

Cardinal and Ordinal Numbers

1. Opening puzzle

If each person were to stand up and shake the hand of each other person in this room, how many handshakes would there be?

2. Prime numbers

- a) What is the smallest prime?
- b) What is the biggest prime smaller than one hundred.
- c) What is the eighth prime number?
- d) Can you find two primes next to each other?
- e) Find two primes greater than 50 with just one number between them.
- f) Are there any even primes?

3. If you were to spell out the numbers in full (i.e. one, two, three, . . .), how far would you need to go until you found the letter ‘a’?

4. “I’ve always been 45 years older than your dad” said grandma to her grandson. “But now the two digits in my age, both prime, are the reverse of the two in your dad’s age.” How old is grandma?

5. Fill in the blanks with your best guess.

- a) 59 is the _____ prime number.
- b) Earth is the _____ planet from the sun.
- c) Canada is the _____ largest country by landmass.
- d) Joe Biden is the _____ president of the United States.

6. Fill in the blanks.

- a) We have breakfast at _____ o’clock. (8)
- b) It is the _____ time he comes here. (8)
- c) I have bought _____ books. (4)
- d) This is the _____ book I am reading this month. (4)
- e) You must do this exercise the _____ time. (2)
- f) I have seen _____ of my friends. (2)
- g) He is in the _____ class. (7)

- h) He has learnt English for _____ years. (7)
- i) I have worked on this for _____ hours. (3)
- j) You will find the answer in the _____ lesson. (3)
- k) Monday is the _____ day of the week. (1)
- l) There is only _____ cake left. (1)

7. Fill in the blanks.

- a) Euler was _____ (a/ an/ the) mathematician.
- b) Euler was _____ (a/ an/ the) excellent mathematician.
- c) I liked _____ (a/ an/ the) high school I went to.
- d) One is _____ (a/ an/ the) natural number.

The expression *the number* is singular which means that it should be followed by a singular verb. For each of the following fill in the missing verb.

- e) The number _____ (is/ was/ are/ were) 3.
- g) The number of people who attended the concert _____ (is/ was/ are/ were) 30,000.

The expression *A number of* is used with plural nouns and take a plural verb.

- h) A number of episodes _____ (is/ was/ are/ were) already available on Netflix.
- i) A number of people _____ (is/ was/ are/ were) shocked by the incident.
- j) A number of countries _____ (is/ was/ are/ were) taking steps to reduce carbon emissions.

Otherwise, numerical expressions take either a singular or plural form of the verb, according to whether they are being referred to as a single entity or as individuals within a group.

- k) A million pounds _____ (is/ are) a lot of money.
- l) A million homes _____ (is/ are) reported to be without power today.
- m) Two years _____ (is/ are) a long time to wait.
- n) The two years since I last saw you _____ (has/ have) dragged by.
- o) The remainder of the guests _____ (is/ was/ are/ were) still enjoying the party.
- p) There _____ (is/ was/ are/ were) 31 days in October.
- q) There _____ (is/ was/ are/ were) a number which is divisible by 2.

8. Choose the right articles to complete the following sentences in English. If it isn't necessary to use any articles, choose letter x.

- a) There is _____ fruit tree in his garden.

- b) She passed her exam in spite of making _____ few mistakes.
- c) How much are _____ apples?
- d) The apples cost fifty cent _____ dozen.
- e) Give me _____ stapler.
- f) Tom was _____ carpenter.
- g) A dog eats _____ meat.
- h) She is going to be _____ waitress.
- i) He's as blind as _____ bat.