips on muddy grass

Trail: Start 21 → Clue 1 18 → Clue 2 10 → Clue 3 7 → Clue 4 4 → Clue 5 1

Clue 1 (Rounding): "THE VILLAIN CANNOT DO THE BICYCLE KICK"

Round 3,100,473 to the nearest hundred thousand = 3100000 (T) · Round 313 to the nearest ten = 310 (D) · Round 7,382 to the nearest thousand = 7000 (H) · Round 4,959 to the nearest thousand = 5000 (B) · Round 150,159 to the nearest hundred thousand = 200000 (K) · Round 281,740 to the nearest ten thousand = 280000 (I) · Round 30 to the nearest ten = 30 (N) · Round 3,496 to the nearest thousand = 3000 (V) · Round 470,736 to the nearest ten thousand = 470000 (E) · Round 471 to the nearest ten = 470 (Y) · Round 153 to the nearest hundred = 200 (O) · Round 668,847 to the nearest hundred thousand = 700000 (C) · Round 307,071 to the nearest ten thousand = 310000 (A) · Round 138 to the nearest ten = 140 (L)

Clue 2 (Addition): "A FAN SAW THE BANDIT KICK WITH THE RIGHT FOOT"

1962 + 2635 = 4597 (A) · 1713 + 1337 = 3050 (B) · 2744 + 2305 = 5049 (F) · 5915 + 3881 = 9796 (N) · 2630 + 2266 = 4896 (T) · 1522 + 2778 = 4300 (G) · 2724 + 3551 = 6275 (H) · 3277 + 3921 = 7198 (C) · 1972 + 1419 = 3391 (I) · 1802 + 1643 = 3445 (K) · 1818 + 2471 = 4289 (R) · 3145 + 2801 = 5946 (D) · 1510 + 2039 = 3549 (S) · 5024 + 2358 = 7382 (W) · 2171 + 3846 = 6017 (O) · 3402 + 2786 = 6188 (E)

Clue 3 (Subtraction): "THE BANDIT SLIPPED ON THE MUDDY GRASS"

7385 - 1830 = 5555 (T) · 5011 - 3963 = 1048 (G) · 4159 - 2245 = 1914 (E) · 5786 - 2682 = 3104 (S) · 6600 - 4746 = 1854 (N) · 8965 - 4367 = 4598 (I) · 6416 - 587 = 5829 (L) · 2431 - 1268 = 1163 (P) · 1881 - 435 = 1446 (D) · 11360 - 3965 = 7395 (H) · 6774 - 3944 = 2830 (A) · 11403 - 4484 = 6919 (O) · 3408 - 1949 = 1459 (U) · 12832 - 4682 = 8150 (M) · 8233 - 4092 = 4141 (Y) · 5680 - 2028 = 3652 (R) · 7493 - 1425 = 6068 (B)

Clue 4 (Multiplication facts (1-12)): "AN ICY BLUE BOOT PRINT IN THE MUD"

7 × 8 = 56 (A) · 7 × 6 = 42 (C) · 7 × 3 = 21 (P) · 1 × 7 = 7 (H) · 9 × 2 = 18 (T) · 11 × 11 = 121 (Y) · 3 × 9 = 27 (L) · 12 × 9 = 108 (M) · 4 × 1 = 4 (R) · 8 × 10 = 80 (I) · 4 × 8 = 32 (D) · 9 × 1 = 9 (N) · 11 × 4 = 44 (O) · 8 × 3 = 24 (B) · 12 × 1 = 12 (U) · 1 × 11 = 11 (E)

Clue 5 (Division facts (1-12)): surviving statement is box 9 → Andre Pim

70 ÷ 10 = 7 · 72 ÷ 12 = 6 · 12 ÷ 12 = 1 · 18 ÷ 6 = 3 · 60 ÷ 12 = 5 · 40 ÷ 4 = 10 · 6 ÷ 3 = 2 · 144 ÷ 12 = 12 · 12 ÷ 3 = 4 · 121 ÷ 11 = 11 · 32 ÷ 4 = 8