MASSACHUSETTS MATHEMATICS LEAGUE OCTOBER 2004

ROUND 4 ALG 1: FRACTIONS & MIXED NUMBERS

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ANSWERS

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A) Find the exact solution for
$$\frac{x-1}{2} - \frac{x-3}{4} - \frac{x-5}{6} = \frac{x-7}{8}$$

B) Consecutive unit fractions are those having numerators of 1 and denominators that are consecutive integers. Suppose a and b are consecutive unit fractions satisfying

$$a > \frac{\pi}{12} > b$$

Express $\frac{2ab}{a+b}$ as a simplified ratio of integers.

C) At $A\frac{B}{C}$ minutes exactly after four o'clock p.m. (but before five o'clock) the minute and hour hands of a clock are perpendicular. Find the product of the two solutions for $A\frac{B}{C}$ and express the answer as a simplified mixed number.