

Solutions
Contest # 1

- Let $x = \text{number}$. Then $x = -x - 1$, so $x = -\frac{1}{2}$.
- $4.2 - 3.5 < x < 4.2 + 3.5 \rightarrow 0.7 < x < 7.7$. Integer values go from 1 to 7.
- Method 1: all points are in A, and B or C, so $A \cap (B \cup C)$
Method 2: points in A and B or in A and C, so $(A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C)$
- Originally, arrangement is x by x , then changed to 4 by $x+3$. That means $x^2 = 4(x+3)$, $x = -2$ or 6 , but $x > 0$ which makes $x = 6$ and the number of chairs is 36.
- Method 1: set $x^2 = 6x + 7 \rightarrow (x-7)(x+1) = 0 \rightarrow x = 7$ or -1 . Now check values for $x < -1$ or $-1 < x < 7$ or $x > 7$. The ones that work are $x < -1$ or $x > 7$.
Method 2: graph the parabola $y = x^2 - 6x - 7$ and see when it is > 0 . The x -intercepts are $-1, 7$. Since the graph opens upwards, it is > 0 when $x < -1$ or $x > 7$.
- Think of the figure on a coordinate system, with F at $(0,0)$, A at $(0,5)$, C at $(7,3)$ and E at $(11,0)$.
The lines \overline{CF} and \overline{AE} have equations $y = \frac{3}{7}x$ and $y = -\frac{5}{11}x + 5$. Solving the system,
 $y = \frac{165}{68}$. y is the height of the triangle. Therefore the area = $\frac{1}{2} \cdot 11 \cdot \frac{165}{68} \approx 13.3$