

Quiz 2.2.4: Finding Text (FIND)

Date: 11/10/2025

1. If cell **A1** contains the text "John Smith", why does the formula: `=LEFT(A1,FIND(" ",A1)-1)` return the word "John"?

1 / 1 point

In fact, why does this formula always return the first word, if cell **A1** contains two words separated by a space, " "?

- Here **LEFT** is being used as a helper function for the **FIND** function. The helper function, **LEFT**, finds the location of the space character, " ", and this function in turn speaks to the **FIND** function, to extract all the text from the left until this space.
- The outermost function, **LEFT**, actually extracts the first word, such as "John" in this example, on its own, and the innermost function, **FIND**, is redundant.
- The innermost function, **FIND(" ",A1)**, actually extracts the first word, such as "John" in this example, on its own, and the outermost function, **LEFT** is redundant.
- Here **FIND** is being used as a helper function for the **LEFT** function. The helper function, **FIND**, finds the location of the space character, " ", and this function in turn speaks to the **LEFT** function, to extract all the text from the left until this space.



Great work! You really have mastered the use of helper

functions, such as **FIND**.

2. When using the **FIND** function and the second argument for 'within text' is: "Microsoft Excel", which of the following are correct?

1 / 1 point

(Multiple answers possible. Partial credit awarded)



`=FIND("T", "Microsoft Excel")` returns 9



`=FIND("o", "Microsoft Excel", 6)` returns 7



FIND has an optional third argument that allows you to specify the position to start from. Even though there is an "o" in position 5 if we start from position 6 we will find the second "o" in position 7.



`=FIND("o", "Microsoft Excel")` returns 7



`=FIND("e", "Microsoft Excel")` returns 14



Even though there is an "E" at the start of Excel, it is a capital E, so **FIND** will not find it.

3. Suppose that cell **A1** contains the text "Microsoft Excel", What would the following formula return:
`=FIND("Excel",A1)?`

1 / 1 point

- 5
- 11
- 16

 **Correct**

Yes, the **FIND** function will return the position of the first letter of a text string, which in this case is the position of "E".

4. Postcodes in the UK look like **SW1A 1AA**. This consists of 2 parts: the **Outward Code** before the space (**SW1A**), and the **Inward Code** after the space (**1AA**). The **Inward Code** is always 3 characters but the **Outward Code** can be 2, 3 or 4 characters. Which of the following will extract the **Outward** and **Inward Codes** from this list?

1 / 1 point

C	Postcode
BH7 7AF	
N5 1BU	
BB10 4BX	
SW6 1HS	
SE25 6PU	
L4 4EL	
HU3 6HU	
LE2 7FL	
L4 0TH	
M11 3FF	
M16 0RA	
TS3 6RS	
SO14 5FP	
ST4 4EG	
SR5 1SU	
SA1 2FA	
N17 0AP	
WD18 0ER	
B71 4LF	
E20 2ST	

You can try it yourself using the attached file (Quiz Premier League.xlsx).

(Multiple answers possible. Partial credit awarded).

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 Quiz Premier League
XLSX File

- Outward Code: `=LEFT(C2,3)`
Inward Code: `=RIGHT(C2,FIND(" ",C2)-1)`
- Outward Code: `=MID(C2,FIND(" ",C2)-1,1)`
Inward Code: `=MID(C2,3,FIND(" ",C2)+1)`
- Outward Code: `=LEFT(C2,FIND(" ",C2)-1)`
Inward Code: `=RIGHT(C2,3)`

 **Correct**

Great work here! This was tricky!

- Outward Code: `=MID(C2,1,FIND(" ",C2)-1)`
Inward Code: `=MID(C2,FIND(" ",C2)+1,3)`

 **Correct**

Great work here! This was tricky!