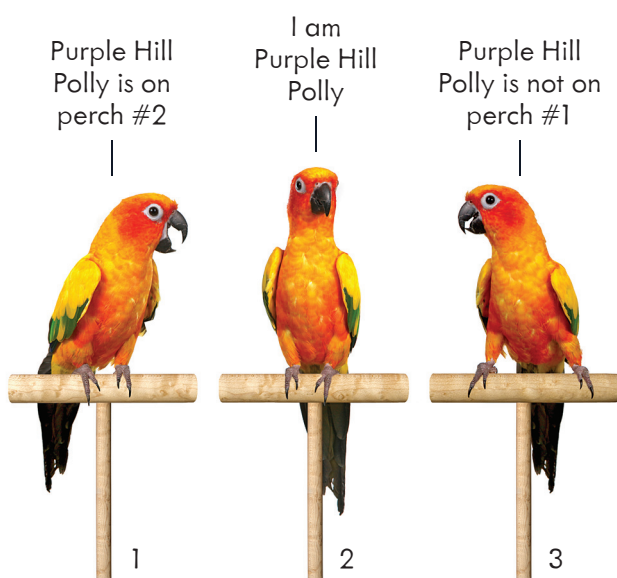


Parrots in Purple Hill

At a carnival in Purple Hill, a sign on a booth reads:

ONLY PURPLE HILL POLLY
TELLS THE TRUTH!
CAN YOU FIGURE OUT
WHICH PARROT IS
PURPLE HILL POLLY?



Tom Swifty Visits the Hills

A “Tom Swifty” is a sentence with an adverb that tells how or when Tom spoke **AND** is related to the meaning of the sentence. Two examples: “Nobody has ever struck oil in Amaranth,” said Tom *boringly*. Or, “Speeding on Highway 9 cost me \$120 and three points,” said Tom *finally*.

Complete each of these five “Swifties” with the best choice from the ten possibilities offered.

“Can you believe I got poison ivy on the Trailway!” said Tom _____.

“One of these days I’ll run the Town of Caledon!” said Tom _____.

“If only I’d written down what I need before I went to the store in Shelburne,” said Tom _____.

At Christmas dinner in Orton, Tom _____ said, “for what we are about to receive, let us be thankful.”

“After the accident, the surgeons at the Headwaters hospital had to remove a bone from my arm,” Tom said, _____.

graciously — carelessly — aspiringly
listlessly — angrily — absently — forgetfully
humourlessly — rashly — uncomfortably

Help Haley Spot a Flaw

Because the June heat wave was already into its ninth day, Haley was in no hurry to get out of the air-conditioned patrol car when she reached the farm. With the motor idling, she sat in the car and took a minute to stare down the lane at a frame house that had seen better days. There was no one to be seen but she’d telephoned before leaving the station and knew the elderly couple was inside waiting for her.

Finally, with a sigh, she eased the car forward. The lane was narrow and the swamp grass on both sides was so tall and thick it scraped against the doors, but before she had time to think about how difficult it might be to back out again, an old man appeared at the side of the house.

“You’re the Constable Barry who phoned,” he said the instant Haley got out of the car. “You want to know about my nephew, Arbie, my sister’s boy. Don’t know why you came here. I told you all this on the phone. Young Arbie, he was here last night. A good half hour. There’s no way he coulda been up here in Mulmur Township and rob that gas station way down in Bolton like they say.”

“He’s right!” A woman’s voice came from the side of the house. Seconds later she was standing by the old man. She pointed to a pair of battered Muskoka chairs in the grass. “We was settin’ there watchin’ for sunset when Arbie drove in. I gave him a cup of tea and he stayed with us out here till it was pretty well dark.”

Arbie was “known to police” and evidence suggested strongly that he was guilty of a robbery in Bolton just after sunset the day before. But he insisted he was far from the scene at the time and had witnesses – and his aunt and uncle – to prove it.

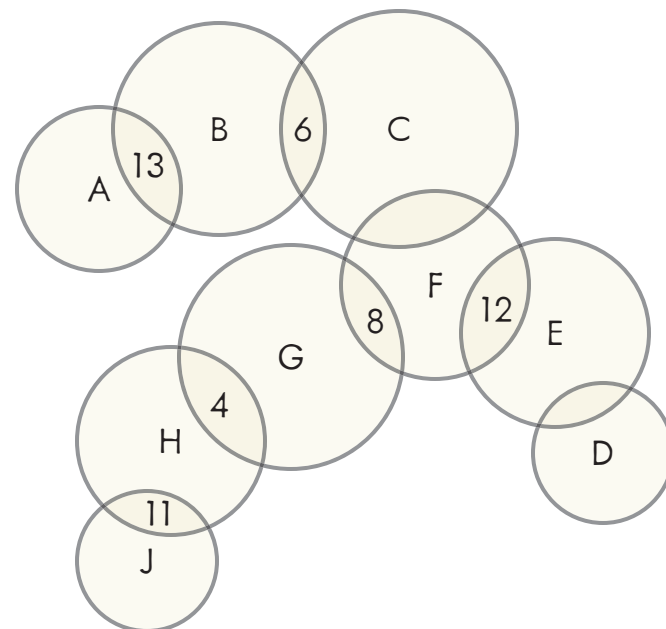
Haley has at least one good reason to doubt the couple’s story. *What is it?*



Circular Arithmetic at the Inglewood Fair

To win a prize at Inglewood’s street fair, contestants had to figure out the numerical value of nine different circles in a design painted on an old barn door. The circles overlapped and were labelled A, B, C, and so on. Each had a different numerical value from 1 to 9. Circle B, contestants were told, had a value of 4. In some of the overlaps, numbers gave the sum of the values of two overlapping circles. That’s why everyone figured out right away that the numerical value of Circle A had to be 9. Figuring out the value of the remaining seven circles, however, was the point of Inglewood’s street fair challenge.

Would you have won a prize at the fair?



Vowels and Consonants from Around the Country

- 1) Multiply the number of vowels in the name of the county seat of Dufferin County by the number of consonants in the name of Canada’s smallest province.
- 2) Divide the result of #1 by the number of Canadian provinces whose name begins and ends with a vowel.
- 3) Now divide the result of #2 by the number of consonants in the surname of the only woman prime minister of Canada.
- 4) Multiply the result of #3 by the number of vowels in the smallest Great Lake.
- 5) Multiply the result of #4 by the number of letters in the Canadian territory whose capital is Whitehorse.
- 6) Divide the result of #5 by the number of provincial capitals in Canada with double letters in their names.
- 7) Divide the result of #6 by the number of consonants in the surname of the person who was Canada’s prime minister in 1990.

The number you get in #7 should be the same as the value of the Canadian coin which has the Blue Nose on its reverse (tails) side. *Is that what you got?*