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a)

Below follows a table demonstrating a solution with 17 channels:

	Channels															
1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0
4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
5	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0
7	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1

b)

Cell 1 has a conflict with 6, 2 with itself and 7, 3 with itself and 7, 4 with 5, 5 with itself and 6, 6 with 7 twice, and 7 with itself twice. This totals to the number of conflicts (the objective function) equaling **11 conflicts**.

c)

There are $7 * 13 = 91$ decision variables in such a problem.

d)

Yes, the minimum is 17. Each of the four channels in 7 must be separated by a minimum of four channels - this is 16 channels. There are then four assignments (two in 2 and two in 3, at least), that each must be at least two apart from each other and two away from 7. It is impossible to assign all four of these in the three gaps of size four - only one assignment can go into each of those gaps. As such, at least one of those gaps must be widened by one - this is the 17th channel. As seen in part a, it is possible to do an assignment with 17 channels, so the minimum is 17.