## MASSACHUSETTS MATHEMATICS LEAGUE CONTEST 3 - DECEMBER 2011 SOLUTION KEY

## **Team Round - continued**

D) Simplifying  $3^{\left(\log_3 x^4 - \frac{1}{\log_x 3}\right)} + 2^{2\log_2 x} + 7^{5\log_7 x}$ , the  $2^{\text{nd}}$  and  $3^{\text{rd}}$  terms are clearly,  $x^2$  and  $x^5$ , but let's look carefully at the  $1^{\text{st}}$  term. Since x occurs as a base of the logarithm,  $x \ne 1$ .

$$\log_3 x^4 - \frac{1}{\log_x 3} = \log_3 x^4 - \log_3 x = \log_3 \left(\frac{x^4}{x}\right) = \log_3 x^3$$
 Thus, the 1<sup>st</sup> term is, in fact,  $x^3$ .

Thus, we have  $x^3 + x^2 + x^5 = 3x^4 \implies x^2(x^3 - 3x^2 + x + 1) = 0$ 

Since x is the argument of the log function, x > 0 and the only roots come from the cubic factor.

By synthetic substitution, 
$$1 - 3 - 1 - 1$$

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$$1 - 2 - 1 \Rightarrow (x - 1)(x^2 - 2x - 1) = 0 \Rightarrow x = 1$$
or  $x = \frac{2 \pm 2\sqrt{2}}{2}$ 

 $\Rightarrow x = 1 + \sqrt{2}$  (1- $\sqrt{2}$  < 0 and is, therefore, also extraneous.)

E) First condition:  $\frac{G}{B} = \frac{7}{11} \Leftrightarrow G = \frac{7}{11}B$ 

Second condition:  $\frac{G-3}{B+2} = \frac{5}{8}$ 

Cross multiplying, 8G - 24 = 5B + 10

$$\Leftrightarrow 8\left(\frac{7}{11}B\right) - 24 = 5B + 10 = \frac{55}{11}B + 10 \Leftrightarrow \frac{B}{11} = 34 \Leftrightarrow B = 374$$

According to the first condition,  $G = \frac{7}{11}(34 \cdot 11) = 238$ 

Thus, in the fall, the total number of students is (374 + 2) + (238 - 3) = 611.

F) Since Q has five times as many sides as P, the exterior angle of  $P\left(\frac{360}{n}\right)$  is five times as large as

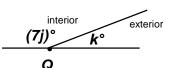
the exterior angle of  $Q\left(\frac{360}{5n}\right)$ . The relationship between the interior and the exterior angles of

these two polygons is summarized in the following diagram:

Thus, 
$$5j + 5k = 180 = 7j + k \implies j = 2k$$

Substituting,  $7(2k) + k = 180 \Rightarrow k = 12$ .

interior exterior (5j)° (5k)°



Since an exterior angle of Q measures  $12^{\circ}$ ,

Q must have 30 sides. As the number of sides increases,

the measure of the interior angle increases.

This, if R is an N-gon, N must be the smallest factor of 360 larger than 30, i.e. 36°, producing an exterior angle of 10° and an interior angle of **170**°.