**A lame poem**<sup>a</sup> <sup>b</sup> Let's watch this clip from "Harold & Kumar Escape from Guantanamo Bay" released in 2008.

Kumar played by Kal Penn embarasses himself reciting the following poem:

blame duck: canard boiteux, US: un élu toujours en poste, alors que son successeur est déjà élu mais n'occupe pas encore le poste



## The square root of three

I'm sure that I will always be	When hark! What is this I see,
A lonely number like	Another square root of a three
The three is all that's good and right,	As quietly co-waltzing by,
Why must my three keep out of sight	Together now we
Beneath the vicious square root sign,	To form a number we prefer,
I wish instead I were a nine	Rejoicing as an
For nine could thwart this evil trick,	We break free from our mortal bonds
with just some quick	With the wave of magic wands
I know I'll never see the sun, as	Our become unglued
Such is my reality, a sad irrationality	Your love for me has been renewed

David Feinberg

- 1. If Kumar is a root three, then he is an odd / a decimal / (a rationnal / an irrationnal) number.
- 2. What does irrationnal mean in a non mathematical context? What about odd?
- 3. When he meets another square root three, they multiply. What does multiply mean in this context?
- 4. What is so special about being an integer? Explain the pun.

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 $<sup>^{</sup>a}lame$ : uninspiring, dull

## **Exercise 23 Sort** these words in the right column.

Minus / to share / to take away / reduce / total up / more than / less than / decrease / times / increase / to halve / to double / the difference between / plus / double / the product / to spread out equally / threefold / to treble / in addition to

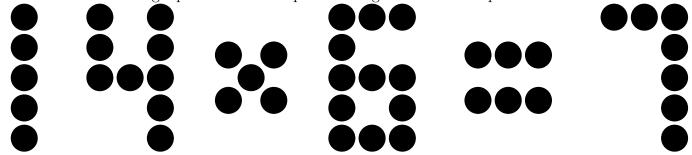
divide	$\operatorname{multiply}$	$\operatorname{subtract}$	add

What words are new to you? Use them in a simple sentence.

**Exercise 24** — Riddle. Remove one digit from each group to get the correct equation



**Exercise 25** Move a single point to another position to get the correct equation.



Exercise 26 — A riddle (devinette). In the summer of 1870, Lewis Carroll wrote to his young friend Mary Watson. In his letter he included this verse-riddle:

Dreaming of apples on a wall,

And dreaming often, dear,

I dreamed that, if I counted all,

-How many would appear?

How many apples do you think would appear?

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Let us watch "First Ever Countdown" https://youtu.be/dCRgz58Jn38

**Exercise 27** Write down the solutions given by Carole in a proper order, and respecting parenthesis. : Round one: 1; 3; 10; 7; 6; 4. Round two: 50; 3; 1; 3; 10; 7.

493 = 833 =

**Exercise 28** — **Countdown.** In each section, use the four numbers on the left to make the target numbe on the right. You do not need to use all the numbers and you can only use each number once. You can add, subtract, multiply or divide in any order.

3 6 9 2 1 8

Target: 443

25 | 75 | 50 | 5 | 1 | 7

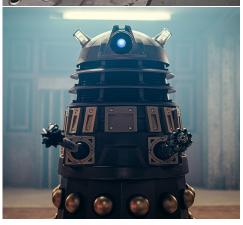
Target: 642

**Exercise 29** Do you recognize some of the British tv shows in these images?











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