Overview of Item Samplers

Item samplers are one type of student resource provided to help students and educators prepare for test administration. While standardized tests are familiar to almost all students, each assessment has its own layout and ways students interact with it. The item samplers should be used to familiarize students and educators with how the content is assessed by providing examples of the format and item types students could encounter on the MCA.

Other Resources

While this Teacher Guide provides detailed information about the item samplers, the student tutorial is the resource that should be used to familiarize students and educators with the general functionality of the online test, including navigation, tools, and examples of all item types.

For further information about the student tutorial and using student resources, refer to the Purposes of Student Resources on the Item Samplers page of PearsonAccess Next (PearsonAccess Next > Preparing for Testing > Item Samplers). Please contact mde.testing@state.mn.us for any questions about the MCA or resources for testing.

Contents of this Teacher Guide

The Teacher Guides provide supplementary information for the items in the online item samplers, including:

- An answer key for the online item samplers*
- Item images
- Images of correct answers for technology-enhanced items or items highlighting special functionality
- Rationales for correct and incorrect answer options
- Alignment to the benchmarks from the test specifications
- Cognitive complexity (indicated as Depth of Knowledge or DOK) from the test specifications
- Calculator designation (CL = calculator allowed; NC = no calculator)
- Notes on grade expectations and/or item type information included for some items

For detailed information on benchmarks and cognitive complexity levels, see the test specifications on the MDE website (Districts, Schools and Educators > Statewide Testing > Test Specifications).

*The answer key for paper item samplers (12-point, 18-point, 24-point, and braille test books) is included on the last page of this Teacher Guide. Some items on the paper item samplers appear in the online item sampler and the answer key includes information on where corresponding item information can be found in this guide.

Student Responses

Upon completion of the online item samplers, a report is displayed, which provides student responses for some item types. This report can be printed for use in conjunction with the information in this Teacher’s Guide on how the student responded to those items. The overall score on the report is not a predictor of performance on the MCA; it is simply a total of correct responses. Note: student responses for multiple-choice and multiple-response items will display the student’s response followed by an underscore and additional text (e.g., A_A). Please ignore the information after the underscore.
# Grade 11 Mathematics MCA Item Sampler
## Online Answer Key

### Section 1
15 Questions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item #</th>
<th>Correct Answer</th>
<th>Item Type</th>
<th>Benchmark</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>MC</td>
<td>9.2.4.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>MC</td>
<td>9.2.1.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>MC</td>
<td>9.2.3.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>MC</td>
<td>9.2.1.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>MC</td>
<td>9.2.1.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>MC</td>
<td>9.2.1.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>MC</td>
<td>9.2.2.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>TE</td>
<td>9.2.2.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>MC</td>
<td>9.2.3.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>MC</td>
<td>9.2.3.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>MC</td>
<td>9.2.4.2</td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>TE</td>
<td>9.4.3.9</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>MC</td>
<td>9.2.4.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>MC</td>
<td>9.3.1.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Section 2
16 Questions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item #</th>
<th>Correct Answer</th>
<th>Item Type</th>
<th>Benchmark</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>MC</td>
<td>9.3.4.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>MC</td>
<td>9.3.3.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>TE</td>
<td>9.3.3.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>MC</td>
<td>9.3.3.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>TE</td>
<td>9.3.3.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>MC</td>
<td>9.3.4.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>TE</td>
<td>9.3.2.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>MC</td>
<td>9.3.4.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>TE</td>
<td>9.4.3.1</td>
</tr>
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<td>10</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>MC</td>
<td>9.4.3.3</td>
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<td>N/A</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>TE</td>
<td>9.2.4.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>MC*</td>
<td>9.4.2.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*This item demonstrates the straight edge tool that will be available for select items on the MCA in grades 8 and 11.*
Section 1

Question 1

The population of a type of bacteria doubles every 3.5 hours. Which expression is a reasonable approximation of how many bacteria there will be in 20 hours for an initial population, $P$, of bacteria?

- A. $P$
- B. $2P$
- C. $50P$
- D. $64P$

Benchmark: 9.2.4.8
Assess the reasonableness of a solution in its given context and compare the solution to appropriate graphical or numerical estimates; interpret a solution in the original context.

Item Specifications
- Vocabulary allowed in items: vocabulary given at previous grades

DOK: 2
Answer: C

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Chose initial population from problem.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Did not include exponent to account for number of doubling periods.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Correct. $P(2)^{20/3.5} \approx 52.5P$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>Approximated $20/3.5$ as about 5, then found $P(2)^5 = 64P$.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes on grade expectations: The number of 3.5-hour periods in 20 hours is about 5.714. So the initial amount, $P$, will double 5.714 times, which makes the multiplier for $P$ about 50 because $(2^{5.714} \approx 52.5)$. Student may estimate $2^{5.714}$ by choosing the answer option with a coefficient between 25 and 64 (or a number between 32 and 64).

Or student may use doubling-time formula. Doubling-time formula: $A(t) = P(2)^{t/d}$, where $A =$ amount after $t$ units of time, $P =$ initial amount, $d =$ doubling time of a quantity, and $t =$ number of years.
Question 2

The graph of $y = f(x)$ is shown.

What is a value of $x$ for which $f(x) = 4$?

- A. 1
- B. 1.5
- C. 4
- D. 5

Benchmark: 9.2.1.1
Understand the definition of a function. Use functional notation and evaluate a function at a given point in its domain.

For example: If $f(x) = \frac{1}{x^2 - 3}$ find $f(-4)$.

Item Specifications
- Vocabulary allowed in items: relation, domain, range and vocabulary given at previous grades

DOK: 2
Answer: D

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<table>
<thead>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Found that graph is one unit from y-axis at $f(x) = 4$; $(-1, 4)$ is on graph.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Mixed up $x$ and $f(x)$; $(4, 1.5)$ is on graph.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Used 4 from question.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>Correct. $(5, 4)$ is on the graph.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Question 3

How many solutions does \( x - 2 = \sqrt{x} \) have?

A. 0  
B. 1  
C. 2  
D. 4

Benchmark: 9.2.3.7
Justify steps in generating equivalent expressions by identifying the properties used. Use substitution to check the equality of expressions for some particular values of the variables; recognize that checking with substitution does not guarantee equality of expressions for all values of the variables.

Item Specifications
- Vocabulary allowed in items: vocabulary given at previous grades

DOK: 2
Answer: B

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>May have concluded that both solutions are extraneous. Or may have used guess-and-check and missed the solution of ( x = 4 ).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Correct. Solving results in 2 solutions, ( x = 1 ) and ( x = 4 ), but ( x = 1 ) is extraneous because, when substituted into the equation, ( 1 - 2 = \sqrt{1} ) simplifies to ( -1 = 1 ) which is not a true statement.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Found two solutions: 1 and 4. Did not recognize that one of the solutions is extraneous.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>Solved and included the opposites of the solutions: ( -4, -1, 1, 4 ) for a total of 4 solutions.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes on grade expectations: Student should know that extraneous means an apparent solution of a simplified version of an equation that does not satisfy the original equation. One approach is to solve directly, then check for extraneous solutions.

\[
x - 2 = \sqrt{x} \\
(x - 2)^2 = (\sqrt{x})^2 \\
x^2 - 4x + 4 = x \\
x^2 - 5x + 4 = 0 \\
(x - 4)(x - 1) = 0 \\
x = 4, x = 1
\]
Check for extraneous solutions by substituting into the original equation. Try $x = 4$.

$4 - 2 = \sqrt{4}$

$2 = 2$

This is true, so $x = 4$ is a solution.

Try $x = 1$.

$1 - 2 = \sqrt{1}$

$-1 = 1$

This is not true, so $x = 1$ is extraneous. Therefore, there is only 1 solution to this equation.

Another approach is to guess and check to find the solutions. Students should find that $x = 4$ is the only solution that works, so there is exactly 1 solution to the equation.
**Question 4**

For which equation is $y$ a function of $x$?

- A. $y = \frac{5}{x-1}$
- B. $|y| = x - 8$
- C. $y^2 = x - 2$
- D. $y^2 = 4 - x^2$

**Benchmark: 9.2.1.2**

Distinguish between functions and other relations defined symbolically, graphically or in tabular form.

**Item Specifications**

- Vocabulary allowed in items: relation, domain, range and vocabulary given at previous grades

**DOK: 1**

Answer: A

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<table>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Correct. The graph passes the vertical line test (each $x$-value has only 1 $y$-value).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>The graph does not pass the vertical line test. For all $x$-values greater than 8, there is more than 1 $y$-value.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>The graph does not pass the vertical line test. For all $x$-values greater than 2, there is more than 1 $y$-value.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>The graph does not pass the vertical line test. For $x$-values between −2 and 2, there is more than 1 $y$-value.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notes on grade expectations:** Student should know that a function has exactly 1 $y$-value for every $x$-value. Graphs can be checked using the vertical line test. If a vertical line intersects more than 1 point on the graph, then the relation is not a function.
Question 5

What is the domain of \( f(x) = \frac{x}{2x^2 - 5x - 3} \)?

- A. \( \{x | -\infty < x < \infty\} \)
- B. \( \{x | x \neq 0\} \)
- C. \( \{x | x \neq -\frac{1}{2}, x \neq 3\} \)
- D. \( \{x | x \neq -3, x \neq \frac{1}{2}\} \)

**Benchmark: 9.2.1.3**
Find the domain of a function defined symbolically, graphically or in a real-world context.

*For example:* The formula \( f(x) = \pi x^2 \) can represent a function whose domain is all real numbers, but in the context of the area of a circle, the domain would be restricted to positive \( x \).

**Item Specifications**
* Vocabulary allowed in items: relation, domain, range and vocabulary given at previous grades

DOK: 2

Answer: C

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Did not find values for which the relation is undefined (denominator of zero).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>May have thought the value of the variable, ( x ), in the denominator could not be 0.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Correct. ( x \neq -\frac{1}{2}, \ x \neq 3 ).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>Mixed up positive/negative signs.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes on grade expectations: Factor the denominator to see what values of \( x \) make the relation undefined.

\[
f(x) = \frac{x}{(2x + 1)(x - 3)}
\]

Solving for \( 2x + 1 = 0 \) results in \( x = -\frac{1}{2} \). Solving for \( x - 3 = 0 \) results in \( x = 3 \).

If \( x = -\frac{1}{2} \) or 3 the denominator will be 0, therefore \( x \) is undefined for \( x = -\frac{1}{2} \) and 3.
Question 6

Benchmark: 9.2.1.8
Make qualitative statements about the rate of change of a function, based on its graph or table of values.

For example: The function $f(x) = 3^x$ increases for all $x$, but it increases faster when $x > 2$ than it does when $x < 2$.

Item Specifications
• Vocabulary allowed in items: vocabulary given at previous grades

DOK: 2
Answer: B

A | A constant rate of change is indicated by a horizontal line.
B | Correct. From $-3$ to $0$, the slope of the line gets flatter (less steep).
C | Used the portion of the graph from 0 to 3; the slope of the line gets steeper.
D | Used the portion of the graph from 0 to 3; downward slope.

Notes on grade expectations: From previous grades, the student should know that the rate of change is the same as slope, or rise/run.
Question 7

Emma takes a job with a starting salary of $42,000. Her salary increases by 4% at the beginning of each year. What will be Emma’s salary, to the nearest thousand dollars, at the beginning of year 10?

A. $57,000
B. $59,000
C. $60,000
D. $62,000

Benchmark: 9.2.2.5
Recognize and solve problems that can be modeled using finite geometric sequences and series, such as home mortgage and other compound interest examples. Know how to use spreadsheets and calculators to explore geometric sequences and series in various contexts.

Item Specifications
• Vocabulary allowed in items: vocabulary given at previous grades

DOK: 2
Answer: C

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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Used 8 instead of 9 for exponent; $42,000(1.04)^8 = 57,480$.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Calculated 59,779, then rounded down to 59,000 instead of rounding up to nearest thousand.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Correct. $42,000(1.04)^9 = 59,779$; used 9 because it is 10 years after year 0.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>Used 10 instead of 9 for exponent; $42,000(1.04)^{10} = 62,170$. This would be 10 years after year 1, but 11 years after year 0.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes on grade expectations: Student may use the exponential growth model, 

$$A = P(1 + r)^t,$$

where $A$ = amount after $t$ units of time, $P$ = initial amount, $r$ = rate of growth or decay, and $t$ = number of units of time. This formula is not on the grade 11 formula sheet, but it is given in the problem when required on the MCA test. Students may also solve this problem by multiplying 42,000 by 1.04 nine times.
Benchmark: 9.2.2.1
Represent and solve problems in various contexts using linear and quadratic functions. For example: Write a function that represents the area of a rectangular garden that can be surrounded with 32 feet of fencing, and use the function to determine the possible dimensions of such a garden if the area must be at least 50 square feet.

**Item Specifications**

- Vocabulary allowed in items: quadratic and vocabulary given at previous grades

DOK: 2

Answer:

This is a technology-enhanced item. The correct answer is shown. A student must correctly place the relationships into the boxes in order to receive 1 point.
Notes on grade expectations:

- “The total amount of money earned for a job that pays $20 per hour.” The constant rate indicates a linear relationship. The equation would be $y = 20x$.
- “The height of a ball thrown into the air over 5 seconds.” The heights of things that are falling or thrown can be found using: $h = \left(-\frac{1}{2}\right)gt^2 + vt + h0$. The squared variable indicates a quadratic relationship.
- “The volume of a room with length $2x + 2$, width 3, and height $x$” can be modeled using $(2x + 2)(3)(x)$ which simplifies to $6x^2 + 6x$. The squared variable indicates a quadratic relationship.
Question 9

\[
\begin{array}{c}
\text{Divide.} \\
\left(2x^3 + 9x^2 - 11x - 24\right) \div (x - 2)
\end{array}
\]

What is the remainder?

- A. 0
- B. 2
- C. 6
- D. 18

Benchmark: 9.2.3.2
Add, subtract and multiply polynomials; divide a polynomial by a polynomial of equal or lower degree.

Item Specifications
- Vocabulary allowed in items: polynomial, degree of a polynomial and vocabulary given at previous grades

DOK: 2
Answer: C

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Divided incorrectly.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Divided incorrectly.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Correct.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>Divided incorrectly.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes on grade expectations: Example of polynomial division:

\[
\begin{align*}
x - 2 & \left(2x^3 + 9x^2 - 11x - 24\right) \\
& \quad - \left(2x^3 - 4x^2\right) \\
& \quad \phantom{\left(2x^3 + 9x^2 - 11x - 24\right)} \left(13x^2 - 11x\right) \\
& \quad \phantom{\left(2x^3 + 9x^2 - 11x - 24\right)} \left(13x^2 - 26x\right) \\
& \quad \phantom{\left(2x^3 + 9x^2 - 11x - 24\right)} \left(15x - 24\right) \\
& \quad \phantom{\left(2x^3 + 9x^2 - 11x - 24\right)} \left(15x - 30\right) \\
& \phantom{\left(2x^3 + 9x^2 - 11x - 24\right)} 6 = \text{remainder}
\end{align*}
\]
Question 10

A root of function \( f(x) \) is \(-1 - 2i\). Which could be an equation for this function?

- A. \( f(x) = x^2 - 2x - 3 \)
- B. \( f(x) = x^2 - 2x + 5 \)
- C. \( f(x) = x^2 + 2x - 3 \)
- D. \( f(x) = x^2 + 2x + 5 \)

Benchmark: 9.2.3.5
Check whether a given complex number is a solution of a quadratic equation by substituting it for the variable and evaluating the expression, using arithmetic with complex numbers.

For example: The complex number \( \frac{1+i}{2} \) is a solution of \( 2x^2 - 2x + 1 = 0 \), since

\[
2\left(\frac{1+i}{2}\right)^2 - 2\left(\frac{1+i}{2}\right) + 1 = i - (1+i) + 1 = 0.
\]

Item Specifications
- Vocabulary allowed in items: complex number and vocabulary given at previous grades
- DOK: 2
- Answer: D

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>((-1 - 2i)^2 - 2(-1 - 2i) - 3 = 1 + 4i - 4 + 2 + 4i - 3 = -4 + 8i) Not equal to zero.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>((-1 - 2i)^2 - 2(-1 - 2i) + 5 = 1 + 4i - 4 + 2 + 4i + 5 = 4 + 8i) Not equal to zero.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>((-1 - 2i)^2 + 2(-1 - 2i) - 3 = 1 + 4i - 4 - 2 - 4i - 3 = -8) Not equal to zero.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>Correct. ((-1 - 2i)^2 + 2(-1 - 2i) + 5 = 1 + 4i - 4 - 2 - 4i + 5 = 0)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes on grade expectations: Substitute the complex number into each of the answer options and see which one results in zero.

Another way to solve this problem is to use the complex conjugate of the given root, then multiply the factors \((x - \text{root}_1)(x - \text{root}_2)\).

Complex conjugates are of the form \((r + si), (r - si)\), so \(-1 - 2i\) and \(-1 + 2i\) are the roots of this function.

Multiply \((x - (-1 - 2i))(x - (-1 + 2i))\)

\(x^2 + x - 2ix + x + 1 - 2i + 2ix + 2i + 4\)
\[ x^2 + 2x + 5 \]
Remember that \( i^2 = -1 \).
Question 11

Benchmark: 9.2.4.1
Represent relationships in various contexts using quadratic equations and inequalities. Solve quadratic equations and inequalities by appropriate methods including factoring, completing the square, graphing and the quadratic formula. Find non-real complex roots when they exist. Recognize that a particular solution may not be applicable in the original context. Know how to use calculators, graphing utilities or other technology to solve quadratic equations and inequalities.

For example: A diver jumps from a 20-meter platform with an upward velocity of 3 meters per second. In finding the time at which the diver hits the surface of the water, the resulting quadratic equation has a positive and a negative solution. The negative solution should be discarded because of the context.

Item Specifications
• Items do not require the use of graphing technology
• Vocabulary allowed in items: quadratic, \( n \)th root and vocabulary given at previous grades

DOK: 2
Answer:

This is a technology-enhanced item. The correct answer is shown. A student must type the correct answer in the box in order to receive 1 point.
Notes on grade expectations: The area of the inside of the frame must be 70. The length and width of the frame opening are \((13 - 2x)\) and \((10 - 2x)\). Find the area by multiplying length and width, then set equal to 70 and solve for \(x\).

\[
(13 - 2x)(10 - 2x) = 70
\]

\[
(130 - 46x + 4x^2) = 70
\]

\[
0 = 4x^2 - 46x + 60
\]

\[
x = 1.5 \text{ or } 10
\]

Use the quadratic formula or factor to solve the quadratic equation. The answer of 10 cannot be correct because the width of the whole frame is only 10 cm. The correct answer is 1.5 cm.

Note: The allowable characters that can be entered in the answer box are digits 0-9, fraction bar (/), decimal point (.), and negative sign (-). Students cannot enter a comma in numbers with more than 3 digits. Familiarity with calculators will help the students with this concept.
Question 12

A scientist begins an experiment with 800 bacteria cells. After each 10-hour period, only \( \frac{1}{2} \) of the bacteria cells remain. Let \( t \) be the number of hours since the beginning of the experiment. Which equation could be used to represent the situation when only 200 bacteria cells remain?

- A. \( 800(0.05)^t = 200 \)
- B. \( 800(0.5)^{\frac{t}{10}} = 200 \)
- C. \( 800(0.5)^{\frac{t}{10}} = 200 \)
- D. \( 800(0.5)^{10t} = 200 \)

**Benchmark: 9.2.4.2**
Represent relationships in various contexts using equations involving exponential functions; solve these equations graphically or numerically. Know how to use calculators, graphing utilities or other technology to solve these equations.

**Item Specifications**
- Items do not require the use of graphing technology
- Vocabulary allowed in items: exponential and vocabulary given at previous grades

DOK: 2
Answer: B

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Used 0.05 instead of 0.5 for half-life; used ( t ) instead of ( \frac{t}{10} ) for number of 10-hour time periods. May have divided base, 0.5, by 10 instead of dividing exponent, ( t ), by 10.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Correct.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Used ( \frac{10}{5} ) instead of ( \frac{t}{10} ) for number of 10-hour time periods.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>Used ( 10t ) instead of ( \frac{t}{10} ) for number of 10-hour time periods.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes on grade expectations: Student should be able to write and solve exponential decay problems, \( y = ab^t \), or they may use the more specific half-life formula,

\[
A(t) = P \left( \frac{1}{2} \right)^{\frac{t}{h}}, \quad \text{where} \quad A = \text{amount after} \ t \ \text{units of time}, \ P = \text{initial amount}, \ t = \text{number of units of time}, \ \text{and} \ h = \text{the time it takes for the amount to be cut in half.}
\]
Question 13

A contingency table for a classroom is shown.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class Roster</th>
<th>Junior</th>
<th>Senior</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Based on the table, which probabilities are greater than 50%?

Select the probabilities you want to choose:

- $P(\text{Female})$
- $P(\text{Male})$
- $P(\text{Junior})$
- $P(\text{Senior})$
- $P(\text{Female} | \text{Junior})$
- $P(\text{Female} | \text{Senior})$
- $P(\text{Junior} | \text{Female})$
- $P(\text{Male} | \text{Junior})$
- $P(\text{Male} | \text{Senior})$
- $P(\text{Junior} | \text{Male})$

Benchmark: 9.4.3.9
Use the relationship between conditional probabilities and relative frequencies in contingency tables.

For example: A table that displays percentages relating gender (male or female) and handedness (right-handed or left-handed) can be used to determine the conditional probability of being left-handed, given that the gender is male.

Item Specifications
- Vocabulary allowed in items: conditional and vocabulary given at previous grades

DOK: 2
Answer:

This is a technology-enhanced item. The correct answer is shown. A student must select the correct probabilities in order to receive 1 point.
Notes on grade expectations: Student should be able to calculate simple and conditional probability. In this case, find all probabilities and select the ones that are greater than \( \frac{1}{2} \).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Probability</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>( P(F) ) = ( \frac{17}{30} )</td>
<td>( P(F \mid Jr) = \frac{8}{14} )</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( P(M) = \frac{13}{30} )</td>
<td>( P(F \mid Sr) = \frac{9}{16} )</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( P(Jr) = \frac{14}{30} )</td>
<td>( P(M \mid Jr) = \frac{6}{14} )</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( P(Sr) = \frac{16}{30} )</td>
<td>( P(M \mid Sr) = \frac{7}{16} )</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Comment on notation:
The vertical bar in the table above is read as “given”. For example, in the last cell, \( P(Sr \mid M) \) is read as “the probability of being a Senior given that the student is Male”. The numerator is the number of males that are seniors, and the denominator is the total number of males. The result is \( \frac{7}{13} \).
Question 14

Which number is an extraneous solution of the equation \( x = \sqrt{x + 6} \)?

- A. \(-6\)
- B. \(-2\)
- C. \(0\)
- D. \(3\)

Benchmark: 9.2.4.7
Solve equations that contain radical expressions. Recognize that extraneous solutions may arise when using symbolic methods.

For example: The equation \( \sqrt{x - 9} = 9\sqrt{x} \) may be solved by squaring both sides to obtain \( x - 9 = 81x \), which has the solution \( x = -\frac{9}{80} \). However, this is not a solution of the original equation, so it is an extraneous solution that should be discarded. The original equation has no solution in this case.

Another example: Solve \( \sqrt[3]{-x + 1} = -5 \).

Item Specifications
- Vocabulary allowed in items: extraneous and vocabulary given at previous grades

DOK: 2
Answer: B

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A</th>
<th>−6 is not a solution to the equation, so it cannot be an extraneous solution.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Correct. Substituting and simplifying, (-2 \neq 2), so this solution is extraneous.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>May have interpreted “extraneous” as “not possible” and thought square root of 0 is not possible.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>Ignored “extraneous” and found all apparent solutions.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes on grade expectations: When squaring both sides of an equation (or raising both sides to any power), an extraneous solution may be created. When using this method, students should check for extraneous solutions by checking the apparent solutions in the original equation.
\[ x = \sqrt{x+6} \]
\[ x^2 = (\sqrt{x+6})^2 \]
\[ x^2 = x + 6 \]
\[ x^2 - x - 6 = 0 \]
\[ (x - 3)(x + 2) = 0 \]
\[ x = 3; x = -2 \]

Check apparent solutions in original equation:

Try \( x = 3 \)
\[ 3 = \sqrt{3+6} \]
\[ 3 = \sqrt{9} \]
\[ 3 = 3 \]
This is true, so \( x = 3 \) is a solution to the original equation.

Try \( x = \ -2 \)
\[ -2 = \sqrt{-2+6} \]
\[ -2 = \sqrt{4} \]
\[ -2 = 2 \]
This is not true, so \( x = -2 \) is not a solution to the original equation. It is extraneous.

A quick analysis might be another approach to this problem. Since the left side of the equation, \( x \), is equal to a positive square root, \( x \) must be a positive number. Therefore, any apparent solutions that have negative values must be extraneous.
**Question 15**

The surface area of a baseball is 177 cm². What is the diameter of the baseball? (Use 3.14 for π.)

- A. 3.75 cm
- B. 7 cm
- C. 7.5 cm
- D. 14.1 cm

**Benchmark: 9.3.1.1**
Determine the surface area and volume of pyramids, cones and spheres. Use measuring devices or formulas as appropriate.

*For example:* Measure the height and radius of a cone and then use a formula to find its volume.

**Item Specifications**
- Vocabulary allowed in items: sphere and vocabulary given at previous grades
- DOK: 2
- Answer: C

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Mixed up radius with diameter: 3.75 is radius.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Divided by 2 instead of using the square root to find the radius. $177 = 4(3.14)r^2; r = 7.046$. Did not double radius to find diameter.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Correct. $177 = 4(3.14)r^2; r^2 \approx 14.09; r \approx 3.75; d = 2r = 2(3.75) = 7.5$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>Solved for $r^2$, but did not take square root of 14.1 when solving $177 = 4(3.14)r^2$ for $r$.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notes on grade expectations:** Student should be able to choose the appropriate formula from the grade 11 formula sheet and calculate the surface area.
Section 2

Question 1

![Diagram of triangle RST with segments labeled 4x, x+2, 3x+4, and RS.]

**Benchmarks: 9.3.4.7**

Use algebra to solve geometric problems unrelated to coordinate geometry, such as solving for an unknown length in a figure involving similar triangles, or using the Pythagorean Theorem to obtain a quadratic equation for a length in a geometric figure.

**Item Specifications**
- Vocabulary allowed in items: vocabulary given at previous grades

**DOK:** 2

**Answer:** D

A: Solved \((2x + 1) = 0\) incorrectly as \(x = \frac{1}{2}\) instead of \(x = -\frac{1}{2}\); then used it to find \(RS: 4\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = 2\).

B: Used value of \(x\) without multiplying by 4 to get length of \(RS\).

C: Used 4 from \(4x\), the length of \(RS\).

D: Correct. \(x = 3\), and \(RS = 4x\) or \(4 \cdot 3 = 12\).

Notes on grade expectations: Student can use Pythagorean Theorem to write an equation to solve for \(x\). \((4x)^2 + (x + 2)^2 = (3x + 4)^2:\)

\[8x^2 - 20x - 12 = 0\]
\[4(2x + 1)(x - 3) = 0\]
\[x = -\frac{1}{2}, x = 3\]
Another strategy is using guess and check by trying answer options A, B, C and D for RU to see if the results produce a right triangle.

12 = 4x; x = 3; 3 + 2 = 5; 3(3) + 4 = 13. Note that 5-12-13 is a Pythagorean Triple.
**Question 2**

**Benchmark: 9.3.3.1**
Know and apply properties of parallel and perpendicular lines, including properties of angles formed by a transversal, to solve problems and logically justify results.

*For example:* Prove that the perpendicular bisector of a line segment is the set of all points equidistant from the two endpoints, and use this fact to solve problems and justify other results.

**Item Specifications**
- Allowable notation: \( \perp \) (perpendicular), \( \parallel \) (parallel)
- Vocabulary allowed in items: transversal, interior, exterior, corresponding, alternate and vocabulary given at previous grades

DOK: 3
Answer: C

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Used measure of angle adjacent to 144 instead of angle XYZ.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Used given angle or thought angle XYZ was congruent to given angle.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Correct.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>Used measure of adjacent angle instead of angle XYZ.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes on grade expectations: By drawing a vertical line through angle XYZ, the rules for transversals may be used. Since alternate interior angles have equal measures, the measure of angle XYP must be 42° and the measure of angle ZYP must be 36°. The sum of XYP and ZYP gives the measure of angle XYZ, or 78°.
The second figure shows a different strategy for solving this item. By drawing a horizontal line through point Y, two right triangles are formed. Since the sum of the interior angles of a triangle is 180°, the measure of angle QYX is 48° and the measure of angle RYZ is 54°. A straight line has a measure of 180°, so the measure of angle XYZ can be found by subtracting: 180 - 48 - 54 to get 78°.

This is a DOK 3 item because the problem cannot be solved by simply making calculations with the numbers given, nor is there a formula that can be entered in the calculator that will calculate the angle. Prior knowledge that must be accessed includes standard 6.3.2. Prior experience with devising mathematically sound strategies is essential for solving DOK 3 items.
Question 3

Benchmark: 9.3.3.3
Know and apply properties of equilateral, isosceles and scalene triangles to solve problems and logically justify results.
For example: Use the triangle inequality to prove that the perimeter of a quadrilateral is larger than the sum of the lengths of its diagonals.

Item Specifications
• Vocabulary allowed in items: equilateral, isosceles, scalene and vocabulary given at previous grades

DOK: 2
Answer:

This is a technology-enhanced item. The correct answer is shown. A student must type the correct answer in the box in order to receive 1 point.

Notes on grade expectations: The Triangle Inequality Theorem states that the sum of two sides of a triangle must be greater than the third side. In this case, 26 + ? > 38. Since the missing side must be greater than 12, the smallest possible whole number is 13.

Note: The allowable characters that can be entered in the answer box are digits 0-9, fraction bar (/), decimal point (.), and negative sign (-). Students cannot enter a comma in numbers with more than 3 digits. Familiarity with calculators will help the students with this concept.
Question 4

Benchmark: 9.3.3.7
Use properties of polygons—including quadrilaterals and regular polygons—to define them, classify them, solve problems and logically justify results.
For example: Recognize that a rectangle is a special case of a trapezoid.
Another example: Give a concise and clear definition of a kite.

Item Specifications
• Vocabulary allowed in items: regular polygon, isosceles and vocabulary given at previous grades

DOK: 2
Answer: C

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>This would show that the figure is a rhombus, but angles must be 90 degrees for it to be a rectangle.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>This would show that the figure is a rhombus, rectangle or square. Angles must be 90 degrees for it to be a rectangle.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Correct. The congruent consecutive angles differentiate this as a rectangle and not just a parallelogram.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>This would show that the figure is a parallelogram, but angles must be 90 degrees for it to be a rectangle.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Maggie and Wei are measuring the distance across a circular fountain indirectly as shown in the diagram.

They find that the length of $RS$ is 15 meters and the length of $ST$ is 9 meters. $RS$ is tangent to circle $F$ and point $T$ is on $FS$. To the nearest meter, what is the diameter of the fountain?

Enter your answer in the box.

Benchmark: 9.3.3.8
Know and apply properties of a circle to solve problems and logically justify results. 
For example: Show that opposite angles of a quadrilateral inscribed in a circle are supplementary.

Item Specifications
• Vocabulary allowed in items: arc, central angle, inscribed, circumscribed, tangent, chord and vocabulary given at previous grades

DOK: 2
Answer:

This is a technology-enhanced item. The correct answer is shown. A student must type the correct answer in the box in order to receive 1 point.
Notes on grade expectations: Student should know that a line tangent to a circle is perpendicular to the radius at the point of tangency, so angle $SRF$ is a right angle. Because this makes the triangle a right triangle, the Pythagorean Theorem may be used to solve for the missing length. Segments $RF$ and $TF$ are both radii of the circle, so they have equal length. Use $15^2 + r^2 = (r + 9)^2$ to solve for the radius, $r$, then double the radius to find the diameter.

Note: The allowable characters that can be entered in the answer box are digits 0-9, fraction bar (/), decimal point (.), and negative sign (-). Students cannot enter a comma in numbers with more than 3 digits. Familiarity with calculators will help the students with this concept.
Benchmark: 9.3.4.2
Apply the trigonometric ratios sine, cosine and tangent to solve problems, such as determining lengths and areas in right triangles and in figures that can be decomposed into right triangles. Know how to use calculators, tables or other technology to evaluate trigonometric ratios.
For example: Find the area of a triangle, given the measure of one of its acute angles and the lengths of the two sides that form that angle.

Item Specifications
• Vocabulary allowed in items: trigonometric ratios, sine, cosine, tangent and vocabulary given at previous grades

DOK: 3
Answer: B

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Used cosine instead of tangent. Solved $\cos 26 = \frac{15}{x}$.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Correct. Split isosceles triangle into two right triangles, then solved $\tan 26 = \frac{15}{x}$.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Used sine instead of tangent. Solved $\sin 26 = \frac{15}{x}$.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Notes on grade expectations: Draw a line through the vertex perpendicular to the base to divide the isosceles triangle into two right triangles. The length of the base of each right triangle is half the length of the total base, or 13 feet. The vertex gets cut in half, leaving an angle of 26°. See markings on figure below. The unknown distance is marked with x. Use tangent of $26^\circ = \frac{13}{x}$ to solve for x. ($\tan 26^\circ = 0.4877$)

Note: Make sure your calculator is in degree mode.

This is a DOK 3 item because scaffolding is not done for the student. Prior experience with devising mathematically sound strategies is essential for solving DOK 3 items. Once the strategy for solving this item is chosen, then the steps to the solution are a straightforward application of the skills in the benchmark.
Question 7

Given: $\angle Y$ and $\angle Z$ are base angles of isosceles triangle $XYZ$
$\angle Y \cong \angle Z$
$W$ is the midpoint of $YZ$

Prove: $\triangle YXW \cong \triangle ZXW$

Complete the two-column proof.

Drag a reason into each box.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statements</th>
<th>Reasons</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. $\angle Y$ and $\angle Z$ are base angles of isosceles triangle $XYZ$</td>
<td>1. Given</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. $\angle Y \cong \angle Z$</td>
<td>2. Given</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. $XY \cong XZ$</td>
<td>3.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. $W$ is the midpoint of $YZ$</td>
<td>4. Given</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. $YW \cong ZW$</td>
<td>5.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. $\triangle YWX \cong \triangle ZWX$</td>
<td>6.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. $\triangle YXW \cong \triangle ZXW$</td>
<td>7.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Benchmark: 9.3.2.4

Construct logical arguments and write proofs of theorems and other results in geometry, including proofs by contradiction. Express proofs in a form that clearly justifies the reasoning, such as two-column proofs, paragraph proofs, flow charts or illustrations.
For example: Prove that the sum of the interior angles of a pentagon is 540° using the fact that the sum of the interior angles of a triangle is 180°.

Item Specifications
• Allowable notation: CPCTC (Corresponding Parts of Congruent Triangles are Congruent), CPCFC (Corresponding Parts of Congruent Figures are Congruent), SAS (Side-Angle-Side), SSS (Side-Side-Side), ASA (Angle-Side-Angle)
• Vocabulary allowed in items: contradiction and vocabulary given at previous grades

DOK: 2
Answer:

This is a technology-enhanced item. The correct answer is shown. A student must place the correct justifications into the correct boxes in order to receive 1 point.
Isosceles triangle $XYZ$ is shown.

Given: \( \angle Y \) and \( \angle Z \) are base angles of isosceles triangle $XYZ$
\( \angle Y \cong \angle Z \)
$W$ is the midpoint of $YZ$

Prove: \( \angle YXW \cong \angle ZXW \)

Complete the two-column proof.

Drag a reason into each box.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statements</th>
<th>Reasons</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. ( \angle Y ) and ( \angle Z ) are base angles of isosceles triangle $XYZ$</td>
<td>1. Given</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. ( \angle Y \cong \angle Z )</td>
<td>2. Given</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. ( XY \cong XZ )</td>
<td>3. Isosceles Triangle Theorem</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. $W$ is the midpoint of $YZ$</td>
<td>4. Given</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. ( YW \cong ZW )</td>
<td>5. Definition of Midpoint</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. ( \triangle YWX \cong \triangle ZWX )</td>
<td>6. SAS Congruence Theorem</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. ( \angle YXW \cong \angle ZXW )</td>
<td>7. Corresponding parts of congruent triangles are congruent</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Reflexive Property
- Definition of Angle Bisector
- SSS Congruence Theorem
Question 8

An archaeologist used string to make a grid over an area where she was digging. She discovered a bowl buried at (1, 4) and a tool at (3, 10) on her grid. She suspected that an item was buried at the midpoint of the segment connecting the bowl and the tool. At which position on her grid should the archaeologist dig to look for the buried item?

A. (1, 3)
B. (2, 7)
C. $\left(\frac{5}{2}, \frac{13}{2}\right)$
D. (4, 14)

Benchmark: 9.3.4.4
Use coordinate geometry to represent and analyze line segments and polygons, including determining lengths, midpoints and slopes of line segments.

Item Specifications
• Vocabulary allowed in items: midpoint and vocabulary given at previous grades

DOK: 2
Answer: B

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Used differences instead of sums to find averages for x-value and y-value.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Correct. Averaged x’s to get x-value and averaged y’s to get y-value of midpoint.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Averaged 1 and 4 to get x-value and averaged 3 and 10 to get y-value.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>Added x-values and added y-values, but did not divide by 2 to find averages.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Question 9

Benchmark: 9.4.3.1
Select and apply counting procedures, such as the multiplication and addition principles and tree diagrams, to determine the size of a sample space (the number of possible outcomes) and to calculate probabilities.

For example: If one girl and one boy are picked at random from a class with 20 girls and 15 boys, there are $20 \times 15 = 300$ different possibilities, so the probability that a particular girl is chosen together with a particular boy is $\frac{1}{300}$.

Item Specifications
- Vocabulary allowed in items: vocabulary given at previous grades

DOK: 3

Answer:

This is a technology-enhanced item. The correct answer is shown. A student must type the correct answer in the box in order to receive 1 point.

Notes on grade expectations: The correct answer of 47 can be found as follows.

(1 doctor and 1 dentist) or (1 dentist and 1 nurse) or (1 nurse and 1 doctor)

$$(4 \times 3) + (3 \times 5) + (5 \times 4)$$

Students may be tempted to multiply $4 \times 3 \times 5$ to get 60 as the total number of possible combinations. Careful reading of the problem shows that the 2 health care providers must be “of different types,” so this eliminates combinations such as doctor-doctor, nurse-nurse, dentist-dentist. The essential information is provided in this item but the scaffolding is not done for the student. The student must have a good grasp of the concept of sample space. Benchmark 6.4.1.1 is the basis for students’ prior knowledge.

Note: The allowable characters that can be entered in the answer box are digits 0-9, fraction bar (/), decimal point (.), and negative sign (-). Students cannot enter a comma.
in numbers with more than 3 digits. Familiarity with calculators will help the students with this concept.
Question 10

Isabella flipped a fair coin 100 times. Which statement about Isabella's outcomes is most likely true?

A. The coin landed heads up 50 times and tails up 50 times.
B. The number of times the coin landed heads up was less than 50.
C. If Isabella continues to flip the coin, the experimental probability of the coin landing heads up will increase.
D. If Isabella continues to flip the coin, the experimental probability of the coin landing heads up will approach \( \frac{1}{2} \).

Benchmark: 9.4.3.3
Understand that the Law of Large Numbers expresses a relationship between the probabilities in a probability model and the experimental probabilities found by performing simulations or experiments involving the model.

**Item Specifications**
- Vocabulary allowed in items: simulation and vocabulary given at previous grades

DOK: 2
Answer: D

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Used the Law of Large Numbers to predict outcomes of a small sample.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Guessed at the outcome.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Guessed at the outcome.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>Correct. Per the Law of Large Numbers, as more trials are performed, the experimental probability will approach the theoretical probability.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Question 11

Benchmark: 9.4.3.5
Apply probability concepts such as intersections, unions and complements of events, and conditional probability and independence, to calculate probabilities and solve problems.
For example: The probability of tossing at least one head when flipping a fair coin three times can be calculated by looking at the complement of this event (flipping three tails in a row).

Item Specifications
• Vocabulary allowed in items: intersections, unions, complements of events, conditional and vocabulary given at previous grades

DOK: 2
Answer:
This is a technology-enhanced item. The correct answer is shown. A student must type the correct answer in the box in order to receive 1 point.

Notes on grade expectations: (Number of biographies ÷ total number of books) × (Number of technical books ÷ Number of remaining books) (5/40) × (11/39) = 55/1,560. Note that any equivalent form of the numerical answer such as \frac{11}{312} or 0.035 will receive 1 point.

Note: The allowable characters that can be entered in the answer box are digits 0-9, fraction bar (/), decimal point (.), and negative sign (-). Students cannot enter a comma in numbers with more than 3 digits. Familiarity with calculators will help the students with this concept.
Question 12

Reginald is designing an outdoor art exhibit. He needs a metal equilateral triangle that measures 40 inches on each side. He wants to cut the triangle from a rectangular piece of metal that is 40 inches long. What is the minimum width of the rectangle Reginald needs to be able to cut out the triangle?

- A. \(\frac{20\sqrt{3}}{3}\) inches
- B. 20 \(\sqrt{2}\) inches
- C. 20 \(\sqrt{3}\) inches
- D. 40 inches

**Benchmark: 9.3.3.5**
Know and apply properties of right triangles, including properties of 45-45-90 and 30-60-90 triangles, to solve problems and logically justify results.

*For example:* Use 30-60-90 triangles to analyze geometric figures involving equilateral triangles and hexagons.

*Another example:* Determine exact values of the trigonometric ratios in these special triangles using relationships among the side lengths.

**Item Specifications**
- Vocabulary allowed in items: vocabulary given at previous grades

DOK: 2
Answer: C

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Divided 40 by 2 to get 20, then divided 20 by ((\sqrt{3})) instead of multiplying by ((\sqrt{3})).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Multiplied by square root of 2 instead of square root of 3.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Correct. Split equilateral triangle into two congruent 30-60-90 triangles, then found length of long side; (40(\sqrt{3})/2).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>Used length of sides of equilateral triangle instead of altitude.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Question 13

An Olympic runner ran 100 meters in 9.69 seconds. Show how this speed can be converted to miles per hour. \((1 \text{ mile} = 1.6 \text{ km})\)

Drag expressions into the boxes.

\[
\frac{100 \text{ m}}{9.69 \text{ sec.}} \times \quad \quad \times \quad \quad \times
\]

3600 sec. 1000 m 60 sec. 60 min.
1 min. 1 mile 1 km 1 hour
1.6 km 5280 ft.

Benchmark: 9.3.1.3
Understand that quantities associated with physical measurements must be assigned units; apply such units correctly in expressions, equations and problem solutions that involve measurements; and convert between measurement systems.

For example:

\[60 \text{ miles/hour} = 60 \text{ miles/hour} \times \frac{5280 \text{ feet/mile}}{} \times \frac{1 \text{ hour}}{3600 \text{ seconds}} = 88 \text{ feet/second}.
\]

Item Specifications
- Vocabulary allowed in items: vocabulary given at previous grades

DOK: 2
Answer:

This is a technology-enhanced item. A correct answer is shown. A student must place the correct labeled numbers into the correct boxes in order to receive 1 point. The rates may be in any order, i.e., \(1 \text{ km/1,000 m}\) may be in the first pair of boxes, the second pair, or the third pair.
An Olympic runner ran 100 meters in 9.69 seconds. Show how this speed can be converted to miles per hour. (1 mile = 1.6 km)

Drag expressions into the boxes.

\[
\frac{100 \text{ m}}{9.69 \text{ sec.}} \times \frac{1 \text{ km}}{1000 \text{ m}} \times \frac{1 \text{ mile}}{1.6 \text{ km}} \times \frac{3600 \text{ sec.}}{1 \text{ hour}}
\]

| 60 sec. | 60 min. | 1 min. | 5280 ft. |
Benchmark: 9.2.2.3
Sketch graphs of linear, quadratic and exponential functions, and translate between graphs, tables and symbolic representations. Know how to use graphing technology to graph these functions.

Item Specifications
- Items do not require the use of graphing technology
- Vocabulary allowed in items: quadratic, exponential and vocabulary given at previous grades

DOK: 2
Answer:

This is a technology-enhanced item. A correct answer is shown. A student must select the correct type of graph, plot two correct points, and correctly place the asymptote in order to receive 1 point.
Graph the function \( f(x) = \frac{1}{2} (3)^x \) on the coordinate grid.

Select a button to choose the type of graph. Drag the 2 points and the asymptote, if applicable, to the correct position.
Question 15

A system of inequalities is shown.

\[\begin{align*}
3x + y & \geq 5 \\
x - y & > 2
\end{align*}\]

What is the solution to the system of inequalities?

Graph the 2 inequalities on the grid and select the region that represents the solution for the system.

**Benchmark: 9.2.4.4**

Represent relationships in various contexts using systems of linear inequalities; solve them graphically. Indicate which parts of the boundary are included in and excluded from the solution set using solid and dotted lines.

**Item Specifications**

- Vocabulary allowed in items: boundary and vocabulary given at previous grades

**DOK: 2**

**Answer:**

This is a technology-enhanced item. A correct answer is shown. A student must correctly graph the system of inequalities in order to receive 1 point. The equations may be graphed in either order, i.e., \(3x + y \geq 5\) may be represented by Inequality 1 or Inequality 2.
A system of inequalities is shown.

\[ 3x + y \geq 5 \]
\[ x - y > 2 \]

What is the solution to the system of inequalities?

Graph the 2 inequalities on the grid and select the region that represents the solution for the system.
Question 16

A store manager made a graph that tracked the sales of wool scarves and the average monthly temperatures for a year.

Which statement about correlation and causation is supported by the data shown on the graph?

(Sampler Hint: Use the straightedge tool.)

- A. A decrease in temperature causes the number of wool scarves sold to increase.
- B. There is correlation between the number of wool scarves sold and the average monthly temperature, but there is no evidence for causation.
- C. An increase in the number of wool scarves sold causes the average monthly temperature to decrease.
- D. The correlation between the number of wool scarves sold and the average monthly temperature is very strong.

Benchmark: 9.4.2.2
Identify and explain misleading uses of data; recognize when arguments based on data confuse correlation and causation.

Item Specifications
- Vocabulary allowed in items: causation and vocabulary given at previous grades

DOK: 2
Answer: B
<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Confused correlation with causation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Correct. Recognized that correlation does not necessarily imply causation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Confused correlation with causation and reversed the dependent and independent variables.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>Confused strong with weaker correlation.</td>
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</table>

Note: This item demonstrates the straight edge tool that will be available for select items on the MCA in grades 8 and 11. Select the straight edge from the tools above the item. See image below.

A store manager made a graph that tracked the sales of wool scarves and the average monthly temperatures for a year.

![Wool Scarf Sales Graph](image.jpg)

Which statement about correlation and causation is supported by the data shown on the graph?

(Sampler Hint: Use the straightedge tool.)

- A. A decrease in temperature causes the number of wool scarves sold to increase.
- B. There is correlation between the number of wool scarves sold and the average monthly temperature, but there is no evidence for causation.
- C. An increase in the number of wool scarves sold causes the average monthly temperature to decrease.
- D. The correlation between the number of wool scarves sold and the average monthly temperature is very strong.
Grade 11 Mathematics MCA Item Sampler
Paper Answer Key

Segment 1
12 Questions

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item #</th>
<th>Correct Answer</th>
<th>Item Type</th>
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Segment 2
12 Questions

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