

**MASSACHUSETTS MATHEMATICS LEAGUE
CONTEST 1 - OCTOBER 2008 SOLUTION KEY**

Round 4

A) Replacing L and g by $100L$ and $g/4$ respectively, we have $\pi\sqrt{\frac{100L}{g/4}} = \pi\sqrt{\frac{400L}{g}} = 20\pi\sqrt{\frac{L}{g}}$.

Thus, the effect is an **increase** by a factor of **20**.

B) Converting the times to hours, we have times of $\frac{2}{5}, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{5}{3}, \frac{25}{4}$.

We need only determine the LCM of the numerators. Clearly the $\text{LCM}(1, 2, 5, 25) = 50$

Each of these four fractions divides evenly into 50.

The quotients in order are: 125, 100, 30 and 8.

This means that the 125th ringing of bell A coincides with the 100th ringing of B which coincides with the 30th ringing of C which coincides with the 8th ringing of D, 50 hours later.

Thus, 2 days plus two hours later the bells ring together (**5:30 PM on Saturday**)

C) Substituting, $1 + \frac{rR}{f} = \frac{r}{F} \rightarrow 1 + \frac{48R}{12F/5} = 1 + \frac{20R}{F} = \frac{48}{F} \rightarrow R = \left(\frac{48}{F} - 1\right) \cdot \frac{F}{20} = \frac{48 - F}{20}$

Clearly, $(F, R) = (\underline{8}, 2)$ and $(\underline{28}, 1)$ are the only solutions in positive integers.

Alternate solution: $1 + \frac{48R}{f} = \frac{48}{F} \Leftrightarrow 1 + \frac{5(48R)}{5f} = \frac{12(48)}{12F} \Leftrightarrow 1 + \frac{5(48R)}{12F} = \frac{12(48)}{12F}$

$\Leftrightarrow 12F + 5(48R) = 12(48) \Leftrightarrow F + 20R = 48$ which is a linear equation with F intercept at $(48, 0)$ and slope of $-1/20 \rightarrow (\underline{28}, 1)$ and $(\underline{8}, 2)$