Here are the full, or partial solutions.

## Year 8 and below

The pages of a book are numbered; 1, 2, 3, ...

It takes 852 digits to number all the pages of the book.

What is the number of the last page of the book?

## Solution

From page 1 to page 9 we need 9 digits.

From page 10 to page 99 we need  $90 \times 2 = 180$  digits. 189 digits in total so far.

We have 852 - 189 = 663 digits left, and we have up to page 99 so far.

From page 100 to page 999 we would need  $900 \times 3 = 2700$  digits.

With 663 digits we can number  $663 \div 3 = 221$  three-digit pages.

Starting with page 100 that means we would reach page 220.

## Year 9 and above

How many set of three positive integers, a, b, c satisfy the following two conditions simultaneously?

$$6ab = c^2 (1)$$

$$a < b < c \le 35 \tag{2}$$

## Solution

We see from the second condition that the three integers must be different.

From the first condition we can see that *c* must be a multiple of 6.

So *c* could be 6, 12, 18, 24 or 30.

Now we need a and b such that  $a \times b = \frac{c^2}{6}$ . Let's look at the possibilities.

Νċ	c	$c^2$	$c^2/_6$	а	b	
1	6	36	6	2	3	Solution
2	12	144	24	2	12	Two digits the same, not a solution
3	,,	,,	24	3	8	Solution
4	,,	,,	24	4	6	Solution
5	18	324	56	4	14	Solution
6	,,	,,	56	7	8	Solution
7	24	576	96	6	16	Solution
8	,,	,,	96	8	12	Solution
9	30	900	150	6	25	Solution
10	,,	,,	150	10	15	Solution

So we have nine solutions, in triplets (*a*, *b*, *c*) they are (2,3,6), (3,8,12), (4,6,12), (4,14,18), (7,8,18), (6,16,24), (8,12,24), (6,25,30), (10,15,30)