Who is Better?

The world is a perplexing place, wherein illusions are ubiquitous. We are constantly reminded of the truth that what we see or feel may not be the complete picture of world.

Let us take a look into the following table:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Studnet→  Exam ↓ | Sayem | Siyam |
| Exam-1 | 63/90=70% | 8/10=80% |
| Exam-2 | 4/10=40% | 45/90=50% |

Who do you think is the better student? The first look tells us Siyam outscored Sayem in both the exams. In the first exam, Siyam secured 8 out of 10, which is 80% and more than that Sayem scored (70%). Similarly, in the second exam, he again obtained greater score, attaining 50%, while Sayem achieved 40% mark.

We, thus, are to conclude Siyam is the better student, except that he is not!

Let us take a second look, after rearranging the exams.

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| Studnet→  Exam ↓ | Sayem | Siyam |
| Exam-1 | 4/10=40% | 8/10=80% |
| Exam-2 | 63/90=70% | 45/90=50% |

Your perception may have changed now. In the first exam, Sayem achived 4 out of 10 marks (40%), while Siyam got 8 (80%), being the clear winner. In the second exam, however, Sayem outsmarted him, secuirng 63 out 90 (70%), while Siyam scored just 45 (50%). Both have secured an exam. Is this a tie now?

Well, before drawing the final conslusion, let us take another look. As is already evident from the data, Two exams together constitute 100 marks. We would like to see how much they obtained in total.

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Studnet→  Exam ↓ | Sayem | Siyam |
| Exam-1 | 63/90=70% | 8/10=80% |
| Exam-2 | 4/10=40% | 45/90=50% |
| Total | 63+4=69% | 8+45 = 53% |

Sayem scored 69 out 100 (69%), and Siyam secured 53% marks. Sayem wins by a clear margin.

Desc

Reasons

1. We should compare the same exam the same exam. In the 90-mark exam, Sayem obtained 63 while Siyam obtained just 45.