

ISEE Primary 4

The sample passage is followed by five questions based on its content.

1 Grandfather and I did not have enough money to purchase a manufactured tree house. Even if
2 we had had the extra money, Grandfather would have never spent it on something he was able
to
3 build himself. He always said he was happiest making things, and he worked hard always to do
4 his best. He took pride in his abilities.

5 Grandfather's plan involved many steps. First, we sketched an outline of the desired
6 appearance. We listed the extras we would like. We agreed that a drop-down ladder would
work
7 well. I thought a fireman's pole would be perfect to get me to the ground quickly! Grandfather
8 suggested adding a bucket that we could use to raise and lower objects.

9 After making our plans, we spent the entire day looking for the perfect tree. Grandfather told
10 me that the tree house required the support of a large and healthy tree. The tree needed to
contain
11 a multitude of mature branches. It was important to both of us that we choose one that did not
12 have any squirrel or bird nests.

13 We spent the following day preparing the tree. We cleared the land around it by removing the
14 weeds and thorns. A tractor was useful to cut a large walkway from the field to the tree.

15 Exhausted, Grandfather and I sat under the tree to eat the lunch that Grandmother had packed
for
16 us. Before going home, we measured the two lower limbs and the trunk of the tree.

17 On the third day, Grandfather and I bought supplies at the hardware store. Our purchases
18 included lumber, nails, rope, a bucket, many sheets of tin, and a long pole. We stopped by
19 Grandfather's workshop on our way to the tree to gather the rest of the needed supplies: an old
20 hand saw, a measuring tape, two hammers, and a metal ladder.

21 We measured several times before cutting the lumber until it was too dark outside to see.
22 Before going home, we sat on the exposed floorboards that would soon be hidden by four walls.
23 Grandfather turned on a flashlight. He handed me a sandwich from a brown bag. We ate our
24 supper staring at the stars.
25 On the final day, we nailed the frames and supports. We added the wallboards and tin roof.
26 Grandfather acted like he was twelve years old again. He was more enthusiastic about the tree
house
27 than my friends were!
28 Thinking back, I valued spending time with Grandfather more than I did the tree house. In
29 fact, I was disappointed when we completed it. The tree house has lasted for twenty years.
When
30 I visit his farm, I take a few minutes to climb the ladder to reach the tree house. What fun we
had
31 building it!

Directions: Answer the following example question. Click on the choice that best answers the question.

1. Which statement correctly identifies the main idea of this passage?
 3. Building a tree house can take many days and often costs a lot of money.
 5. Tree houses can be fun, but they can also be dangerous if not built correctly.
 7. The author and his grandfather spent several wonderful days building a tree house.
 9. The author happily remembers how his grandmother used to make him sandwiches.
2. According to Grandfather, what type of tree was perfect for a tree house?
 - (A) a young tree with plenty of leaves
 - (B) a tall tree with lots of thorns and weeds
 - (C) a large healthy tree with many branches

☐ (D) a sturdy mature tree with birds and squirrels

3. In line 26, what does *enthusiastic* mean?

☐ (A) fearful

☐ (B) excited

☐ (C) surprised

☐ (D) sorrowful

4. According to the information in the passage, how are Grandfather and the author similar?

☐ (A) They are both eager to be the first one in the tree house.

☐ (B) They both have workshops to hold their most important tools.

☐ (C) They are both too poor to afford most building tools and materials.

☐ (D) They both feel it is important to protect small animals such as birds.

5. What is the author's tone in this passage?

☐ (A) silly and playful

☐ (B) regretful and intense

☐ (C) cheerful and admiring

☐ (D) serious and informative

6. What is the main idea of this passage?

☐ (A) Pecos Bill wished that he would one day meet his real brother by the lake.

☐ (B) While Pecos Bill lived with a pack of wolves, he walked on four legs, not two.

☐ (C) Although Pecos Bill lived with a family of wolves, he wondered why he was different.

☐ D Even though Pecos Bill loved howling at the moon, he spent most of his time at the lake.

7. Which words best describe Pecos Bill?

☐ A foolish and silly

☐ B humble and polite

☐ C creative and artistic

☐ D adventurous and strong

The sample passage is followed by five questions based on its content.

Adapted from a portion of an American Folk Legend: Pecos Bill

1

“Owwwoooooo . . . !” young Pecos Bill howled, crouching on the ground, lifting his long

2

neck toward the full moon. He poised himself near his pack of brothers, who were also howling

3

at the enormous white ball dangling in the midnight sky.

4

Pecos knew that he didn’t look like his four-legged furry brothers. But, these wolves were the

5

only family Pecos had ever known. As a baby, he had been accidentally dropped from his

6

parents’ covered wagon, traveling through Texas. Crying loudly, Pecos was discovered by a

7

friendly mama wolf. She quickly took him in as one of her own cubs. From that point, Pecos

8

considered himself to be a wolf, plain and simple.

9

“Pecos,” the youngest wolf started, interrupting the chorus of unending howls at the glowing

10

sphere. “Why do you suppose you sometimes forget to walk on all four of your legs? And why

11

aren’t your teeth as sharp as mine?”

12

Pecos whipped around, growling at his little brother’s curious questions. His eyes narrowed

13

and he tried to show his sharpest teeth. Feeling embarrassed by his differences, Pecos snarled a

14

sharp reply, “You get away from me, Baby Brother. My teeth are just as sharp as yours!” Baby
15 Brother dashed away, while Pecos wandered to the still river to stare at his reflection.
16
17 At the river, Pecos gazed at the gigantic reflection of the moon in the glassy water. Then,
18 catching a glimpse of his own reflection, he winced and quickly turned away. He slowly peeked
19 back into the water. He was determined to prove his strength and bravery to the entire world. He
20 puffed out his chest, drew in his biggest breath, and let out a howl that could be heard all the way
21 to the moon.
22 Just then, a boy a bit older than Pecos appeared in the lake’s reflection right next to Pecos’s
23 own mirror image. Pecos, in mid-howl, stopped suddenly and looked at the boy’s face. Pecos
24 paused, trying to decide whether or not to chase the boy away. But, something in the boy’s face
25 stopped Pecos from following his wolf instincts.
26 “Who are you?” Pecos demanded. The boy just stared intently at Pecos, who abandoned his
27 pose on all four “legs” and stood tall on his two feet.
28 “Pecos,” the boy began, “Look at the river.” The boy stood shoulder to shoulder with Pecos
29 at the water’s edge. They both stared at the faces below them. “Pecos, I am your brother, your
30 real brother. You were lost as a baby, but now I have found you! You are not a wolf. You are a
31 boy!”
32 Pecos knew he had to leave his wolf family behind to join his brother. But, Pecos, having
33 been raised for years by wolves, took his strength, his bravery, and his longing for adventure
with him. And Texas was never the same once Pecos Bill came out of the woods.

8. Based on the information in the last paragraph, lines 31-33, what will Pecos Bill most likely do once he joins his human brother in Texas?

- ☐ A He will get married and move to another state.
- ☐ B He will settle down and get a quiet job in an office.
- ☐ C He will become angry and frustrated with the humans.

☐ D He will go on wild adventures and show off his strength.

9. In lines 9 and 10, what is the “glowing sphere”?

☐ A the moon

☐ B the North Star

☐ C a dangerous meteor

☐ D a reflection in the water

10. In lines 13-14, what does the word *snarled* mean?

☐ A apologized

☐ B grabbed

☐ C threatened

☐ D wished

The sample passage is followed by five questions based on its content.

1 “Doesn’t it take your breath away?” Mama asked her shivering son, Kuma. “The beauty of
2 the sky is something we must not take for granted, my dear one. Those magical lights that fill
the
3 dark blue night have guided our people for many years. They have kept your grandfather and
his
4 grandfather safe as they have made their journeys to find food.”
5 Kuma wanted to know more about these lights that seemed to blow around in the night sky
6 like giant sheets of glowing rainbows. The colors danced around in the sky, inviting Kuma and
7 all of his Eskimo friends to get lost in their beauty. “Mama,” Kuma began, as he stared at a
new

8 shade of pink blending with the pale blues, “Will those lights guide me, too? Will they keep
me
9 safe?”

10 “The lights will always guide you and keep you safe, Kuma. But you must respect the
11 darkness and always stay close to home when the sun falls behind the edge of the earth.”
Mama

12 looked down at Kuma with a look in her eyes that made Kuma shiver. The calm and quiet
13 strength of her eyes were suddenly replaced with discomfort and caution. Then, as quickly as the
14 look came, Mama drew in a deep cold breath, and her soft smile returned. Her eyes twinkled
as
15 she looked up to the northern lights and held Kuma’s hand tightly.

16 Later that night, Kuma’s mom tucked him safely in his bed and blew him a kiss in the dark.

17 Kuma lay there, wondering if the lights would keep him safe the way they had done for his
18 grandfather. The glow of the lights crept in through his window shutters, begging the little
boy to
19 sneak out and play. Kuma resisted at first, but he knew he would never rest until he
discovered
20 the truth about the lights for himself.

21 As Kuma climbed carefully and silently out of his window into the freezing darkness, he
22 remembered the look in his mama’s eyes. He held his breath as he gently placed his first
23 snowshoe down on top of the crunchy hard snow. *CRUNCH!* Kuma’s eyes flashed with fear as
24 he looked around, hoping no one had heard him. He glanced up at the lights, which made him
25 relax and find his courage again. His second snowshoe glided down on the snow with much
less
26 of a crunch, and Kuma sighed with relief.

27 Gliding his way across the snow, Kuma followed the colors in the sky until he realized his
28 fingers were numb and his nose was too cold to smell the frosty snow falling. Kuma’s face felt
29 icy, and he thought that tears might fall from his eyes. He remembered his mama’s words
and,

30 even more, remembered the look on her face when she warned him to respect the darkness.
He
31 wished he had listened.
32 Suddenly, an unusually bright glow, a mix of yellows and pinks, caught his eye in the
33 distance. "The lights will guide me and keep me safe," Kuma repeated out loud. He followed
the
34 beautiful colors, chanting his brave words loudly. Just as he climbed up to the top of the
snowy
35 hill, Kuma saw the bright lights beaming down on his safe, warm home. Kuma ran as fast as
his
36 snowshoes would allow and climbed right back into his bed. "Thank you, lights," he
whispered.
37 "Thank you, too, mama."

11. What was Kuma's greatest challenge?

- ☐ A He had to find his way home in the dark.
- ☐ B He wanted to sneak out without being caught.
- ☐ C He needed to find his grandfather in the icy cold snow.
- ☐ D He wanted to find the source of the colorful dancing lights.

12. In paragraph 3 (lines 10-15), why did the look in his mother's eyes make Kuma shiver?

- ☐ A He realized the seriousness of her warning.
- ☐ B He realized that she was afraid of the northern lights.
- ☐ C He realized that she was freezing from working outside.
- ☐ D He realized how lucky he was to have such a strong family.

13. Why did Kuma leave his bedroom after he was warned to respect the darkness?

- ☐ A He needed to find his grandfather.

- ☐ B He wanted to explore the colorful lights.
- ☐ C He needed to search for food for his family.
- ☐ D He wanted to prove to his mama that he was brave.

14. In line 13, what does *discomfort* mean?

- ☐ A joy
- ☐ B relief
- ☐ C mild pain
- ☐ D sudden rage

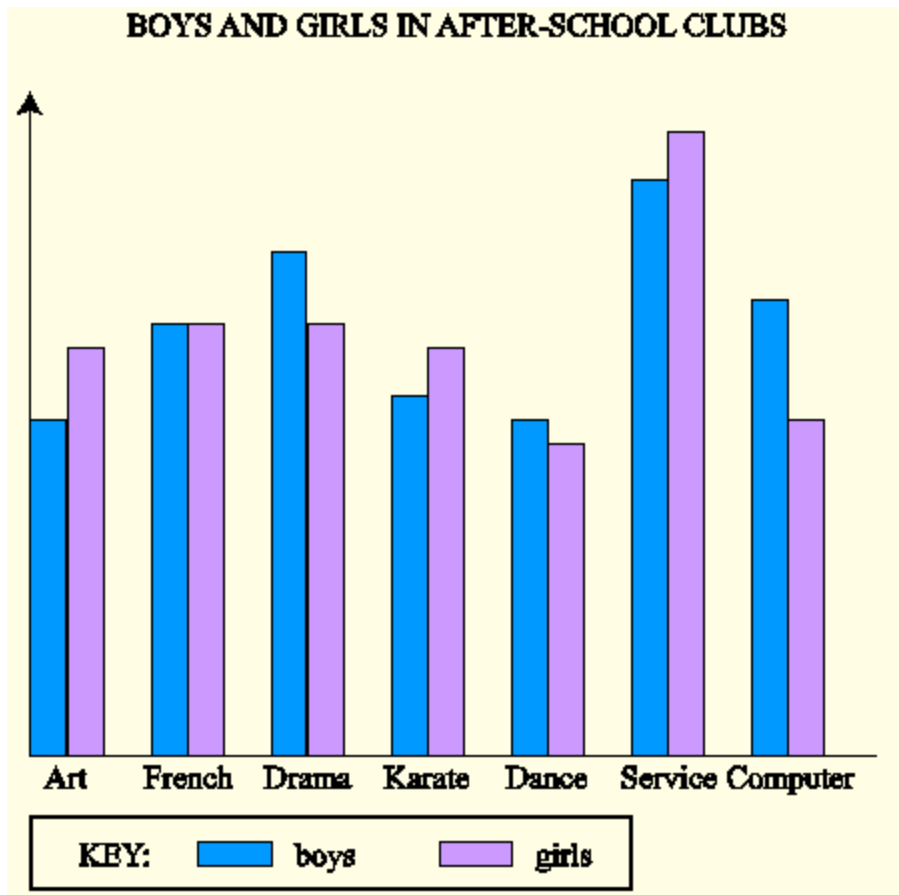
15. How do Kuma's feelings about his mother's advice change by the end of the passage?

- ☐ A He realizes that her advice was silly.
- ☐ B He realizes that he should listen to her advice.
- ☐ C He realizes that her advice was meant to punish him.
- ☐ D He realizes that he should not have asked for her advice.

Data Analysis and Probability

Directions: Answer the following example question. Click on the choice that best answers the question.

Mr. Sims created a graph to compare the number of boys and girls enrolled in different after-school clubs.



Which club has the greatest difference between the number of boys and the number of girls?

- (A) French
- (B) Dance
- (C) Service
- (D) Computer

Data Analysis and Probability

Directions: Answer the following example question. Click on the choice that best answers the question.

Coach Tyndall recorded Kiera's swim times for 10 consecutive days.

KIERA'S SWIM TIMES
FOR JANUARY 10-19

| | |
|---------|--------------|
| Jan. 10 | 56.4 seconds |
| Jan. 11 | 55.8 seconds |
| Jan. 12 | 55.6 seconds |
| Jan. 13 | 55.4 seconds |
| Jan. 14 | 55.2 seconds |
| Jan. 15 | 55.6 seconds |
| Jan. 16 | 54.8 seconds |
| Jan. 17 | 54.6 seconds |
| Jan. 18 | 54.4 seconds |
| Jan. 19 | 53.8 seconds |

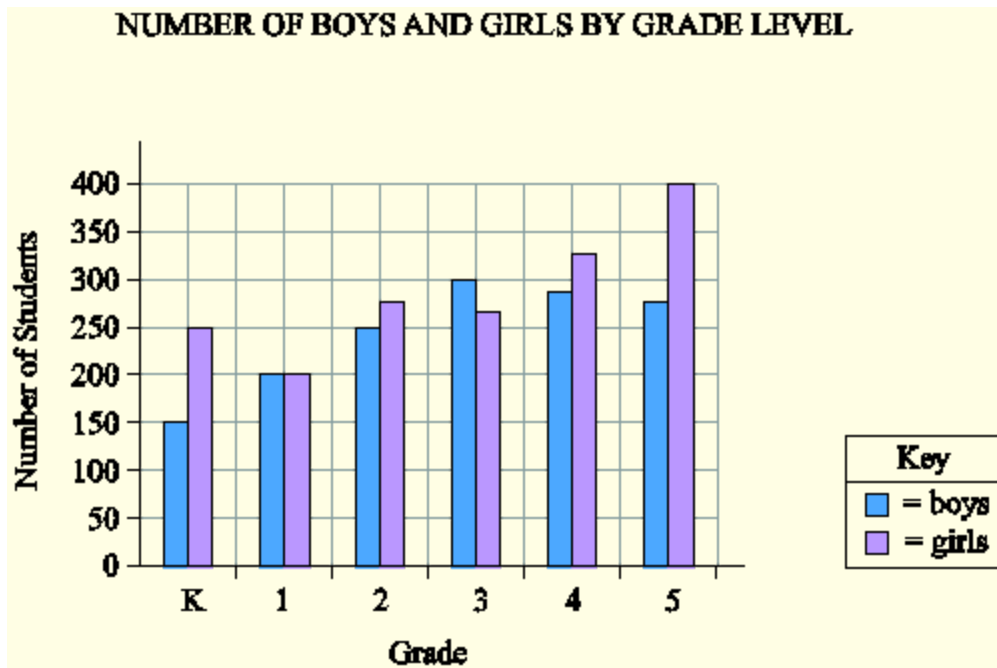
Her time decreased each day for several days and then increased. On which day did Kiera's time increase?

- ☐ (A) January 12
- ☐ (B) January 13
- ☐ (C) January 15
- ☐ (D) January 19

Data Analysis and Probability

Directions: Answer the following example question. Click on the choice that best answers the question.

The graph represents the numbers of boys and girls in all the classes in each grade at Grover Elementary.



Based on the data in this graph, which question can be answered?













- (A) Which grade has the most classrooms?
- (B) How many boys and girls are in sixth grade?
- (C) Which grade has the greatest number of students?
- (D) How many boys and girls will be in kindergarten next year?

Data Analysis and Probability

Directions: Answer the following example question. Click on the choice that best answers the question.


Jackson recorded the number of birds he saw at his bird feeder each day for five days. He spotted 8 more birds on Friday than he did on Tuesday and Thursday combined.

BIRDS SPOTTED EACH DAY

| | |
|-----------|--|
| Monday |    |
| Tuesday |  |
| Wednesday |     |
| Thursday |   |
| Friday |      |

Key



Based on the data, how many birds are represented by the  ?

- (A) 2
- (B) 3
- (C) 4
- (D) 5

Measurement

Directions: Answer the following example question. Click on the choice that best answers the question.

Paul recorded a measurement of his notebook as 88 square inches. Which notebook measurement did Paul record?

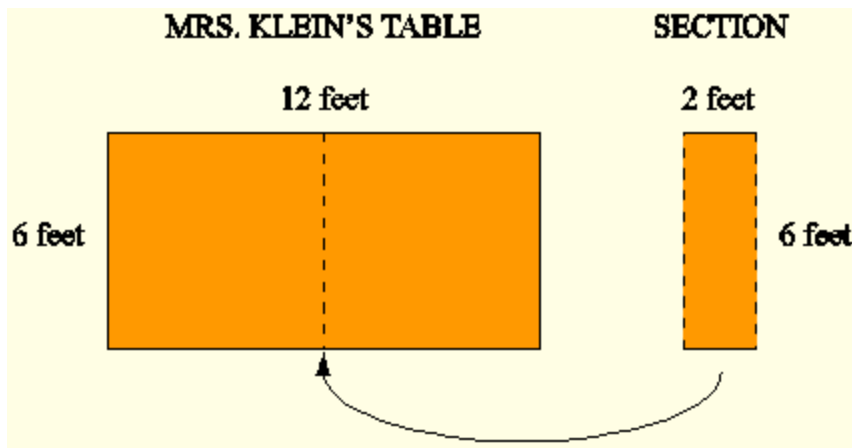
- (A) area
- (B) length
- (C) perimeter

☐ width

Measurement

Directions: Answer the following example question. Click on the choice that best answers the question.

Mrs. Klein's dining room table can be lengthened by adding a 2-foot-wide section to the middle of it.



What will happen to the perimeter of Mrs. Klein's table if she adds the 2-foot-wide section to the middle?

- ☐ It will increase by 2 feet.
- ☐ It will increase by 4 feet.
- ☐ It will increase by 6 feet.
- ☐ It will increase by 8 feet.

Measurement

Directions: Answer the following example question. Click on the choice that best answers the question.

Jared knows that a paper clip weighs about one gram. Which object weighs about one kilogram?

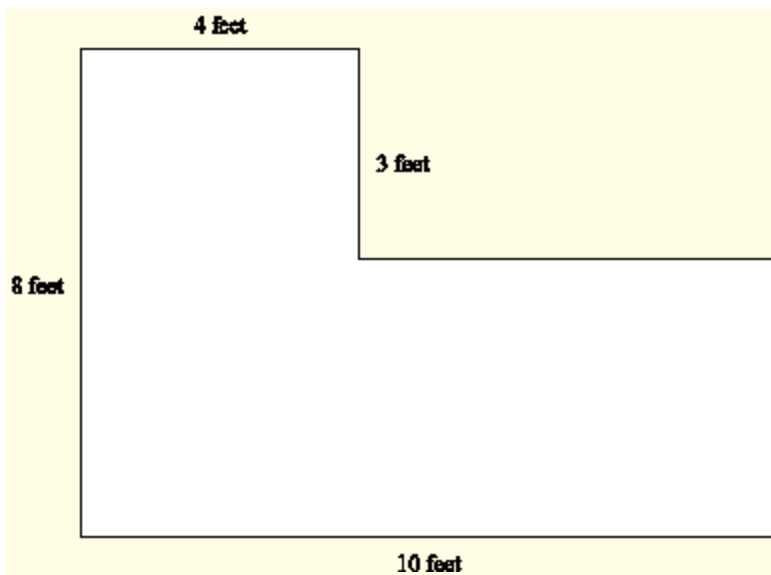
- ☐ desk
- ☐ textbook
- ☐ school bus

☐ pencil eraser

Measurement

Directions: Answer the following example question. Click on the choice that best answers the question.

The figure shows a drawing of Brad's bedroom.



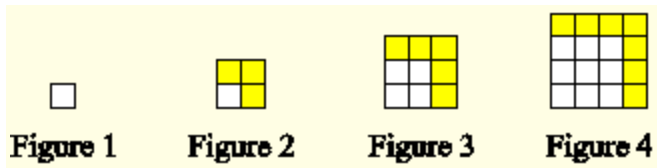
What is the perimeter of Brad's bedroom?

- ☐ 25 feet
- ☐ 30 feet
- ☐ 32 feet
- ☐ 36 feet

Algebraic Concepts

Directions: Answer the following example question. Click on the choice that best answers the question.

A pattern is shown below.



How many squares will be shaded in the seventh figure?


- (A) 11
- (B) 12
- (C) 13
- (D) 14

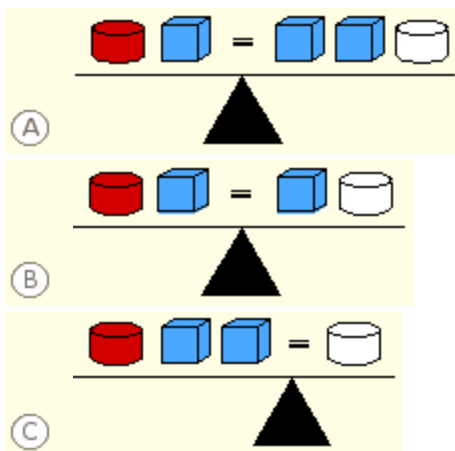
Algebraic Concepts

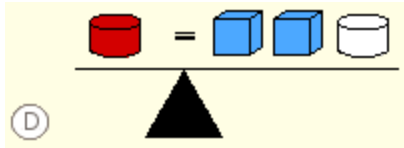
Directions: Answer the following example question. Click on the choice that best answers the question.

The figure shows Andrew's and Kim's containers.



If each scale is balanced, which diagram shows that Andrew's container weighs 2 pounds more than Kim's container? Let  = 1 pound.





Algebraic Concepts

Directions: Answer the following example question. Click on the choice that best answers the question.

The table shows the number of copies made per minute with the school's new copy machine.

| NEW COPY MACHINE | |
|------------------|---------|
| Number of Copies | Minutes |
| 120 | 2 |
| 180 | 3 |
| 240 | 4 |
| 300 | 5 |

Ms. Johnson needs to make 480 copies. How long will it take Ms. Johnson to make 480 copies?




- ☐ A 6 minutes
- ☐ B 8 minutes
- ☐ C 10 minutes
- ☐ D 12 minutes

Algebraic Concepts

Directions: Answer the following example question. Click on the choice that best answers the question.

Brandon solves a problem using the clue table.

CLUE TABLE

| | |
|---|-----|
|  | = 4 |
|  | = 5 |
|  | = ? |

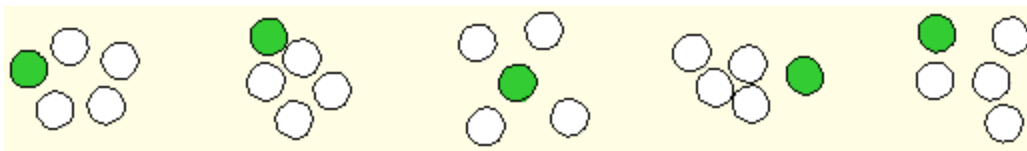
In the equation $(2 + \text{orange plus sign}) \times \text{blue square} = 40$, what is the value of orange plus sign?

- (A) 3
- (B) 5
- (C) 6
- (D) 8

Number Sense and Operations

Directions: Answer the following example question. Click on the choice that best answers the question.

Alex's marble collection is shown.



Which decimal represents the number of green marbles in Alex's collection?

- (A) 0.15
- (B) 0.20
- (C) 0.25
- (D) 0.50

Number Sense and Operations

Directions: Answer the following example question. Click on the choice that best answers the question.

Suki's mom earns \$8.14 per hour at her part-time job. Last week, she worked 5.8 hours. Which expression should she use to get the closest estimate of her pay?

☐ A 5×8

☐ B 5×9

☐ C 6×8

☐ D 6×9