The Missing Championship Trophy

Grade 8 math · Addition, Word problems, Fractions of a number, Subtraction · Reading level grades 7-9

Detective: _____ **Date:** _____

Just hours before the championship game, someone broke into the team vault and stole the golden trophy! The Court Phantom left sneaker scuffs all over the floor. Head Coach Miller needs your detective skills to find out which league superstar pulled off this heist before the tip-off buzzer sounds.

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 Court Phantom is _____

Possible suspects

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

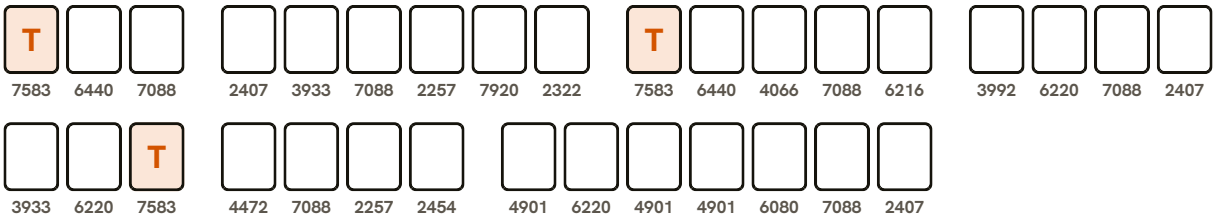
NAME	SIGNATURE MOVE	LUCKY GEAR	SHOOTING HAND	HEADBAND COLOR	DEFENSIVE FOIL
Kevin Durant	Slam Dunk	Silver Whistle	Left-Handed Shooter	Midnight Blue Headband	Double Team Defense
Kyrie Irving	Fadeaway Jumper	Silver Whistle	Left-Handed Shooter	Neon Orange Headband	Screaming Crowd Noise
Kawhi Leonard	Crossover Dribble	Shatterproof Goggles	Right-Handed Shooter	Midnight Blue Headband	Screaming Crowd Noise
Nikola Jokic	Step-Back Three	Weighted Wristbands	Right-Handed Shooter	Midnight Blue Headband	Full Court Press
Devin Booker	Step-Back Three	Glowing Finger Tape	Right-Handed Shooter	Bright Crimson Headband	Full Court Press
Ja Morant	Step-Back Three	Squeaky Golden Sneakers	Left-Handed Shooter	Midnight Blue Headband	Full Court Press
Zion Williamson	Step-Back Three	Weighted Wristbands	Left-Handed Shooter	Neon Orange Headband	Double Team Defense
Chris Paul	Step-Back Three	Weighted Wristbands	Right-Handed Shooter	Midnight Blue Headband	Double Team Defense
Jimmy Butler	Fadeaway Jumper	Squeaky Golden Sneakers	Left-Handed Shooter	Midnight Blue Headband	Full Court Press
Stephen Curry	Fadeaway Jumper	Glowing Finger Tape	Right-Handed Shooter	Midnight Blue Headband	Full Court Press
Klay Thompson	Slam Dunk	Glowing Finger Tape	Right-Handed Shooter	Midnight Blue Headband	Full Court Press
Anthony Davis	Crossover Dribble	Squeaky Golden Sneakers	Left-Handed Shooter	Midnight Blue Headband	Double Team Defense
Luka Doncic	Crossover Dribble	Glowing Finger Tape	Left-Handed Shooter	Neon Orange Headband	Double Team Defense
Russell Westbrook	Step-Back Three	Silver Whistle	Right-Handed Shooter	Neon Orange Headband	Screaming Crowd Noise
Paul George	Fadeaway Jumper	Weighted Wristbands	Right-Handed Shooter	Midnight Blue Headband	Screaming Crowd Noise
Joel Embiid	Step-Back Three	Silver Whistle	Left-Handed Shooter	Neon Orange Headband	Full Court Press
DeMar DeRozan	Step-Back Three	Squeaky Golden Sneakers	Left-Handed Shooter	Neon Orange Headband	Full Court Press
Trae Young	No-Look Pass	Shatterproof Goggles	Right-Handed Shooter	Midnight Blue Headband	Full Court Press
James Harden	Crossover Dribble	Glowing Finger Tape	Right-Handed Shooter	Bright Crimson Headband	Screaming Crowd Noise
LeBron James	Crossover Dribble	Shatterproof Goggles	Right-Handed Shooter	Bright Crimson Headband	Screaming Crowd Noise
Giannis Antetokounmpo	No-Look Pass	Glowing Finger Tape	Right-Handed Shooter	Midnight Blue Headband	Full Court Press

make your own at mathmystery.app

CLUE 1 Addition

> Coach Miller gathers all the spare practice gear from the locker room benches. Add up the total number of items to help him organize the search party.

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



5118 + 2465 = ☐ → T

1439 + 818 = ☐ → A

3639 + 2577 = ☐ → F

2618 + 5302 = ☐ → K

2335 + 2137 = ☐ → W

2313 + 2588 = ☐ → G

1248 + 1206 = ☐ → R

1306 + 1101 = ☐ → S

3513 + 2567 = ☐ → L

1518 + 804 = ☐ → Y

2187 + 1805 = ☐ → D

2204 + 4236 = ☐ → H

4793 + 2295 = ☐ → E

1258 + 2808 = ☐ → I

2183 + 1750 = ☐ → N

2782 + 3438 = ☐ → O

Scratch space:

CLUE 2 Word problems

> We find a suspicious notebook filled with training schedules and strange route coordinates. Solve this math puzzle to crack the code and unlock the first major clue.

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

A witness saw the villain was

R								D	E	D	S		O	O		E	R
101	38	12	51	39	51	68	79					51			39		101

.

Coach Miller found 96 whistles yesterday and 5 more today. How many whistles in all?

Answer: ☐ → **R**

Coach Miller lined up 6 rows of 2 sneakers. How many sneakers in all?

Answer: ☐ → **G**

Coach Miller found 41 water bottles yesterday and 27 more today. How many water bottles in all?

Answer: ☐ → **A**

There were 60 water bottles. 22 were used up. How many water bottles are left?

Answer: ☐ → **I**

Coach Miller found 39 whistles yesterday and 12 more today. How many whistles in all?

Answer: ☐ → **H**

There were 87 whistles. 8 were used up. How many whistles are left?

Answer: ☐ → **N**

There were 49 gym bags. 10 were used up. How many gym bags are left?

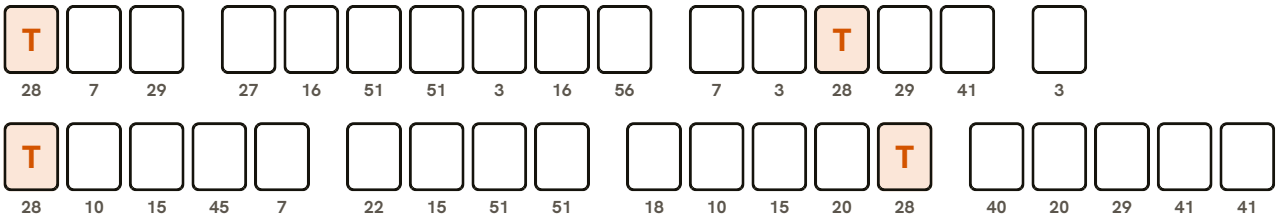
Answer: ☐ → **T**

Scratch space:

CLUE 3 Fractions of a number

> The suspect was seen running across a specific portion of the three-point line. Calculate the exact fraction of the court length to pinpoint where they dropped a clue.

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



1/4 of 112 = ☐ → T

2/4 of 44 = ☐ → F

6/10 of 75 = ☐ → G

2/8 of 80 = ☐ → R

1/5 of 50 = ☐ → O

5/10 of 36 = ☐ → C

2/4 of 58 = ☐ → E

3/10 of 170 = ☐ → L

2/6 of 123 = ☐ → S

6/8 of 20 = ☐ → U

3/6 of 6 = ☐ → A

2/8 of 64 = ☐ → I

1/8 of 56 = ☐ → H

1/6 of 162 = ☐ → V

2/3 of 84 = ☐ → N

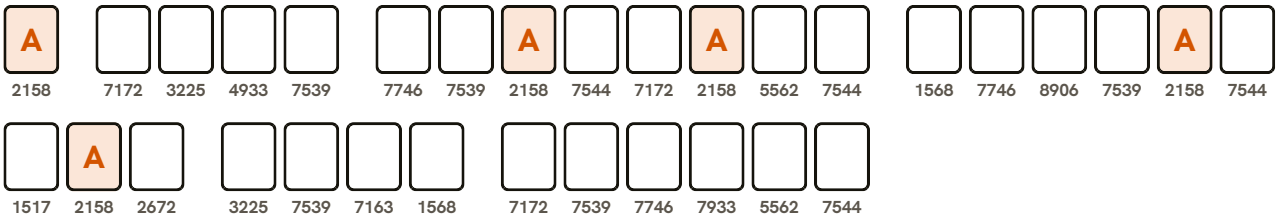
4/5 of 50 = ☐ → P

Scratch space:

CLUE 4 Subtraction

A stack of scrimmage jerseys was scattered across the scorer's table. Subtract the stolen jerseys from the inventory to find the secret clue hidden underneath.

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



4719 - 2561 = ☐ → **A**

12963 - 4057 = ☐ → **R**

9767 - 1834 = ☐ → **I**

4806 - 3289 = ☐ → **W**

7205 - 33 = ☐ → **B**

1811 - 243 = ☐ → **T**

7260 - 97 = ☐ → **F**

8208 - 3275 = ☐ → **U**

7134 - 1572 = ☐ → **N**

9413 - 1667 = ☐ → **H**

9553 - 2014 = ☐ → **E**

7896 - 352 = ☐ → **D**

2743 - 71 = ☐ → **S**

7734 - 4509 = ☐ → **L**

Scratch space:

CLUE 5 Fractions of a number - the last clue

> A broken crate of sports drinks contains only a fraction of its original bottles. Work out the fraction of the remaining bottles to reveal the final piece of evidence.

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:

4/10 of 30 = ☐	3/4 of 12 = ☐	1/8 of 16 = ☐	2/10 of 40 = ☐
1/10 of 40 = ☐	3/6 of 20 = ☐	1/4 of 4 = ☐	1/10 of 110 = ☐
4/8 of 6 = ☐	1/2 of 14 = ☐	2/6 of 15 = ☐	

Step 2 - cross out the sentence with each answer:

1. The villain fades away with a smooth jumper to vanish, then drops a heavy weighted wristband.
2. The villain fades away with a smooth jumper to vanish, then leaves glowing finger tape on the net.
3. The villain fades away with a smooth jumper to vanish, then blows a sharp silver whistle to confuse.
4. The villain breaks ankles with a quick crossover dribble, then drops a heavy weighted wristband.
5. The villain breaks ankles with a quick crossover dribble, then leaves a trail of squeaky golden shoe prints.
6. The villain sinks a deep step-back three to escape, then drops a heavy weighted wristband.
7. The villain sinks a deep step-back three to escape, then blows a sharp silver whistle to confuse.
8. The villain throws a blinding no-look pass to distract, then drops a heavy weighted wristband.
9. The villain throws a blinding no-look pass to distract, then leaves glowing finger tape on the net.
10. The villain throws a blinding no-look pass to distract, then leaves a trail of squeaky golden shoe prints.
11. The villain breaks ankles with a quick crossover dribble, then scuffs the floor with shatterproof goggles.
12. The villain rocks the rim with a powerful slam dunk, then leaves glowing finger tape on the net.

make your own at mathmystery.app

TEACHER / PARENT

Answer Key

The Missing Championship Trophy

Culprit: Nikola Jokic

Step-Back Three · Weighted Wristbands · Right-Handed Shooter · Midnight Blue Headband · Full Court Press

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

Clue 1 (Addition): "THE SNEAKY THIEF DOES NOT WEAR GOGGLES"

5118 + 2465 = 7583 (T) · 1439 + 818 = 2257 (A) · 3639 + 2577 = 6216 (F) · 2618 + 5302 = 7920 (K) · 2335 + 2137 = 4472 (W) · 2313 + 2588 = 4901 (G) · 1248 + 1206 = 2454 (R) · 1306 + 1101 = 2407 (S) · 3513 + 2567 = 6080 (L) · 1518 + 804 = 2322 (Y) · 2187 + 1805 = 3992 (D) · 2204 + 4236 = 6440 (H) · 4793 + 2295 = 7088 (E) · 1258 + 2808 = 4066 (I) · 2183 + 1750 = 3933 (N) · 2782 + 3438 = 6220 (O)

Clue 2 (Word problems): "RIGHT HANDED SHOOTER"

Coach Miller found 96 whistles yesterday and 5 more today. How many whistles in all? = 101 (R) · Coach Miller lined up 6 rows of 2 sneakers. How many sneakers in all? = 12 (G) · Coach Miller found 41 water bottles yesterday and 27 more today. How many water bottles in all? = 68 (A) · There were 60 water bottles. 22 were used up. How many water bottles are left? = 38 (I) · Coach Miller found 39 whistles yesterday and 12 more today. How many whistles in all? = 51 (H) · There were 87 whistles. 8 were used up. How many whistles are left? = 79 (N) · There were 49 gym bags. 10 were used up. How many gym bags are left? = 39 (T)

Clue 3 (Fractions of a number): "THE VILLAIN HATES A TOUGH FULL COURT PRESS"

1/4 of 112 = 28 (T) · 2/4 of 44 = 22 (F) · 6/10 of 75 = 45 (G) · 2/8 of 80 = 20 (R) · 1/5 of 50 = 10 (O) · 5/10 of 36 = 18 (C) · 2/4 of 58 = 29 (E) · 3/10 of 170 = 51 (L) · 2/6 of 123 = 41 (S) · 6/8 of 20 = 15 (U) · 3/6 of 6 = 3 (A) · 2/8 of 64 = 16 (I) · 1/8 of 56 = 7 (H) · 1/6 of 162 = 27 (V) · 2/3 of 84 = 56 (N) · 4/5 of 50 = 40 (P)

Clue 4 (Subtraction): "A BLUE HEADBAND THREAD WAS LEFT BEHIND"

4719 - 2561 = 2158 (A) · 12963 - 4057 = 8906 (R) · 9767 - 1834 = 7933 (I) · 4806 - 3289 = 1517 (W) · 7205 - 33 = 7172 (B) · 1811 - 243 = 1568 (T) · 7260 - 97 = 7163 (F) · 8208 - 3275 = 4933 (U) · 7134 - 1572 = 5562 (N) · 9413 - 1667 = 7746 (H) · 9553 - 2014 = 7539 (E) · 7896 - 352 = 7544 (D) · 2743 - 71 = 2672 (S) · 7734 - 4509 = 3225 (L)

Clue 5 (Fractions of a number): surviving statement is box 6 → Nikola Jokic

4/10 of 30 = 12 · 3/4 of 12 = 9 · 1/8 of 16 = 2 · 2/10 of 40 = 8 · 1/10 of 40 = 4 · 3/6 of 20 = 10 · 1/4 of 4 = 1 · 1/10 of 110 = 11 · 4/8 of 6 = 3 · 1/2 of 14 = 7 · 2/6 of 15 = 5