A Puzzling Conclusion

by Ken Weber

A Canadiana Speed Test

Four letters of the alphabet do not appear anywhere in the names of the provinces and territories of Canada.

Time yourself! In addition to 'X' and 'Z' how long did it take you to figure out the other two?

Mr Collison's On-Time Exercise

At the little frame schoolhouse near Binkham, just north of Hillsburgh, Mr. Collison was troubled by the number of pupils who arrived late every day – deliberately, in his opinion. He curbed the problem by having the offenders complete the following exercise at recess. (To enjoy what was left of the break, offenders had to score 100 %.)

Would you have made it out before the bell?

Each phrase can be expressed in one word ending with *late*. For example, "spotlessly clean" ... immacu*late*.

I : surrender unconditionally ...

II : increase by stages or steps ...

III : try to equal or imitate ...

IV : provide with fresh air ...

V : review in orderly fashion ...

VI : cheerless and gloomy ...

VII : require as a condition ...

VIII : express with clarity ...

IX : curdle or congeal ...

X : rise and fall in waves ...
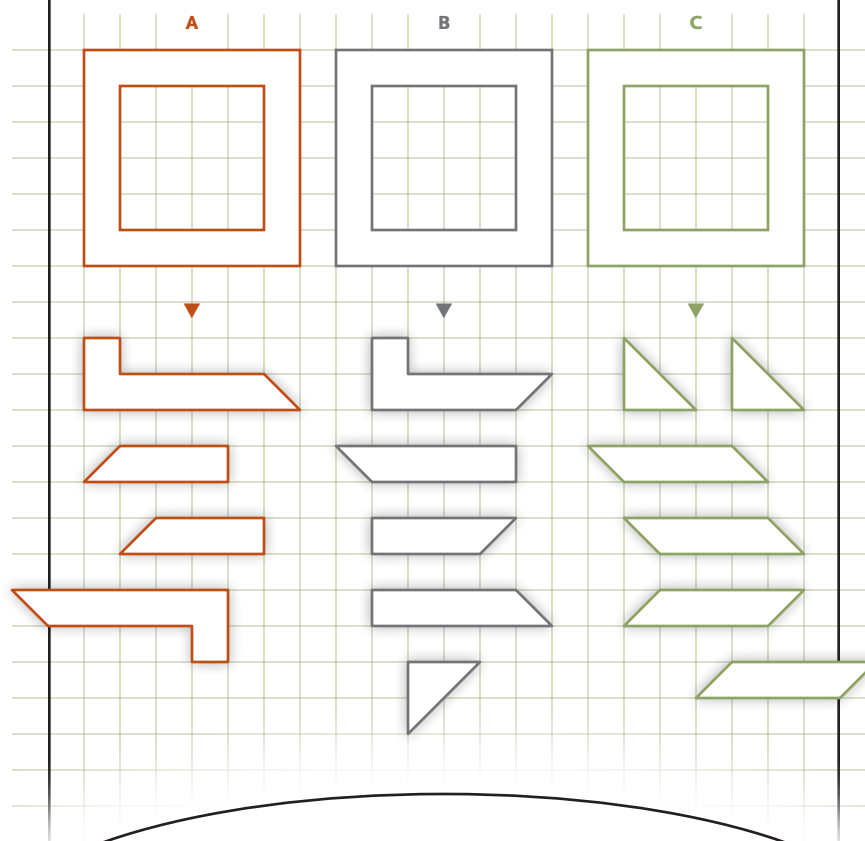
XI : insert or work in ...

XII : reduce to nothing ...

A Test for an Apprentice

At his workshop in Palgrave, wheelwright Richard St. John made children's sleighs that sold so well he had to hire an apprentice to help with the workload. Not just anyone, though. An apprentice, in his opinion, had to demonstrate some competence in design and mental imaging, so the applicants were given this paper test.

With a pencil, draw lines that show how the four pieces of A, the five pieces of B and the six of C respectively, fit correctly into the open frames above them.

(Mr. St. John believed any worthy apprentice could do this in five minutes. Can you?)

Win the Apples in the Bin

Grace and Barney held a draw at their booth in the Rosemont farmers' market. Tacked to a bin of apples they had a sign which said: *"Do the Math and Win these Apples! Just Put Your Answer in the Jar!"*
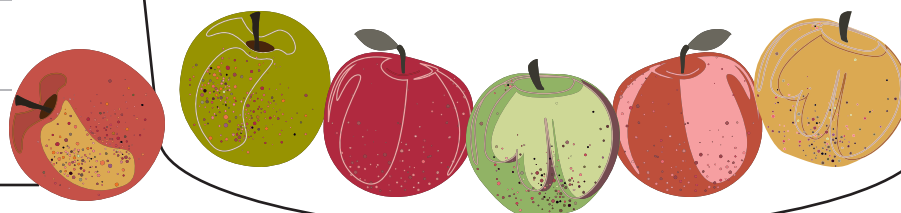
The math went like this:

If you count the apples in this bin by twos you will have one left over.

Counting these apples by threes will leave you with two left over.

Counting them by fours will give you three "overs"

and counting by fives you will get four.

Counting these apples by sixes will leave you with five left over,

but counting them by sevens will work out perfectly.

What is the least number of apples Grace and Barney can have in the bin that will correctly correlate with the math?

One Doesn't Quite Fit With the Others!

To amuse the audience during the Canadiana Conference at Dufferin County Museum & Archives, Ms King presented a test using information Canadian residents of these hills could reasonably be expected to know. Her exercise, *One of These Doesn't Quite Fit!* presented strings of local and national Canadiana with a single item in each string that doesn't quite "fit" with the others. For example, in (A) Nunavut is a territory.

Test yourself by picking the one item in each challenge below that doesn't fit the category.

A : CANADIAN PROVINCES

Ontario, Alberta
Nunavut, Quebec

B : PRIME MINISTERS

Wilfrid Laurier, Alexander Mackenzie
George Simpson, John Thompson

C : NOTTAWASAGA TRIBUTARIES

Mad River, Pine River
Mulmur River, Boyne River

D : HOCKEY INFRACTIONS

boarding, icing, charging, hooking

E : CANADIAN AUTHORS

Margaret Atwood, Nancy Greene
Margaret Laurence, Alice Munro

F : PLURALIZED RUMINANTS

elk, moose, deer, antelope

G : HUDSON'S BAY CO. EXPLORERS

John Cabot, Henry Kelsey
Simon Fraser, Peter Pond

H : PROVINCIAL CAPITALS

Victoria, Saint John
St. John's, Regina

I : ONTARIO PROVINCIAL PARKS

Earl Rowe, Mono Cliffs
Kakabeka Falls, Forks of the Credit

J : PROVINCIAL FLOWERS

purple violet, white trillium
red lily, yellow daffodil