

Home Base

Problems about numbers in various bases.

If you haven't already practiced, take an opportunity now.

Geogebra link: <https://tube.geogebra.org/m/1529377>

Geogebra link: <https://tube.geogebra.org/m/1527705>

Problem 1 Explain why the following “joke” is “funny:” There are 10 types of people in the world. Those who understand base two and those who don't.

Free Response: **Hint:** In base two, 10 is actually two. So people who do not understand base two will not get the joke.

Problem 2 You meet some Tripod aliens, they tally by threes. Thankfully for everyone involved, they use the symbols 0, 1, and 2.

(a) Demonstrate how a Tripod would count from beginning at 11.

11, 12, 20, 21, 22, 100, 101, 102, 110, 111, 112, 120, 121, 122, 200, 201

(b) What number comes immediately before 10? 2

(c) Before 210? 202

(d) Before 20110? 20102 Explain your reasoning.

Problem 3 You meet some people who tally by sevens. They use the symbols *O*, *A*, *B*, *C*, *D*, *E*, and *F*, in that order. (Note: Although it is common to use the letters *A* through *F* for digits greater than ten, these people are doing something different.)

(a) What do the individual symbols *O*, *A*, *B*, *C*, *D*, *E*, and *F* mean? (Note *O* is not 0.)

Free Response: **Hint:** 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6, respectively.

Author(s): Bart Snapp and Brad Findell

- (b) Demonstrate how to count from DD to AOC ? (Note: Case matters.)

$DD, \boxed{DE}, \boxed{DF}, \boxed{EO}, \boxed{EA}, \boxed{EB}, \boxed{EC}, \boxed{ED}, \boxed{EF}, \boxed{FO}, \boxed{FA}, \boxed{FB}, \boxed{FC}, \boxed{FD}, \boxed{FE}, \boxed{FF}, \boxed{AOO}$

- (c) What number comes immediately before AO ? \boxed{F}

- (d) Before ABO ? \boxed{AAF}

- (e) Before $EOFFA$? \boxed{EOFFO}

Problem 4 Now, suppose that you meet a hermit who tallies by thirteens.

Demonstrate the hermit's counting below. $8, 9, \boxed{A}, \boxed{B}, \boxed{C}, \boxed{10}, \boxed{11}, \boxed{12}, \dots, 18, \boxed{19}, \boxed{1A}, \boxed{1B}, \boxed{1C}, \boxed{20}, 2$