The Golden Boot Mystery

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

Detective: _____ **Date:** _____

The shiny Golden Boot trophy has vanished from the display case right before the big final match! The Head Coach needs your help to search the stadium and find which soccer star 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 rogue player is _____

Possible suspects

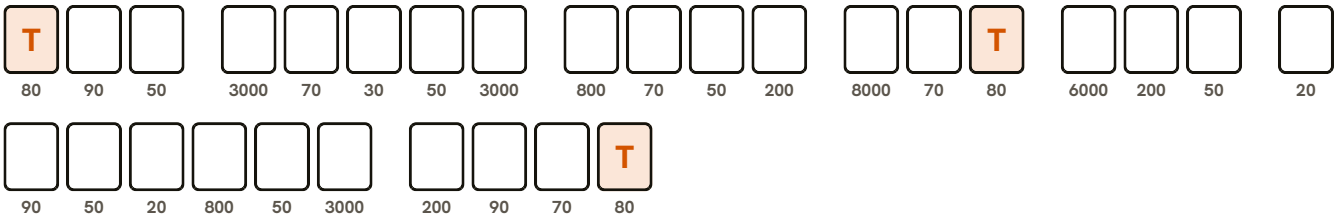
Cross off a row as each clue rules it out. The one left at the end is the culprit.

NAME	LUCKY GEAR	SIGNATURE MOVE	DOMINANT FOOT	LOCKER HAIR	BENCH SNACK
Marta Vieira	gold cleats	bicycle kick	left footed	spiky hair	energy bars
Asisat Oshoala	thermal sleeve	header shot	right footed	spiky hair	orange slices
Son Heung Min	silver shin guards	header shot	left footed	braided hair	sports drinks
Kylian Mbappe	neon goalie gloves	sliding tackle	left footed	braided hair	energy bars
Bukayo Saka	silver shin guards	sliding tackle	left footed	spiky hair	energy bars
Sophia Smith	gold cleats	header shot	left footed	spiky hair	energy bars
Wendie Renard	silver shin guards	bicycle kick	left footed	ponytail hair	energy bars
Sam Kerr	gold cleats	diving save	right footed	ponytail hair	sports drinks
Harry Kane	striped headband	sliding tackle	right footed	ponytail hair	orange slices
Cristiano Ronaldo	thermal sleeve	diving save	right footed	braided hair	sports drinks
Kevin De Bruyne	neon goalie gloves	header shot	left footed	braided hair	sports drinks
Lionel Messi	gold cleats	rainbow flick	left footed	ponytail hair	sports drinks
Trinity Rodman	thermal sleeve	header shot	left footed	braided hair	sports drinks
Lucy Bronze	silver shin guards	rainbow flick	right footed	spiky hair	orange slices
Erling Haaland	striped headband	diving save	left footed	spiky hair	energy bars
Neymar Jr	silver shin guards	sliding tackle	right footed	spiky hair	energy bars
Mohamed Salah	neon goalie gloves	header shot	left footed	ponytail hair	energy bars
Megan Rapinoe	striped headband	bicycle kick	right footed	ponytail hair	energy bars
Luka Modric	silver shin guards	sliding tackle	right footed	ponytail hair	energy bars
Robert Lewandowski	thermal sleeve	bicycle kick	left footed	spiky hair	energy bars
Alex Morgan	thermal sleeve	bicycle kick	left footed	spiky hair	sports drinks

CLUE 1 Rounding

> The big stadium scoreboard is dusty and only shows rounded numbers. We rounded the timer readout to the nearest ten to unlock the first clue.

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



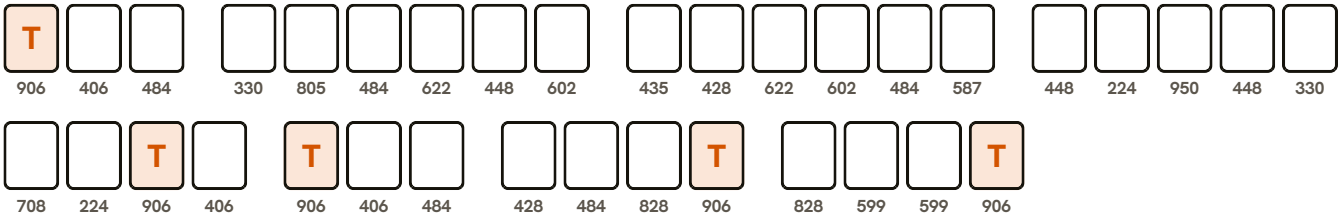
Round 76 to the nearest ten ☐ **T**	Round 6,450 to the nearest thousand ☐ **U**	Round 19 to the nearest ten ☐ **A**
Round 7,803 to the nearest thousand ☐ **N**	Round 2,976 to the nearest thousand ☐ **R**	Round 87 to the nearest ten ☐ **H**
Round 47 to the nearest ten ☐ **E**	Round 26 to the nearest ten ☐ **V**	Round 775 to the nearest hundred ☐ **D**
Round 239 to the nearest hundred ☐ **S**	Round 72 to the nearest ten ☐ **O**	

Scratch space:

CLUE 2 Addition

The junior assistant added up all the practice soccer balls in the bin to find where the suspect ran.

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



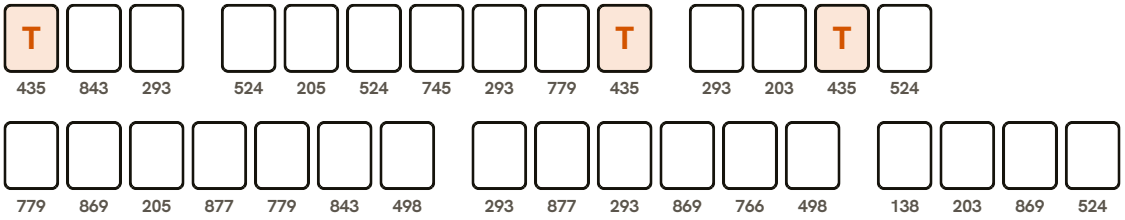
491 + 415 = ☐ T	208 + 394 = ☐ Y	299 + 136 = ☐ P
316 + 306 = ☐ A	145 + 185 = ☐ S	279 + 549 = ☐ F
79 + 145 = ☐ I	134 + 272 = ☐ H	244 + 343 = ☐ R
208 + 240 = ☐ K	173 + 311 = ☐ E	296 + 303 = ☐ O
377 + 331 = ☐ W	150 + 278 = ☐ L	355 + 595 = ☐ C
290 + 515 = ☐ N		

Scratch space:

CLUE 3 Subtraction

The coach checked the clean jersey rack and subtracted the missing shirts to find the next clue.

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



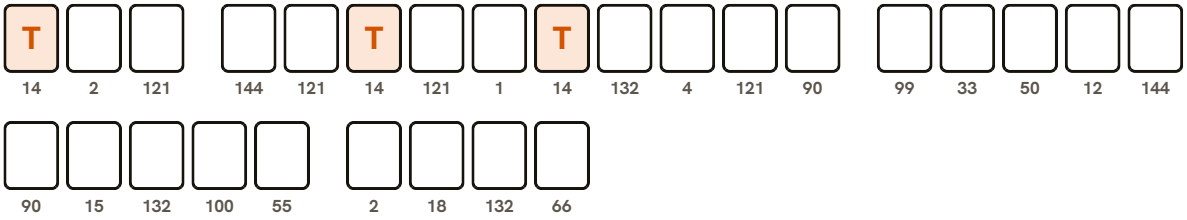
467 - 32 = ☐ T	401 - 198 = ☐ A	664 - 140 = ☐ S
1012 - 143 = ☐ R	974 - 97 = ☐ N	894 - 115 = ☐ C
753 - 255 = ☐ Y	1216 - 373 = ☐ H	789 - 23 = ☐ G
522 - 317 = ☐ U	607 - 314 = ☐ E	810 - 65 = ☐ P
342 - 204 = ☐ B		

Scratch space:

CLUE 4 Multiplication facts (1-12)

> We counted the neat rows of training cones on the grass and multiplied them to locate a dropped note.

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



7 × 2 = ☐ **T**	2 × 1 = ☐ **H**	10 × 5 = ☐ **U**
5 × 3 = ☐ **P**	6 × 3 = ☐ **A**	5 × 11 = ☐ **Y**
12 × 11 = ☐ **I**	10 × 10 = ☐ **K**	6 × 2 = ☐ **N**
1 × 1 = ☐ **C**	9 × 10 = ☐ **S**	11 × 11 = ☐ **E**
11 × 6 = ☐ **R**	9 × 11 = ☐ **F**	1 × 4 = ☐ **V**
12 × 12 = ☐ **D**	3 × 11 = ☐ **O**	

Scratch space:

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

> We split the extra juice boxes equally among the starting lineup, and the leftover boxes pointed us to 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:

10 ÷ 2 = ☐	120 ÷ 10 = ☐	33 ÷ 11 = ☐
4 ÷ 2 = ☐	45 ÷ 5 = ☐	32 ÷ 4 = ☐
12 ÷ 3 = ☐	99 ÷ 9 = ☐	24 ÷ 4 = ☐
70 ÷ 10 = ☐	5 ÷ 5 = ☐	

Step 2 - cross out the sentence with each answer:

1. The villain dashes across the field in gold cleats, then slides on the grass for a sliding tackle.
2. The villain dashes across the field in gold cleats, then leaps sideways for a diving save.
3. The villain blocks the ball with silver shin guards, then slides on the grass for a sliding tackle.
4. The villain nods to the crowd with a striped headband, then scoops the ball with a rainbow flick.
5. The villain stretches a warm arm in a thermal sleeve, then leaps high for a bicycle kick.
6. The villain blocks the ball with silver shin guards, then scores a goal with a header shot.
7. The villain catches the trophy with neon goalie gloves, then scoops the ball with a rainbow flick.
8. The villain nods to the crowd with a striped headband, then slides on the grass for a sliding tackle.
9. The villain stretches a warm arm in a thermal sleeve, then scoops the ball with a rainbow flick.
10. The villain dashes across the field in gold cleats, then leaps high for a bicycle kick.
11. The villain stretches a warm arm in a thermal sleeve, then scores a goal with a header shot.
12. The villain nods to the crowd with a striped headband, then leaps sideways for a diving save.

TEACHER / PARENT

Answer Key

The Golden Boot Mystery

Culprit: Marta Vieira

gold cleats · bicycle kick · left footed · spiky hair · energy bars

Trail: Start 21 → Clue 1 15 → Clue 2 8 → Clue 3 6 → Clue 4 4 → Clue 5 1

Clue 1 (Rounding): "THE ROVER DOES NOT USE A HEADER SHOT"

Round 76 to the nearest ten = 80 (T) · Round 6,450 to the nearest thousand = 6000 (U) · Round 19 to the nearest ten = 20 (A) · Round 7,803 to the nearest thousand = 8000 (N) · Round 2,976 to the nearest thousand = 3000 (R) · Round 87 to the nearest ten = 90 (H) · Round 47 to the nearest ten = 50 (E) · Round 26 to the nearest ten = 30 (V) · Round 775 to the nearest hundred = 800 (D) · Round 239 to the nearest hundred = 200 (S) · Round 72 to the nearest ten = 70 (O)

Clue 2 (Addition): "THE SNEAKY PLAYER KICKS WITH THE LEFT FOOT"

491 + 415 = 906 (T) · 208 + 394 = 602 (Y) · 299 + 136 = 435 (P) · 316 + 306 = 622 (A) · 145 + 185 = 330 (S) · 279 + 549 = 828 (F) · 79 + 145 = 224 (I) · 134 + 272 = 406 (H) · 244 + 343 = 587 (R) · 208 + 240 = 448 (K) · 173 + 311 = 484 (E) · 296 + 303 = 599 (O) · 377 + 331 = 708 (W) · 150 + 278 = 428 (L) · 355 + 595 = 950 (C) · 290 + 515 = 805 (N)

Clue 3 (Subtraction): "THE SUSPECT EATS CRUNCHY ENERGY BARS"

467 - 32 = 435 (T) · 401 - 198 = 203 (A) · 664 - 140 = 524 (S) · 1012 - 143 = 869 (R) · 974 - 97 = 877 (N) · 894 - 115 = 779 (C) · 753 - 255 = 498 (Y) · 1216 - 373 = 843 (H) · 789 - 23 = 766 (G) · 522 - 317 = 205 (U) · 607 - 314 = 293 (E) · 810 - 65 = 745 (P) · 342 - 204 = 138 (B)

Clue 4 (Multiplication facts (1-12)): "THE DETECTIVES FOUND SPIKY HAIR"

7 × 2 = 14 (T) · 2 × 1 = 2 (H) · 10 × 5 = 50 (U) · 5 × 3 = 15 (P) · 6 × 3 = 18 (A) · 5 × 11 = 55 (Y) · 12 × 11 = 132 (I) · 10 × 10 = 100 (K) · 6 × 2 = 12 (N) · 1 × 1 = 1 (C) · 9 × 10 = 90 (S) · 11 × 11 = 121 (E) · 11 × 6 = 66 (R) · 9 × 11 = 99 (F) · 1 × 4 = 4 (V) · 12 × 12 = 144 (D) · 3 × 11 = 33 (O)

Clue 5 (Division facts (1-12)): surviving statement is box 10 → Marta Vieira

10 ÷ 2 = 5 · 120 ÷ 10 = 12 · 33 ÷ 11 = 3 · 4 ÷ 2 = 2 · 45 ÷ 5 = 9 · 32 ÷ 4 = 8 · 12 ÷ 3 = 4 · 99 ÷ 9 = 11 · 24 ÷ 4 = 6 · 70 ÷ 10 = 7 · 5 ÷ 5 = 1