

1.

Given k standard dice, $(x + x^2 + \dots + x^6)$ is the generating function for each dice; So the whole generating function is $h(n) = (x(1 + x + \dots + x^5))^k$, we are looking for the coefficient of x^n .

$$\begin{aligned} (x(1 + x + \dots + x^5))^k &= x^k \left(\frac{1 - x^6}{1 - x} \right)^k \\ &= x^k * (1 - x^6)^k * (1 - x)^{-k} \\ &= x^k \sum_{l=0}^k (-1)^l * C(k, l) * x^{6l} * \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} C(k + m - 1, m) x^m \end{aligned}$$

We can see in order to make $n = k + 6 * l + m$, the coefficient is actually:

$$\sum_{l=0}^k (-1)^l * C(k, l) * C(n - 6l - 1, n - k - 6l)$$

From $C(n - 6l - 1, n - k - 6l)$, $n - k - 6l > 0$ only when $n > k + 6l$; it is not better than $C(n - 6l - 1, k - 1)$

The answer: the coefficient of x^n is

$$\sum_{l=0}^k (-1)^l * C(k, l) * C(n - 6l - 1, k - 1)$$

2.

By finding initial cases:

$$a_0 = 1$$

$$a_1 = 1$$

$$a_2 = 2$$

$$a_3 = 5 = 2 * 2 + 1^2$$

$$a_4 = 14 = 5 * 2 + 2^2$$

$$a_5 = 37 = 14 * 2 + 3^2$$

$$a_n = 2 * a_{n-1} + (n - 2)^2$$

Treat this whole sequence as combination with "+" and "-" signs. The rule is : there are n "+" signs and n "-" signs.

Also for last two characters: "--" or "+-" is the only option to choose. We have "+-", think it just as a intact material that won't affect any other sequence because the rest sequence just follow the last element rule as beginning, So there is a a_{n-1} ; "--", we first take it as a_{n-1} , now total has $2 * a_{n-1}$ so far; and then there has to be "+-" in somewhere from rest sequence to complement this "--" situation; so there are " $n-2$ " left for both "+" signs and "-" signs, so there are total $(n - 2)^2$ combinations; summing up all cases given : $a_n = 2 * a_{n-1} + (n - 2)^2$ for $n \geq 2$. Since a_1 has only 1 "+" or "-" to play around, let's just treat them as base case.

By solving this relation:

$$a_n = a_0 + a_1 x + a_2 x^2 \dots$$

$$\begin{aligned}
-2xa_n &= 0 - 2a_0x - 2a_1x^2 \dots \\
- \sum_{n \geq 2} (n-2)^2 x^n &= 0 - 0 - (3-2)x^3 \dots
\end{aligned}$$

Adding them up:

$$(1-2x)a_n = 1-x + \sum_{n \geq 2} (n-2)^2 x^n$$

$$a_n = \frac{\sum_{n \geq 0} C(n-2, n)x^n + \sum_{n \geq 2} (n-2)^2 x^n}{(1-2x)}$$

$$a_n = \sum_{n \geq 2} (C(n-2, n) + (n-2)^2)x^n * \sum_{n \geq 0} 2^n * x^n$$

$$a_n = \sum_{n \geq 2} 2^n * (C(n-2, n) + (n-2)^2) * x^n$$

So the coefficient is :

$$2^n * (C(n-2, n) + (n-2)^2)$$

3. For distinct part: suppose each distinct partition can only be happened or not

k stands for value of each partition. The sum of those k's is equal n.

$$\begin{aligned}
&(1+x)(1+x^2) * (1+x^3) * \dots (1+x^k) \\
&= \frac{1-x^2}{1-x} * \frac{1-x^4}{1-x^2} \dots \frac{1-x^{2k}}{1-x^k} \\
&= \frac{1}{(1-x) * (1-x^3) * (1-x^5) \dots (1-x^l)}
\end{aligned}$$

note: l is odd here

Above equation turns out to be :

$$= (1+x+x^{1+1}+x^{1+1+1}+\dots) * (1+x^3+x^{3+3}+x^{3+3+3}+\dots) * \dots$$

The equation here is exactly the number of ways to partition n into k parts as k is odd.

So the distinct part generating function can be converted into odd part generating function, which proves the question.