

# Gladiators

By Vickie Chao

Back in the old days of Rome, people loved to see gladiators fight. Gladiators were professionally trained warriors. Their job was not to defend the nation. Instead, it was to battle against each other in public. To the onlookers, such combats were fun and exciting. But to gladiators, they were not. To them, such combats were excruciating matters. Every time they marched to the center of an arena for a match, they put their lives on the line. If they made one false move, they could easily get injured or worse, face the most horrible outcome of defeat - death!

Interestingly, though ancient Rome was famous for this brutal form of sport, it did not invent it. The credit should really go to the Etruscans. The Etruscans believed that when an important man died, his spirit needed a human sacrifice to survive the afterlife. To honor the deceased, they would stage a battle at the man's funeral. They would have two gladiators fight until one killed the other. As the loser lay dying on the ground, his listless body became a burial offering.



The Etruscans ruled Rome for about a century. While it is quite possible that they first brought the custom to Rome during that period, there was no proof that the Romans actually practiced it. Historical records show that the first gladiator fight in Rome occurred in 264 B.C. It was long after the Etruscans were gone. That display was for honoring a man named Brutus. At his funeral, his sons held a contest among three pairs of gladiators. The fight must have gotten a lot of buzz around the town. Slowly, it took root in Rome and became a popular sport. With more and more people watching the game, the scale of it grew bigger over time. It went from the initial three pairs to three hundred, and then to five thousand!

For the most part, gladiators were usually criminals, slaves, or prisoners of wars. Held against their will, they were enrolled into special schools called *ludi*. Once there, they had to learn how to use weapons. They had to learn how to engage in fights. Upon "graduation," they each would be assigned to a specific class. The class would later dictate the type of weapon a gladiator could use. It would also dictate the type of gladiators he could fight. For example, in a gladiator game, the organizer would pit a fight between a "net man" and a "pursuer." The former had only a net in his right hand and a dagger in his left. The latter came fully armed. As the two warriors faced each other in the arena, the "net man" would try his best to cast the net over the "pursuer." If he managed to do that, he could then use his dagger to kill the opponent.

Of course, death was the most common outcome of a gladiator fight. But it was not the only one. When a gladiator was wounded, he could raise his forefinger to beg mercy from the audience or the high-ranking officials at the game. If they wanted to spare his life, they turned their thumbs up or waved their handkerchiefs. If they wanted to slay him, they turned their thumbs down or toward their chests. Usually, the audience's response was enough to determine the fate of the wounded gladiator. However, the final decision was always in the hands of the emperor (if he was there) or the game organizers.

Undoubtedly, a gladiator's life was a sad one. Each time he entered a game, he knew very well that it could be his last. Each time he made the pledge "We who die to salute you!" at the onset of a game, he meant what he said. If a gladiator was lucky enough to win enough combats, he could receive a discharge from further service. A successful gladiator enjoyed fame and fortune. But his popularity would never erase his past. That was because the Romans had mixed feelings about their gladiators. On one hand, they despised them for their shameful backgrounds. On the other hand, they admired them for their strength. The conflicting emotions were like a tug-of-war. While most people looked down on gladiators, they followed the sport wholeheartedly. They cheered on their favorite contestant whenever he was in a match. They showered him with praise. They even depicted him in poems and paintings.

Gladiator fights fell into disfavor during the fourth century. Emperor Constantine I issued an edict (ruling) in 325 A.D. and officially banned the sport. His order, however, was not taken seriously. For the next several decades, the Romans continued to flock to arenas and watch gladiators dueling out in public. They did not give up this entertainment until Emperor Honorius came along. Emperor Honorius ascended the throne in 393 A.D. Shortly after he gained control, he banned the sport again. This time, he made sure that his order was taken

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seriously. With determination, he was finally able to put this violent pastime to a stop. The last known gladiator fight in Rome was on January 1, 404 A.D. After that, it faded into history and became a thing of the past!

Gladiators

## Questions

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- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Who came up with the idea of gladiator fights?
  - A. The Etruscans
  - B. The Egyptians
  - C. The Romans
  - D. The Greeks
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Who were least likely to become gladiators?
  - A. Slaves
  - B. Prisoners of wars
  - C. Criminals
  - D. Nobles
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. What was the original purpose of staging a gladiator fight?
  - A. To honor the deceased
  - B. To celebrate a new year
  - C. To show off wealth
  - D. To please gods
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Gladiators were divided into several categories based on their strength. When they fought at arenas, they could use any weapon they felt comfortable with.
  - A. False
  - B. True
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. How many contestants were there in Rome's first gladiator fight?
  - A. Ten
  - B. Six
  - C. Two
  - D. Eight
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. What would a wounded gladiator do to beg mercy from the audience?
  - A. Cry out "Help!"
  - B. Raise his forefinger.
  - C. Lower his head.
  - D. Stretch his arms.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. In which hand did a "net man" hold his net?
  - A. Right
  - B. Left
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. Who first banned gladiator fights?
  - A. Caesar
  - B. Constantine I
  - C. Honorius
  - D. Alexander the Great

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ 9. For how many years did Rome have gladiator fights?

- A. 668 years
- B. 385 years
- C. 140 years
- D. 843 years

\_\_\_\_\_ 10. Who was finally able to put an end to gladiator fights?

- A. Honorius
- B. Constantine I
- C. Alexander the Great
- D. Caesar

It was 7 degrees above zero in the morning. By afternoon the temperature rose 21 degrees. How warm was it?

How many minutes is it from 8:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.?

Estimate quickly the difference.  
 $5,940 - 2,310$

Draw a number line with 0,  $\frac{1}{2}$ , and 1. Show where  $\frac{1}{10}$  would go. Is  $\frac{1}{10}$  closer to 0,  $\frac{1}{2}$ , or 1?

Draw a number line with 0,  $\frac{1}{2}$ , and 1. Show where  $\frac{3}{9}$  would go. Is  $\frac{3}{9}$  closer to 0,  $\frac{1}{2}$ , or 1?

8, \_\_\_\_\_,  $8\frac{1}{4}$ ,  $15\frac{1}{4}$ ,  
 $8\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $15\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $8\frac{3}{4}$ ,  $15\frac{3}{4}$ ,  
9, 16,  $9\frac{1}{4}$

33, 52, 71, \_\_\_\_\_, 109, 128,  
147, 166, 185

Know how many inches in a foot? Okay, smarty pants, how many inches in 5 feet?

$11 \times 3 + 1 - 12$

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Complete each pattern. Write what the rule is.

$$5\frac{2}{3}, 5\frac{1}{3}, \underline{\hspace{1cm}}, \underline{\hspace{1cm}}, 4\frac{1}{3}, 4, 3\frac{2}{3}, 3\frac{1}{3}, 3,$$

$$2\frac{2}{3}, 2\frac{1}{3}, 2, 1\frac{2}{3}, 1\frac{1}{3}, 1, \frac{2}{3}, \frac{1}{3}$$

$$6, 5\frac{2}{3}, 5\frac{1}{3}, 5, 4\frac{2}{3}, 4\frac{1}{3}, 4, 3\frac{2}{3}, 3\frac{1}{3},$$

$$3, 2\frac{2}{3}, 2\frac{1}{3}, 2, \underline{\hspace{1cm}}, \underline{\hspace{1cm}}, 1, \frac{2}{3}, \underline{\hspace{1cm}}$$

Subtract  $\frac{1}{3}$ 

Complete each pattern. Write what the rule is for each pattern.

$$(355,763,629,491), (20,927,272,323), (1,231,016,019),$$

$$(72,412,707), (4,259,571), (250,563),$$

$$(14,739), \underline{\hspace{1cm}}, \underline{\hspace{1cm}}$$

$$(396,718,580,736), (22,039,921,152), (1,224,440,064),$$

$$(68,024,448), (3,779,136), (209,952),$$

$$(11,664), \underline{\hspace{1cm}}, \underline{\hspace{1cm}}$$

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Groundhogs are pretty small animals. David the groundhog weighs eleven pounds five ounces. Alex the groundhog is younger and only weighs four pounds fourteen ounces. How much more does David weigh?

Jenna bought some candy. It tasted just like black cow root beer floats! She had 30 pieces of candy. She gave 5 pieces of candy to each of 3 friends. She gave  $\frac{3}{5}$  of the rest of the candy to her sister. How many pieces of candy did she have left?

Max was having so much fun making cupcakes for his class. He made  $2\frac{5}{6}$  dozen of them! But there are only 21 kids in his class. Everyone ate one cupcake except for Mary, who does not like cupcakes. How many cupcakes are left over?

Change to a percent.

$$\frac{6}{10}$$

Write the ratio as a fraction.  
2 to 7

2 is what % of 4?

word root **neo** can mean **new**

**neophyte, neonate**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

"How many buildings are yours?" asked Anne as they were playing the Build as Fast as You Can game, which is the best new game on their HBox.

"Not telling!" replied Jenna.

Anne would have to use the clue on the screen. If she can guess correctly, she will get 50 more points. The clue said, "If you double the number of buildings that Anne has, Anne will have 5 less than the number of buildings that Jenna has. Start building fast!"

Anne has 12 buildings. How many buildings does Jenna have?

Weather person Anne was at it again. She promised to stay awake for as long as the sun was out. She woke up with the rise of the sun at 6:32 a.m. The sun will set in 12 hours and 15 minutes. What time will Anne go to bed?

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# Kwanzaa Symbols

By Brenda B. Covert

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It's not always easy to tell that the seven days of Kwanzaa are coming. Kwanzaa begins on December 26. It's often hidden behind the tinsel and lights of Christmas. Many people celebrate both Christmas and Kwanzaa. Yet, there are sights, sounds, and smells that are special to Kwanzaa. Pay attention, and you may find some of them.

*Kwanzaa* means "first." It refers to the first fruits of the harvest, so you can expect fruits and vegetables to be symbols of Kwanzaa. A straw mat goes on the table; the produce is placed on top of it. For Kwanzaa, an ear of corn for each child in the family is placed on the mat. Apples, bananas, oranges, and potatoes - any fruit or vegetable that is available in winter - can be added to the mat.

The colors of Kwanzaa are red, green, and black. Red stands for the struggles of the past and present. Green stands for a good future. Black represents the rich skin color of people of African descent. The mat on the table will most likely have those colors woven into it. Candles in those colors will be used. The people may dress in those colors. Red, green, and black streamers, balloons, and banners appear. Wrapping paper even comes in red, green, and black! The handmade gifts that are given on the last day of Kwanzaa may be wrapped in Kwanzaa-colored paper.



The unity cup is used to honor ancestors in a toast. Every member of the family takes a sip of water or juice from the cup. It can be a fancy goblet or a sturdy tumbler, but it shouldn't be used for anything else. It can look very nice displayed on the mat with the fruits of the harvest.

No Kwanzaa celebration would be complete without candles! The *kinara* is a seven-branch candleholder. Often it's carved from wood. The center candle will be black. Three candles to one side will be red. The three candles on the other side will be green. One candle is lit on the first night of Kwanzaa. On the second night, the first candle and a second candle are lit. By the seventh night of Kwanzaa, all the candles will be lit.

Those are some of the sights of Kwanzaa. Are there any sounds that go with this holiday? Yes. African drumbeats are a popular Kwanzaa sound. Any music with an African sound to it can be used to celebrate Kwanzaa.

What aromas fill the air during Kwanzaa? On the last day of Kwanzaa, there is a big feast. Families cook their favorite foods. Some of them may be considered African fare. Some will remind us of our Thanksgiving feasts. Sniff the air, and you may detect the mouth-watering smell of freshly baked bread, fried or roasted chicken, shrimp gumbo, sweet potato casserole, and collard greens. You may discover peanut soup and cornbread! A Kwanzaa salad may be served. It features all the colors of Kwanzaa - green lettuce or spinach, red tomatoes or peppers, and black olives.

As Kwanzaa draws near, look around and see if you spy symbols of the holiday. How many sights, sounds, and scents are there in your neighborhood?

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Kwanzaa Symbols

## Questions

1. What are the colors of Kwanzaa?

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2. How many days does Kwanzaa last?

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\_\_\_\_\_ 3. Children are represented by:

- A. the unity cup
- B. their parents
- C. the mat
- D. ears of corn

\_\_\_\_\_ 4. One rule of Kwanzaa is:

- A. Learn to play the drums.
- B. Light the eight *kinara* candles.
- C. The unity cup is only for Kwanzaa.
- D. Don't celebrate Christmas.

\_\_\_\_\_ 5. The Kwanzaa candles sit in a \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. bowl
- B. tub
- C. *kinara*
- D. menorah

\_\_\_\_\_ 6. Kwanzaa is a good time to \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. reward children for being good
- B. honor ancestors
- C. nap
- D. eat salad

$$\begin{array}{r} 3.85 \\ \times \quad 6 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$6 \overline{) 21.6}$$

$$3 \overline{) 23.4}$$

word root **hum** can mean **human**

**human, humanity**



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

It was such pandemonium! A football game was scheduled at a stadium that seats 76,207 people. One day before the big game, there were 6,819 people still waiting to buy tickets. How many people had already bought their tickets?

Emma had some safety pins. Her mother asked her how many pins she had. Emma liked algebra problems, so she told her mother that the number of pins she had was greater than 10 but less than 12. How many safety pins does Emma have?

Lucas helped his father plant the vegetables in their garden. They have seven hundred six seeds. If they want to plant thirty-six seeds per row, how many rows can they make?

The Edison Elementary School cafeteria workers made 38 pizzas for lunch. They cut each pizza into 16 pieces. How many pieces of pizza were there in all?

Frank's Fish Shack sold an estimated one million, two hundred sixty-one thousand, six hundred seventy-three worms over the past five years. Write in standard form the number of worms sold.

Mrs. Garcia has 54 books for her class. There are 19 students in the class. If she gives each student the same number of books, how many books will be left over?

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

To celebrate the Shortest Month of the Year, Sweet Sue's Sweets sells strawberry shortcakes. Each shortcake costs \$1.65, but if you are shorter than 4 feet, your shortcake is free. Sue sold 195 shortcakes this week and was paid \$301.95. How many servings were given to people less than 4 feet tall?

The fifth grade students wrote on a balloon about their hurt feelings. Then they filled the balloons with helium, tied them, and let them go. Twelve percent of the 72 students released 2 balloons each. The remaining students released only 1 balloon each. How many balloons were released in all?

Alex opened a savings account with the \$80 he received for his birthday. He made three deposits of \$35.06, \$27.17, and \$20.45 this month. He made two withdrawals of \$17.70 and \$23.15 this month. How much did he have at the end of the month?

Megan bought  $4\frac{1}{2}$  pounds of candy to decorate the gingerbread houses. If  $\frac{2}{5}$  of a pound of the candy was peppermint, how many pounds were not peppermint?

Mr. Allen bought two books about penguins for his class. The books cost \$14.89 and \$15.46. He paid for them with 2 \$20 bills. How much money did he have left?

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# Jacqueline Kennedy

By Meg Leonard

*President and Mrs. Kennedy arrive at the airport in Dallas, Texas, on November 22, 1963. President Kennedy was killed later that day.*

Jacqueline Bouvier was born in 1929. She was known as Jackie. She lived in New York City and East Hampton, Long Island. She was a private person. She spent a year of her college life in France. From this experience, she found she loved foreign countries. Jackie got a job with a newspaper when she graduated from college. The paper was in Washington, DC. She took photographs. She wrote articles for the newspaper. While she was doing this work, she met Senator John F. Kennedy. They quietly started to date. They married in 1953. They had three children. Their names were Caroline, John Jr., and Patrick. Patrick died just two days after he was born. John F. Kennedy was elected president in 1960. Jackie became the First Lady. She tried to keep the family's life private. Jackie brought the arts to the White House. She made it a museum of American history. She read books about what the White House used to look like. People around the world loved her. She was beautiful and graceful. President Kennedy was assassinated in 1963. The world was stunned. Jackie remarried in 1968. Her second husband, Aristotle Onassis, died in 1975. Jackie worked as an editor for about twenty years following Onassis's death. She died in 1994.



Jacqueline Kennedy

## Questions

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Who was Jackie Kennedy?
- A. wife of John F. Kennedy
  - B. a person who loved the spotlight
  - C. an athlete
  - D. all of the above
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. What was Jackie's job after college?
- A. a teacher
  - B. a doctor
  - C. a nurse
  - D. a newspaper reporter
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. What did Jackie do at the White House while she was First Lady?
- A. She was a reporter.
  - B. She turned it into a museum of American history.
  - C. She remodeled it.
  - D. She turned it into a museum of French history.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. What was Jackie's job after her second husband's death?
- A. a nurse
  - B. a photographer
  - C. an author
  - D. an editor

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

5. Why did people around the world love Jackie?

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$$63 \div 7 \times 12$$

Round the decimal 0.765 to the nearest hundredth.

Pick the family fact that is missing.

$$17 \times 8 = 136$$

$$8 \times 17 = 136$$

$$136 \div 17 = 8$$

It was 95 degrees outside. What would the temperature be if it got 11 degrees colder?

$\frac{1}{6561}$ ,  $\frac{1}{729}$ ,  $\frac{1}{81}$ , \_\_\_\_\_,  
(1), (9), (81), (729),  
(6,561)

The perimeter of a rectangle is 22 cm. The longer side is 9 cm. How long is the shorter side?

What is the area of a rectangle with sides 5 cm and 8 cm?

140, 150, 160, 170, 180, 190,  
\_\_\_\_\_, 210

56 divided by 7 equals

Write  $\frac{6}{10}$  in lowest terms.

How many centimeters in 9.7 meters?

$$10 \div \frac{1}{6}$$

Write a letter that has two or more lines of symmetry.

\_\_\_\_\_

Circle the smallest number:

3,562,910,415      807,912

157,604,829      3,654,874

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Use any of these digits. Cross off a digit after you use it.

**9****3****4****0****0****6**

Write the smallest 4-digit number that you can come up with that is divisible by 3.

Jenna has 37 coins. The total value of the coins is \$4.55. All she has are nickels, dimes, and quarters. She only wants nickels and dimes, so she gave her brother all of her quarters. There was a total of 6 quarters. How many nickels does she have?

Sketch 2 lines  $\overleftrightarrow{HI}$  and  $\overleftrightarrow{XY}$  that are parallel.Sketch 2 lines  $\overleftrightarrow{FG}$  and  $\overleftrightarrow{UV}$  that are perpendicular.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

There are 24 books on the shelf. All of the books are either about Winston Churchill or Queen Elizabeth. There are twice as many books about Winston Churchill than there are about Queen Elizabeth. How many books are there about Winston Churchill?

Sarah has a piece of ribbon she wants to use for a bow for her cat. The ribbon is 0.4 meters long. She cut off 23 centimeters. How long was her remaining ribbon?

Robert made a poster of the ten best ways to prevent fraud. He worked on the poster for 40 minutes each night for five nights. On the sixth night, he worked for one hour to finish it. How long did he work on the poster in all?

Mrs. Clark was a volunteer at the Angel Thrift Shop. She worked every morning from 9:00 a.m. until 11:15 a.m. How many hours did she work in 14 days?

The mass of Anne's cat is 16 grams more than Maria's cat. Sara's cat is 66 grams more than twice the mass of Maria's cat. Maria's cat's mass is 1,422 grams. What is the mass of Sara's cat?

Robert took a survey of his class. There are 24 students in the class. Chocolate is the favorite ice cream of half of the students. How many students in his class like chocolate ice cream best?

word root **ab** can mean **from or away****abbreviate, abduct, abduction**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

The Iditarod has been called the "Last Great Race on Earth." It begins in Anchorage, Alaska, and ends 10 or 11 days later in Nome. The population of Anchorage was 260,283 according to the 2000 Census. What is the value of the digit "6" in that number?

Justin was curious about everything, especially measurements. He liked to know how much water a glass would hold, how much air a balloon would hold, and how much pudding a bowl would hold. He even wanted to know how much batter his mother's cake pan would hold! The cake pan is fourteen inches long, nine inches wide, and 2.5 inches deep. What is the volume of the cake pan?

Each month the average person in the United States eats about 30 ounces of candy. About how many ounces of candy does the average American eat in two years?

Hunter found 30 seashells. He put them in a bag and pulled out 2 pink shells out of 12 pulls. Predict the number of pink shells he will pull in 15 more pulls.

Dr. Toothsome, the TV dentist, said that 8 out of 10 dentists recommend Glistergreen. If that were true, how many dentists out of 160 would recommend Glistergreen?

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# Cuyahoga Valley National Park

By Meg Leonard

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Cuyahoga Valley National Park is in Ohio. The park takes its name from the Cuyahoga River. The word "cuyahoga" is a native American word. It means "crooked river." The park is just a few miles from two cities. They are Akron and Cleveland. This park is a change from the busy life in a city. Visitors can spend time with nature there.

The Cuyahoga Valley is a place where two different land areas meet. The Appalachian Plateau meets the Central Lowlands. Glaciers also shaped the land. There are steep valleys. There are winding streams. Visitors can see waterfalls. There are deep ravines. Some of these ravines drop more than 600 feet in just a few miles. This area is like the Badlands of South Dakota. In the Cuyahoga Valley, there are a lot of plants. This is different from the Badlands.



Since the park is between two cities, many people go there to be with nature. You can go watch birds. There are many bike trails through the park. You cannot camp in the park, but there are campgrounds nearby. You can go golfing on courses in the park. You may hunt for interesting features of the Earth using a portable GPS system. There are 125 miles of hiking trails in the park. There are lots of ways to enjoy Cuyahoga Valley National Park.

Cuyahoga Valley National Park

## Questions

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- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Where is Cuyahoga Valley National Park?
- A. Tennessee
  - B. Michigan
  - C. Ohio
  - D. Virginia
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. What does "cuyahoga" mean?
- A. deep river
  - B. crooked river
  - C. busy river
  - D. easy river
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. What region is similar to the Cuyahoga Valley?
- A. Appalachian Mountains
  - B. Grand Canyon
  - C. Central Lowlands
  - D. Badlands
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. What is near Cuyahoga Valley National Park?
- A. prairie
  - B. two cities
  - C. the ocean
  - D. a desert



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

5. Name some activities to do at Cuyahoga Valley National Park.

How many millimeters are in 7 centimeters?  _____ millimeters		What time is 15 hours after 1:00 p.m.?  _____	
Which is the smallest?  52.7 ÷ 5.2      52.7 ÷ 5.3      52.7 ÷ 5.4		(7 + 4) + 6 = _____	
		Insert punctuation marks into this sentence. I wonder what the new drama class will be like Michael wondered aloud	
13 cm = _____ mm	Sarah has two favorite numbers. If you add her favorite numbers, you get 21. If you multiply her favorite numbers, you get 80. What are her mystery numbers?  _____		$\begin{array}{r} 381 \\ - 229 \\ \hline \end{array}$
How far do you think it is from the ground to your chin? Write an estimate of the distance you think it could be.	40 ÷ 10 = _____	1 lb = 16 oz  15 lb = _____ oz	
	$\begin{array}{r} 232 \\ + 355 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 74 \\ - 51 \\ \hline \end{array}$	
Circle the correctly spelled words. offen, often pach, patch repair, repare	63 ÷ 7 = _____	Write a letter that has a line of symmetry.  _____	

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Peter bought a book of Etheridge Knight's poems. It was a small book and only cost \$8.84. If Peter and his sister each paid half of the price of the book, how much did each pay?

Eric said his father is taller than Hunter's father. Eric's father is 76.5 inches tall. Write that number in word form.

Hannah wanted to dress up her cat like a princess for Dress Up Your Pet Day. Her father helped her build a small cage for carrying her cat to school. The cage was 31.8 inches long and sixteen inches wide. What was the perimeter of the cage?

Alex's Red Rover team won  $\frac{3}{5}$  of the games they played at the park last week. If they won 9 games, how many games did they play?

$$\begin{array}{r} 42 \\ + 34 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

How many digits are in ten times ten?

\_\_\_\_\_

Insert a comma in the appropriate place in this sentence.

The best things in life may be free but everything else costs money.

For 1,766,033,201,534, write the digit that is in the hundred thousands place.

\_\_\_\_\_

Circle the addition property for  $44 + 146 = 146 + 44$ .

associative property  
commutative property

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**What's in the Box?**

Read the words on the left then match the letters with the correct synonyms in the clues.  
Put the clues together and solve the mystery of what is in the box.

A = danger  
C = scratch  
D = toilet  
E = couple  
I = brawl  
K = fidget  
L = creepy  
N = friend  
O = chilly  
R = huddle  
S = overthrow  
T = limp  
Y = thoughtful

Clue 1: squirm ally cold floppy

  k     n                

Clue 2: scrape cold gather john

Clue 3: floppy fight pair

Clue 4: pair polite pair eerie pair floppy

Clue 5: topple ally pair threat squirm pair gather

**What's in the Box?** \_\_\_\_\_

Draw a shape that has between three and four lines. The shape should have at least one line of symmetry. Show the line of symmetry using a dotted line.

Circle the digit in the tenths place.

819.621

Which reference material would you consult to find the answer to this question?

What are three synonyms for the word conducive?

\_\_\_\_\_

Circle the correctly spelled words.

advice, advis  
feest, feast  
lettuce, lettuse

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Gavin went to the Macon County Fair with his older brother and his nephew. They walked around and looked at all the animals, rode on the Ferris wheel, and played some of the games. Finally they decided they wanted something to eat. Gavin's brother bought a basket of nachos and a drink for each of them. If the nachos cost \$3.58 for a basket and the drinks were \$1 each, how much did the snack cost for all three of them?

Eric was chosen to tell Aesop's "The Ant and the Grasshopper" to a group of first grade students. He decided to make posters to go with the story. He decided he would need six different pictures. He bought 6 sheets of poster board at \$0.86 per sheet, 6 markers at \$0.81 each, and 3 packages of construction paper at \$1.39 per package. How much did he spend in all?

Jack is flying from his home to his grandparents' home in Nebraska. He will leave at 10:42 a.m. and will arrive in Nebraska at 2:25 p.m. What is the total flight time? (Note: Assume no time zone changes.)

Edensaw's uncle is two years older than his father. Edensaw's father is three times plus four years as old as Edensaw. Edensaw's father is 40. How old are Edensaw and his uncle?

Max picked  $\frac{5}{6}$  of a bushel of apples. He gave his aunt  $\frac{1}{3}$  of a bushel. How much of the bushel of apples does he have left?

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

"It's raining cats and dogs!" said Luna.

"No one talks like that anymore," interrupted Billy. "You should say something like this: Lawns are getting drenched. We had a record 0.37 inches of rainfall in 2 hours."

"That's not a record," replied Luna as she was checking her weather app. "The record for today is 2.64 inches. Can you believe that?"

How much more will it need to rain today to beat the record? And before you are sure this is an easy question, I didn't ask for how much rain to tie the record!

Show your work.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# CHALLENGE YOUR CLASSMATES!

(OR SIBLING OR PARENT)

**Play against  
someone!**

Go to:

[edhelper.com/math-games.htm](http://edhelper.com/math-games.htm)**Pick your  
grade. Then play  
to challenge  
someone else.**

Date played:

Whom I challenged:

Who won?

Explain what you learned from one math problem you got wrong.

**YOU  
WIN!**

What is the area of a  
rectangle with sides 2 cm  
and 12 cm?

Round the decimal 0.455 to  
the nearest hundredth.

A rectangle is 23 cm on  
one side and 6 cm on  
another side. What is the  
perimeter?

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Polly Horvath--Everything on a Waffle?

By Jody Williams

---

What is your favorite breakfast food? Some people may say cereal. Some people may say bacon and eggs. Some people might say waffles. Waffles come with many toppings. Some toppings are fruity. Some toppings are sweet. In *Everything on a Waffle*, just about anything comes on top.

*Everything on a Waffle* is about an eleven-year-old girl. Her name is Primrose Squarp. She lives in a Canadian fishing village with her parents. A typhoon hits her village. Her parents disappear. Primrose refuses to believe her parents are dead. Primrose's life changes after that. She is passed around from home to home. There is only one thing that stays the same. It is a restaurant where each menu item is served on a waffle. The owner teaches her how to cook.

Primrose is sent to live with an older couple. She likes the couple but starts having accidents. People in the town become curious about Primrose. Through all of this, she never gives up hope in finding her parents. She wants to be part of a normal family again.

*Everything on a Waffle* was written by Polly Horvath. She was born on January 30, 1957. She was born in Michigan. She has an older sister and a younger brother. When Polly was a child, she would often play by herself. She created imaginary games. She would play with cans, boxes, and jars in the kitchen. Each one was a character. When Polly was eight years old, she wrote her imaginary stories on paper. She says that is when she became a writer.

As Polly continued through school, she did not enjoy it. In high school there were two teachers who encouraged her writing talent. One set up a writing office for her in the library. She wrote there every day. She often sent her work to publishers. By the time she was eighteen years old, none of her work had been published.

Polly put her writing career aside. She went in a different direction. She studied dance at the Canadian College of Dance. She also studied dance in New York City. Eventually, Polly returned to writing.

Polly got the idea for *Everything on a Waffle* when she and her husband were selling their house. Their realtor could tell stories about growing up on Vancouver Island. They would hear about what the town was like thirty years earlier. They would hear about the only restaurant in town. It served everything on a waffle. From there, Primrose became a character. Polly said that she heard Primrose telling the story as she wrote.

When Polly Horvath is not writing, she is reading or eating. She remembers reading books as a child where the characters were eating. She wanted to know what the lime pickles tasted like as she was reading *Little Women*. She could never find the recipe. She did not want her readers to wonder what something tasted like. Each chapter of *Everything on a Waffle* ends with a recipe.

Today, Polly Horvath lives in British Columbia, Canada. She lives on Vancouver Island. She has two daughters. She has a dog that she takes for long walks through the woods and along the ocean. She also has a horse. Her favorite thing to do is to take a drive with her whole family and the dog, too. They enjoy exploring the island that they call home. Polly Horvath enjoys another thing. She enjoys and continues to write.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Polly Horvath--Everything on a Waffle?

## Questions

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1. Who is Primrose Squarp?

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\_\_\_\_\_ 2. Polly Horvath was born on January 30, 1957.

- A. false
- B. true

\_\_\_\_\_ 3. When did Polly Horvath become a writer?

- A. when she was eight years old
- B. when she became a mother
- C. when she graduated from high school
- D. when she was in college

4. Describe Polly Horvath's first stories.

---

---

\_\_\_\_\_ 5. What did Polly Horvath do when she put her writing career aside after high school?

- A. She traveled the world.
- B. She learned how to fly an airplane.
- C. She went to college and became a teacher.
- D. She studied dance.

6. Where did Polly Horvath get the idea for *Everything on a Waffle*?

---

---

7. Why did Polly Horvath include a recipe at the end of each chapter of *Everything on a Waffle*?

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\_\_\_\_\_ 8. What does Polly Horvath do when she is not writing?

- A. She reads and eats.
- B. She walks her dog.
- C. She explores Vancouver Island with her family.
- D. all of the above



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

One package of safety pins has 25 safety pins in it. How many safety pins are in 3 packages? Write an equation and solve the problem.

Jenna's mother is a police detective. She investigates crimes involving counterfeiting. She makes \$33,568 per year. How much does she make each month?

Mr. Rodriguez works at the Levi Strauss factory. He packs boxes of jackets into larger cartons. Each carton is 4 feet x 6 feet x 3 feet. The boxes are 2 feet x 1.2 feet x 1 foot. How many boxes will fit in each carton?

Jacob had 72¢ to buy chocolate ice cream. Jason gave him 25¢ more. Jacob spent 90¢ for a chocolate cone. How much money does he have left? Write an expression to find the amount of money he has left. Solve it.

Write an equation to represent this:

The sum of seven and four is eleven.

Underline the cause in the sentence.

They called the ambulance;  
Grandpa fell down the stairs.

Insert a comma in the correct place in this sentence.

The rumor I heard about Mrs. Lieber retiring isn't true is it?

Jessica was given five numbers: 7, 6, 9, 3, and 4. She needs to use two of these numbers to make a fraction. Can she make a fraction that is less than five-sixths?

word root **greg** can mean **group**

**congregate, segregate**

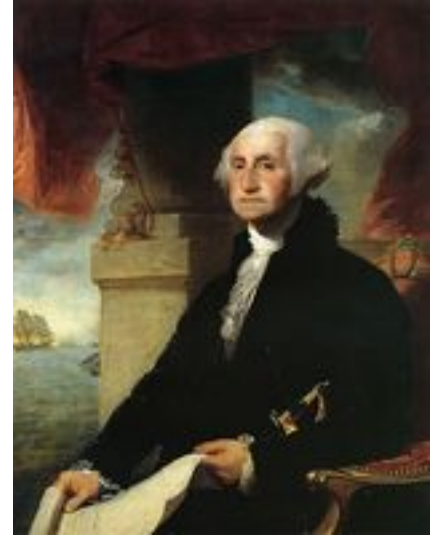
Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# George Washington

By Meg Leonard

---

George Washington was our first president. He was born on February 22, 1732. He was born in Virginia. Not much is known about his childhood. George was a serious boy. He was very thoughtful. He joined the military at a young age. He served for about ten years. Then he married his wife. Her name was Martha. Their home was named Mount Vernon. George was happy here. Then the American Revolution began. George was asked to be a leader in the war. He became the leader of the army. George was a skilled military man. George wanted to retire at his farm when the war was over. But, he could see that the new country still needed a leader. He was elected the first president. He was elected unanimously. This means that everyone voted for him. No one voted for anyone else. Being the first at something is a big job. George knew that everyone would watch what he did. He did his best to be a strong leader. George was president for eight years. He died in 1799. Many things have been named in Washington's honor. Some examples are the state of Washington and our nation's capital.



George Washington

## Questions

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- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Who was George Washington?
- A. first president of the United States
  - B. a serious boy
  - C. a skilled military leader
  - D. all of the above
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Where was Washington born?
- A. Washington, D.C.
  - B. Virginia
  - C. the state of Washington
  - D. West Virginia
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. What was the name of Washington's house?
- A. Mount Everest
  - B. Mount McKinley
  - C. Mount Vernon
  - D. Mount Rushmore
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. How long was Washington president?
- A. 20 years
  - B. 8 years
  - C. 1 year
  - D. 50 years

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

5. Why was Washington elected president?

Emily invented a robot. The robot's name is Alex. Alex can go a maximum speed of 3 mph. At that rate, how long would it take Alex to go 8 miles?	15 ÷ 3 =	
Justin invented a robotic bug. The bug can crawl four centimeters in twenty-five seconds. How long would it take the bug to crawl twenty-four centimeters?	7 x 9 =	4 x 3 =
		9 x 11 =
Can 375 be evenly divided by 3? Circle: 375 is NOT evenly divisible by 3 375 is evenly divisible by 3	Anna wants to call Rosa. Rosa is on vacation in Asia. It is a time difference of eleven hours. Rosa's time is always later than Anna's time. If it is 10:36 P.M. where Anna lives, then what time is it where Rosa is?  _____	
In the number 40,761,946,026, the digit 7 is in what place?  _____		

word root **sed** can mean **sit**      **sedentary, sediment**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Eric has a box of peanuts. The box is 6 inches long, 4 inches wide, and 3 inches deep. About 5 peanuts will fit in each cubic inch of volume. About how many peanuts are in the box?

The circus starts at 7:30 p.m. It will take Erin 20 minutes to walk to the circus. What time should she leave her house to be there when the circus starts?

Which number is the smallest? Which number is the largest?

What is the difference between the largest and smallest numbers?

7.130

7.11

7.05

7.13

Jessica likes to run. She used a running app on her phone in August. During the month, she ran an average of 1.6 miles per day. How many miles did she run for the entire month?

word root **demi** can mean **half****demitasse, demigod**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Circle words to the RIGHT or DOWN. Every letter is used exactly ONCE.

F G P R E P A Y S F H E E  
 U R U S M E T A L S C R S R  
 N A I E C R A S H R A S L O  
 L C D L F A R T I E A M A O D  
 U T A F S U P P L Y T E W W E  
 C I N H E I G H T S C S D E W  
 K O C S I X J U S T H D E B T  
 Y N E C O N G R E G A T I O N

Write the words found.

CONGREGATION	DEBT	
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Circle words to the RIGHT or DOWN. Every letter is used exactly ONCE.

P C E N T R Y G E M R M T  
 R S O B A L L O O N S E E P H  
 I O S D U E S W E E T A M E E  
 S L T D I S P U T E S B B L  
 O D P R E C I P I C E S E B I  
 N I N S O L E N T L Y U R L K  
 S S O U P F I G H T R S E E  
 G R A N D F A T H E R E F R Y

Write the words found.

FRY	REASSURE	
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Select the word or phrase whose meaning is closest to the given word.

**ACRIMONY**

bitterness  
disaster  
inclination  
aptitude  
gleefulness

**ANOMALY**

consistency  
soiled  
spoiled  
aberration  
silent

**INGENUITY**

usefulness  
friendliness  
attractiveness  
cleverness  
inexperience

**HOAX**

soft drink  
dress  
summarize  
guide  
deception

**INERT**

oscillating  
energized  
incapable  
motionless  
flexible

**FLEDGLING**

jammed  
trained  
newborn  
foul  
inexperienced

**FRANK**

candid  
reticent  
dishonest  
fictitious  
avoidant

**CASTIGATE**

scold  
behead  
omit  
censor  
heal a wound

**NONCHALANT**

unconcerned  
exclamatory  
passive  
emotive  
trendy

Now find the given words AND the answers in the word search. If you can't find an answer, you might be wrong.

R S O N E D M D G D E C N E I R E P X E N I D I T T W O H F E S C N  
E K C B I N G E N U I T Y E O N E N O N C H A L A N T O O A E C Y R  
G E I E O I I I U Y L A M O N A N A S N T H C I C Q T I A E N O N L  
E N R A I T T A N I I R B D U C D L N R I S O O N R N C X C I L O R  
S E R G I S E E N E T A G I T S A C X D E S O A D N S O C C N D M E  
R U I A Z N A N T R E N I I P E D E N S U M O T I O N L E S S E I N  
E L U N C O N C E R N E D R G Y E A L C S S E N R E V E L C P A R A  
L C D U B N O H N S Y B I T T E R N E S S C C T I X C N T S N I C R  
L L X T D T L I X F L E D G L I N G N S F T I D E C E P T I O N A A  
N F R A N K X T E L I O A B E R R A T I O N C I T D R C A N D I D Z

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# Leap Year

**By Sharon Fabian**

---

Do you know any leaplings? Leaplings are like the rest of us in most ways - but there is one big difference. Leaplings have only one real birthday every four years.

That is because leaplings were born on February 29 - a date that occurs only once every four years.

Some people wonder why we even have leap years. It doesn't seem fair that certain people don't have a birthday for three years in a row!

And what about when it's time for a leapling to get his driver's license? If he doesn't turn sixteen in a leap year, he doesn't have a 16th birthday. Does he have to wait until March 1 for his license? How fair is that?

Some teens have actually had to wait much longer, months even! It seems that computers didn't recognize that they were sixteen at all. Maybe the computers thought they were only four since they had only four real birthdays in their first sixteen years.

But there is a reason why we have leap years, and it's really not just to give leaplings a hard time. The reason we have leap years is because we need them to keep our calendar synchronized with the Earth's revolution around the sun.

Our calendar has 365 days in a year, which is just about the length of time that it takes for the Earth to orbit the sun - but not quite. The actual time span is more like 365.242199 days.

So every once in a while, once every four years, we have to add a day to keep the calendar on track. One day has been added every fourth year since the Julian calendar came into use about two thousand years ago. The change brought our calendar much closer to the true schedule of the Earth's revolution around the sun, but it still wasn't perfect.

Over four hundred years ago, a further correction was made when the Gregorian calendar came into use. Since that time, a day has been added to the calendar every fourth year except for the years that can be divided evenly by one hundred. So the years 1700, 1800, and 1900 were not leap years. An even further refinement dictated that if a year was evenly divisible by four hundred, then it would have the extra day. That meant that the year 2000 was a leap year.

Now, our calendar is very, very close to the actual schedule of the Earth's revolution.

But still, for some people, the new calendar may not be an improvement. Certain people have to wait even longer than four years for a true birthday. For example, since 1900 was not a leap year, people born on February 29, 1884, did not have even one birthday during all of their teenage years.

Will the calendar need to be revised again in the future? Maybe, but it's too soon to tell. With all of the corrections currently in place, our calendar is accurate to 8,000 years. So maybe, years in the future, someone will have to make a rule that years divisible by 8,000 will not be leap years. But that is something that we don't know for certain since the revolution of the Earth may change slightly in a few thousand years.

We probably don't need to worry about that yet. Meanwhile, leap year is important for other reasons. For example, presidential elections in the United States take place in leap years. Summer Olympic Games happen in leap years, too. And of course, if you happen to be a leapling, then leap year is very important to you because it is your birthday year.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Leap Year

## Questions

---

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Leap years have \_\_\_\_\_ days.
- A. 367
  - B. 365
  - C. 364
  - D. 366
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. In leap years, the extra day is added at the end of the month of \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. February
  - B. January
  - C. December
  - D. November
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Leaplings are \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. leap year calendars
  - B. the people who figured out that we needed to add days to the calendar
  - C. people born on February 29
  - D. certain kinds of frogs
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Leap days occur \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. approximately once every month
  - B. exactly once every four years
  - C. exactly once every month
  - D. approximately once every four years
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Our calendar will not need to be revised again to synchronize it with the Earth's revolution for \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. one thousand years
  - B. thousands of years
  - C. four years
  - D. one year
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. The Earth revolves around the sun in \_\_\_\_\_ days.
- A. 29
  - B. about 365  $\frac{1}{4}$
  - C. 29  $\frac{1}{4}$
  - D. 365
7. Suppose that you were a leapling, born on February 29, 2008. In what years would you have your first two real birthdays?
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
8. Why do we have leap years?
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

"I can quickly divide a three-digit number by a two-digit number," Pam tells Adam.

"Yeah, sure," replies Adam. "Then what is 238 divided by 14?"

Pam has a trick. She will distract Adam while you figure it out. Show your work!

How many total legs are on 7 dogs?

$$9 - 7 + 11$$

Is 33 a composite or a prime number?

$$9 - 7 + 5 + 9$$

A book has 5 pages. Each page has 11 dimes. How many dimes in the book?

Sarah bought six candy bars. It cost \$3.96. How much did each candy bar cost?

Add the correct end punctuation for this sentence.

Don't step on that piece of glass

Insert commas in the correct places in this sentence.

The Olympic sports I can't wait to watch are swimming diving javelin and dressage.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mrs. Lewis's class is raising money for a charity during December.

Anna saved a nickel for each day of the month to donate.

Billy saved a dime each day. Who collected more money? By how much more?

An angle measures  $102^\circ$ .  
What would you call this angle?

Sketch an acute angle  
named  $\angle GHI$ .

What kind of angle has  
a measure of  $180^\circ$ ?

At 1 p.m. today, Sarah will  
not be able to use her  
electronics for 3 hours. At  
what time will she be able  
to resume using her phone?

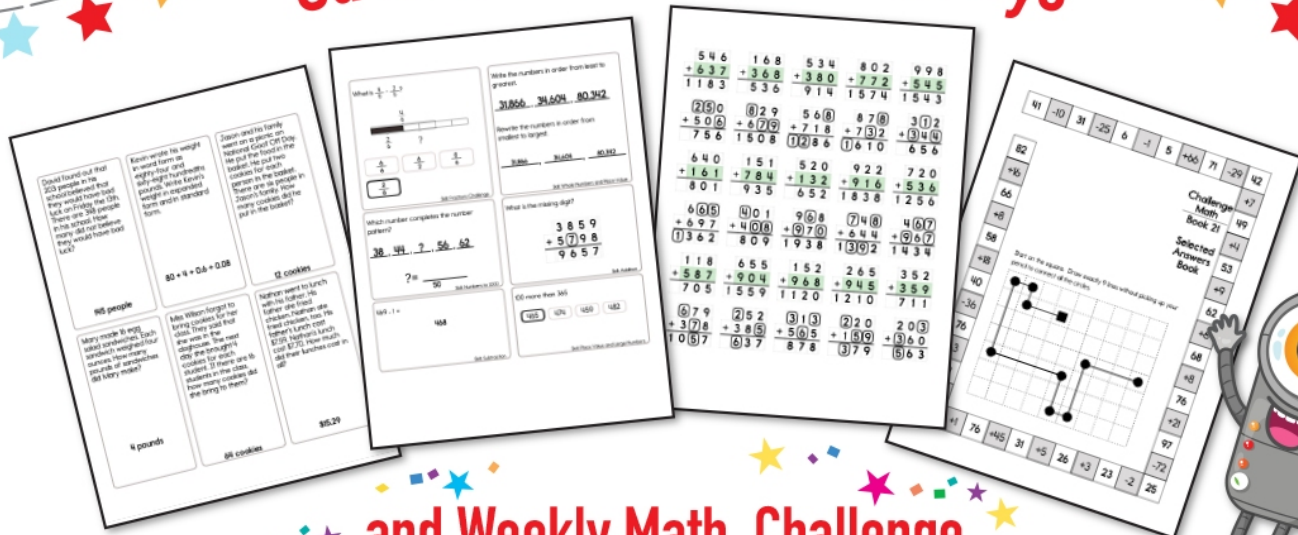
What number is halfway  
between 36 and 44?

In the equation  $22 \times 429 = 9,438$ , which number is the product?

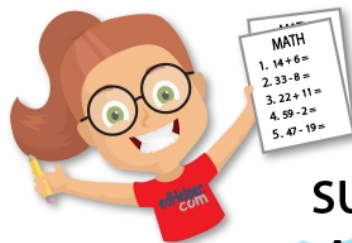
Explain what is meant by the underlined phrase.

My grandparents tell me that I am the light of their lives.

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 $- \div$   
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