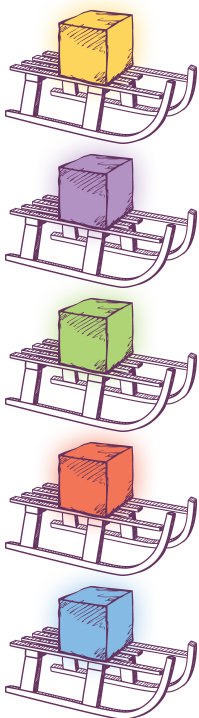


A PUZZLING CONCLUSION

BY KEN WEBER

In the Snow on a Soccer Field in Caledon East

Along a line drawn in the snow, five plastic cubes containing battery-powered LED lights sit on short sleighs. Five students are to tow the five sleighs to a line 100 metres away. At the start line the cubes are glowing yellow, purple, green, red and blue respectively.



Every 20 metres along the way, each cube will change colour twice, always in this sequence: yellow to purple to green to red to blue.

At 80 metres, the cube on Kareem's sleigh is glowing red. At 40 metres, Lin's is purple. At 60 metres, Chuck's is blue, and at the 100-metre line Amy's is purple.

Wally slept in, so his sleigh didn't move.

Which colour at the start line did not get towed?

Thinking Fractionally

What two numbers can be arranged so that they equal 5 when multiplied by 4?

A Rather Strange Family?

Lorinda comes from a large family. She is the fourth of five siblings – one sister and three brothers. What Lorinda (and her siblings) find intriguing is that she has 22 first cousins and all of them have an aunt who is not her aunt as well.

How is this possible?



How Well Do You Follow Simple Instructions?

A comment by Canadian humorist Stephen Leacock is quoted in the columns below along with some extra, entirely superfluous words.

Follow these simple instructions to find what he said.

Begin by deleting words that describe emotions, hockey paraphernalia, directions and weather disturbances. Then eliminate occupational positions, beverages, motorized vehicles, and any word of five syllables. Take out possessive pronouns, misspelled words, synonyms for "disparage" and antonyms for "clear." Finally, delete words that have "l" as the third letter, words beginning with "mis" and words with four consecutive consonants.

The undeleted words reading down the columns A to E, are Leacock's. More than one word may remain in a column.

A	B	C	D	E
councillor	ill	excede	is	interesting
whiteout	seperate	a	convinced	her
southerly	inevitable	balm	missionary	stick
mile	gangster	puck	trepidation	sylvan
anger	inoculate	cyclone	adjutant	uncertain
the	up	accomodate	snowmobile	skates
denounce	van	girlfriend	marshmallow	tea
agitation	mistaken	lemonade	he	east
dumpster	opaque	ballistics	their	spokesperson
mishap	jolt	moped	bliss	disingenuous
ridicule	minute	twelfth	criticize	mishmash
bus	principal	inevitable	is	he
rule	affection	blacklist	train	isn't
truck	anxiety	coffee	typhoon	tile
shinpads	unacceptable	man	ambiguous	denigrate

Simple Addition

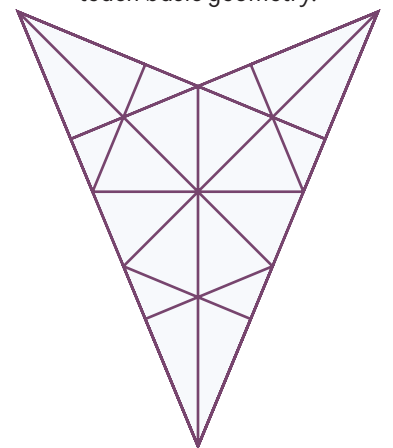
After trying this simple mental math challenge yourself, present it to others, reading it aloud.

Begin with 1000. Add 40. Now add another 1000. Then add 30. Add another 1000. Add 20 and then add 1000. Now add 10.

What is the total?

A Triangle Challenge at Duffy's School

In 1871, at S.S.#12 in East Garafraxa, known locally as Duffy's School, teacher Elizabeth May (the first woman teacher in the township) may well have used this figure with her students to teach basic geometry.



Because a typical one room school was populated by children ranging widely in age and abilities, teachers often sought out activities that could be attempted by the entire student body. If Miss May ever used this figure to challenge the children in S.S.#12, it's likely she would have presented it this way:

Answer question **A** before attempting question **B**.

A

By carefully examining the figure (not counting the triangles in it) determine whether it contains an odd or even number of triangles.

B

Confirm your answer to A by counting the number of triangles contained in the figure.