



The Golden Cup Caper

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

Detective: _____ Date: _____

The stadium is packed and the crowd is roaring, but disaster has struck! Right before the final kickoff, someone sneaked into the trophy room and swiped the shining Golden Boot. The Head Referee is panicking and needs a clever detective to track down the culprit before the match ends!

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 the trophy thief 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	LUCKY GEAR	SHOOTING FOOT	HAIR STYLE	BIGGEST DISTRACTION
Christian	Sliding Tackle	Red Captain Band	Left Footed	Curly Afro	Shiny Confetti
Virgil	Diving Save	Neon Gloves	Left Footed	Ponytail	Shiny Confetti
Wendie	Sliding Tackle	Neon Gloves	Left Footed	Curly Afro	Shiny Confetti
Memo	Diving Save	Gold Cleats	Left Footed	Spiky Hair	Shiny Confetti
Harry	Bicycle Kick	Red Captain Band	Left Footed	Spiky Hair	Loud Foghorns
Kevin	Rainbow Flick	Red Captain Band	Left Footed	Curly Afro	Loud Foghorns
Yassine	Diving Save	Striped Socks	Left Footed	Curly Afro	Shiny Confetti
Lucy	Power Header	Striped Socks	Right Footed	Curly Afro	Loud Foghorns
Sonny	Power Header	Gold Cleats	Right Footed	Curly Afro	Shiny Confetti
Marcus	Power Header	Silver Headband	Left Footed	Curly Afro	Shiny Confetti
Kylian	Diving Save	Neon Gloves	Right Footed	Ponytail	Squeaky Whistles
Megan	Power Header	Silver Headband	Left Footed	Curly Afro	Loud Foghorns
Marta	Diving Save	Gold Cleats	Right Footed	Spiky Hair	Squeaky Whistles
Aitana	Power Header	Gold Cleats	Left Footed	Spiky Hair	Shiny Confetti
Erling	Bicycle Kick	Neon Gloves	Left Footed	Spiky Hair	Shiny Confetti
Sam	Power Header	Silver Headband	Left Footed	Ponytail	Shiny Confetti
Bukayo	Sliding Tackle	Gold Cleats	Left Footed	Spiky Hair	Squeaky Whistles
Alisson	Sliding Tackle	Gold Cleats	Left Footed	Curly Afro	Shiny Confetti
Mohamed	Rainbow Flick	Striped Socks	Right Footed	Spiky Hair	Loud Foghorns
Alex	Bicycle Kick	Striped Socks	Right Footed	Curly Afro	Shiny Confetti
Neymar	Power Header	Striped Socks	Left Footed	Ponytail	Loud Foghorns

CLUE 2 Word problems

The stadium scoreboard is glitching and only shows rounded numbers. Round the fan counts to get the next clue.

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

A witness saw the villain was

L									
57	20	54	10	54	36	36	10	20	79

.

Coach found 15 shin guards yesterday and 42 more today. How many shin guards in all? → **L**

Coach lined up 4 rows of 5 team jerseys. How many team jerseys in all? → **E**

Coach found 2 soccer balls yesterday and 77 more today. How many soccer balls in all? → **D**

There were 58 water bottles. 22 were used up. How many water bottles are left? → **O**

Coach lined up 9 rows of 6 soccer balls. How many soccer balls in all? → **F**

Coach found 8 practice cones yesterday and 2 more today. How many practice cones in all? → **T**

Scratch space:

CLUE 3 Addition

Let us count the backup jerseys in the team bin. Add the stacks together to unlock the third clue.

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

T			T						T						T			
492	230	435	492	230	854	435	682	325	492	296	354	354	435	591	492	296		
															T	T		
354	261	443	367	854	374	325	230	854	374	367	382	296	374	682	435	492	492	854

$271 + 221 = \square \rightarrow$ T	$250 + 185 = \square \rightarrow$ E	$250 + 193 = \square \rightarrow$ A
$270 + 584 = \square \rightarrow$ I	$230 + 144 = \square \rightarrow$ N	$214 + 168 = \square \rightarrow$ C
$226 + 365 = \square \rightarrow$ D	$242 + 440 = \square \rightarrow$ F	$192 + 162 = \square \rightarrow$ P
$207 + 89 = \square \rightarrow$ O	$165 + 96 = \square \rightarrow$ L	$217 + 108 = \square \rightarrow$ S
$213 + 154 = \square \rightarrow$ Y	$88 + 142 = \square \rightarrow$ H	

Scratch space:

CLUE 4 Subtraction

Several training cones went missing from the practice pitch. Subtract the lost cones to find the difference for our fourth clue.

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

W																
465	492	739	809	866	653	165	463	286	866	392	677	104	463	739	392	809
272	463	534	392	809	653	517	272	492	831	392	463	800	800			

$512 - 47 = \square \rightarrow$ W	$903 - 250 = \square \rightarrow$ N	$1092 - 292 = \square \rightarrow$ S
$485 - 213 = \square \rightarrow$ H	$592 - 58 = \square \rightarrow$ I	$799 - 60 = \square \rightarrow$ F
$1224 - 393 = \square \rightarrow$ G	$693 - 301 = \square \rightarrow$ R	$884 - 207 = \square \rightarrow$ L
$701 - 238 = \square \rightarrow$ A	$383 - 218 = \square \rightarrow$ D	$527 - 241 = \square \rightarrow$ C
$499 - 7 = \square \rightarrow$ E	$901 - 35 = \square \rightarrow$ U	$105 - 1 = \square \rightarrow$ Y
$896 - 87 = \square \rightarrow$ O	$715 - 198 = \square \rightarrow$ T	

Scratch space:

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

The referee wants to split the remaining players into equal scrimmage groups. Divide them up 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:

$36 \div 4 = \square$

$4 \div 2 = \square$

$60 \div 5 = \square$

$66 \div 11 = \square$

$24 \div 3 = \square$

$4 \div 4 = \square$

$25 \div 5 = \square$

$121 \div 11 = \square$

$24 \div 6 = \square$

$7 \div 1 = \square$

$110 \div 11 = \square$

Step 2 - cross out the sentence with each answer:

1. The villain slides in for a tough tackle, then struts down the field in striped socks.
2. The villain scores with a power header, then shakes their silver headband.
3. The villain slides in for a tough tackle, then runs fast in gold cleats.
4. The villain does a flashy bicycle kick, then struts down the field in striped socks.
5. The villain leaps with a rainbow flick, then shakes their silver headband.
6. The villain leaps across for a diving save, then shows off a red captain band.
7. The villain does a flashy bicycle kick, then runs fast in gold cleats.
8. The villain scores with a power header, then runs fast in gold cleats.
9. The villain slides in for a tough tackle, then catches the ball with neon gloves.
10. The villain leaps with a rainbow flick, then catches the ball with neon gloves.
11. The villain scores with a power header, then shows off a red captain band.
12. The villain leaps across for a diving save, then struts down the field in striped socks.

Answer Key

The Golden Cup Caper

Culprit: Alisson

Sliding Tackle · Gold Cleats · Left Footed · Curly Afro · Shiny Confetti

Trail: Start 21 → Clue 1 18 → Clue 2 12 → Clue 3 9 → Clue 4 4 → Clue 5 1

Clue 1 (Rounding): "THE THIEF DOES NOT WEAR A RED CAPTAIN BAND"

Round 70 to the nearest ten = 70 (T) · Round 1,919 to the nearest thousand = 2000 (A) · Round 633 to the nearest hundred = 600 (I) · Round 39 to the nearest ten = 40 (R) · Round 4,185 to the nearest thousand = 4000 (H) · Round 2,526 to the nearest thousand = 3000 (C) · Round 6,417 to the nearest thousand = 6000 (W) · Round 875 to the nearest hundred = 900 (N) · Round 57 to the nearest ten = 60 (S) · Round 405 to the nearest hundred = 400 (B) · Round 175 to the nearest hundred = 200 (F) · Round 53 to the nearest ten = 50 (P) · Round 460 to the nearest hundred = 500 (O) · Round 831 to the nearest hundred = 800 (D) · Round 94 to the nearest ten = 90 (E)

Clue 2 (Word problems): "LEFT FOOTED"

Coach found 15 shin guards yesterday and 42 more today. How many shin guards in all? = 57 (L) · Coach lined up 4 rows of 5 team jerseys. How many team jerseys in all? = 20 (E) · Coach found 2 soccer balls yesterday and 77 more today. How many soccer balls in all? = 79 (D) · There were 58 water bottles. 22 were used up. How many water bottles are left? = 36 (O) · Coach lined up 9 rows of 6 soccer balls. How many soccer balls in all? = 54 (F) · Coach found 8 practice cones yesterday and 2 more today. How many practice cones in all? = 10 (T)

Clue 3 (Addition): "THE THIEF STOPPED TO PLAY IN SHINY CONFETTI"

$271 + 221 = 492$ (T) · $250 + 185 = 435$ (E) · $250 + 193 = 443$ (A) · $270 + 584 = 854$ (I) · $230 + 144 = 374$ (N) · $214 + 168 = 382$ (C) · $226 + 365 = 591$ (D) · $242 + 440 = 682$ (F) · $192 + 162 = 354$ (P) · $207 + 89 = 296$ (O) · $165 + 96 = 261$ (L) · $217 + 108 = 325$ (S) · $213 + 154 = 367$ (Y) · $88 + 142 = 230$ (H)

Clue 4 (Subtraction): "WE FOUND A CURLY AFRO HAIR ON THE GRASS"

$512 - 47 = 465$ (W) · $903 - 250 = 653$ (N) · $1092 - 292 = 800$ (S) · $485 - 213 = 272$ (H) · $592 - 58 = 534$ (I) · $799 - 60 = 739$ (F) · $1224 - 393 = 831$ (G) · $693 - 301 = 392$ (R) · $884 - 207 = 677$ (L) · $701 - 238 = 463$ (A) · $383 - 218 = 165$ (D) · $527 - 241 = 286$ (C) · $499 - 7 = 492$ (E) · $901 - 35 = 866$ (U) · $105 - 1 = 104$ (Y) · $896 - 87 = 809$ (O) · $715 - 198 = 517$ (T)

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

$36 \div 4 = 9$ · $4 \div 2 = 2$ · $60 \div 5 = 12$ · $66 \div 11 = 6$ · $24 \div 3 = 8$ · $4 \div 4 = 1$ · $25 \div 5 = 5$ · $121 \div 11 = 11$ · $24 \div 6 = 4$ · $7 \div 1 = 7$ · $110 \div 11 = 10$