

Probability Question

Answer – 1

Let's consider:

A is an unbiased die

B is the biased die

Sample Space:

A/B	2	3	4	5
1	3	4	5	6
2	4	5	6	7
3	5	6	7	8
4	6	7	8	9
5	7	8	9	10
6	8	9	10	11

Probability for sum 2-12

Sum	Frequency	Probability
2	0	0
3	1	0.04166667
4	2	0.08333333
5	3	0.125
6	4	0.16666667
7	4	0.16666667
8	4	0.16666667
9	3	0.125
10	2	0.08333333
11	1	0.04166667
12	0	0

Since die B is biased, and it won't roll 1 or 6, therefore, the sum can never be 2 or 12.

Answer – 2

Probability of winning on first try: $P(7) + P(11) = 0.1667 + 0.041667 = \mathbf{0.20833333}$

Probability of losing on first try: $P(2) + P(3) + P(12) = \mathbf{0.04166667}$

Answer – 3

Now that we have reached to the second roll, we need to figure out the probability of winning given, we have landed sum X with a probability of p. The probability of reaching second roll is

$$P(2^{\text{nd}} \text{ roll}) = 1 - [P(\text{winning first roll}) + P(\text{losing first roll})] = 0.76$$

In this case, we will continue to roll the die until we get X (when we will win) or 7 (we will lose).

Hence, we want to determine the probability of getting X before 7. This is the same as saying if we will land X or 7.

Given the conditional probability formula:

$$P(A | B) = P(A \text{ and } B) / P(B)$$

Let A be the event that sum of die is X and B be the event that the sum of the die is either X or 7.

$$\text{Since } P(A \text{ and } B) = P(A) = p \text{ and } P(B) = p + P(7)$$

$$P(A) = p$$

$$P(B) = p + 4/24$$

$$P(\text{Roll an X} | \text{Roll X or 7}) = p / (p + 1/6)$$

Hence, the probability of winning when first roll is X of probability p is:

$$P(X) * P(\text{Roll an X} | \text{Roll X or 7}) = \mathbf{p * (p / (p + 1/6))}$$

Answer – 4

As they have return on the dollar, that means amount invested is \$1.

Return: Value of Winning * Probability of Winning + Value of Losing * Probability of Losing

Value of Winning: \$1

Value of Losing: -\$1

Probability of Winning:

1. You can win on the first try. That has a 20.83% chance (Question 2a).

2. You can take 2 turns to win:

2b: You roll a 4 twice, chances of that happening are $8.33\%^2 = 0.00694444 = 0.694444\%$

2c: You roll a 5 twice, chances of that happening are $12.5\%^2 = 0.015625 = 1.5625\%$

2d: You roll a 6 twice, chances of that happening are $16.67\%^2 = 0.02777778 = 2.777778\%$

2e: You roll a 8 twice, chances of that happening are $16.67\%^2 = 0.02777778 = 2.777778\%$

2f: You roll a 9 twice, chances of that happening are $12.5\%^2 = 0.015625 = 1.5625\%$

2g: You roll a 10 twice, chances of that happening are $8.33\%^2 = 0.00694444 = 0.694444\%$

Total chances of winning = Probability of winning in first try + Probability of taking 2 turns
 $= 20.83\% + 10.066\% = 30.89\%$

Probability of Losing:

1. You can lose on the first try. 4.16% chance

2. You can take 2 turns to lose: If we know that Probability of winning in the 2nd turn is 10.243055%, then probability of losing = $100\% - 10.243055\% = 89.93\%$

Hence total chance of losing = $4.16 + 89.93 = 94.093\%$

Hence return is: $1 * 30.89\% - 1 * 93.916945\% = -0.632$

That means on an average you'll lose **\$0.632** for every dollar spent in this game.