

Puzzle – 34

Q- Riding Against the Wind Puzzle

A horse rider went a mile in 2 minutes with the wind and returned in 3 minutes against the wind. How fast could he ride a mile if there was no wind?

My Approach and Solution –

If the rider could ride a mile in 2 minutes with the wind, it is clear that he could go a 1.5 mile in 3 minutes, and 1 mile in 3 minutes against the wind.

Therefore, 2.5 miles in 6 minutes gives his actual speed, because the wind helped him just as much as it has retarded him, so his actual speed for a single mile without any wind would be $(2.5)/6 = 5/12$ miles/sec.