The Beginning of the Modern Era

Our final reading associated with Chapter 5 helped bridge the gap in years between Heron and Cardano by looking more closely at Arabic mathematics and mathematicians. Europeans were also doing some mathematics during this period, and one of the most famous such is Fibonacci. Much of the foundation for the mathematics that was developed in Europe starting in the 1500s and 1600s was laid by merchants and other such professionals in the 1200s through the 1400s. These people, including Fibonacci, helped to bring knowledge from the intellectual center of the world in the Middle East to Europe.

Readings

First reading: Dunham, Chapter 6, pages 133 - 142

Second reading: Fibonacci Biography

Questions

Question 1 *Fibonacci defines the concept of a congruum, and then proves that such a number must be divisible by* $\underset{\text{given}}{\boxed{24}}$.

Question 2 *In what context were the Fibonacci numbers introduced?*

Multiple Choice:

(a) *In a problem about a spider climbing the wall.*

(b) *In a problem about a ship's voyages.*

(c) *In a problem about rabbit breeding.* ✓

(d) *Without any context; simply a list of numbers.*

Learning outcomes:
Author(s):
See Fibonacci Biography at http://www-history.mcs.st-andrews.ac.uk/Biographies/Fibonacci.html

Question 3 *What are the most important points from this reading?*

Free Response: