

# An introduction

fo; to lerne to reckon with the pen, o; with  
the counters acco;dyng to the trewe cast  
of Algorisme, in hole numbers o; in bro-  
ken, newly co;rected. And certayne nota-  
ble and goodly rules of false posittons  
therevnto added, not befo;e sene in our  
Englyshe tonge, by the whitch all maner  
of difficile questions may easely be dis-  
solved and assoyled. Anno. 1546.



Tony Mann

A Textbook  
Problem

to haue ye maye se in the ensamble by the  
deuyso; Set togyder all the mltyplica-  
tours a they ben 60 / the dvyso; comune.

16	240	frances
18	120	frances
6	40	frances

Multiplicatours      Deuyso; 60

**T**he rule and questyon of  
the speyre.

**A** Speyre is the halfe and the thyrde  
parte within þ water, and 9 foze with  
oute. I demaunde howe myche of  
lengthe hath the spere, Answere. Set 6 /  
foze in 6 is founde a halfe and a thyrde the  
halfe and the thyrde of 6 ben 5, and there  
remaineth 1 / foze; the rule of thye / yf 1  
be comen of 6, of howe many shall come 9 /  
multyppe 6 by 9, and they ben 54 / deuyde  
them by 1 and they ben 54 / therfoze ye may  
answere that þ spere hath 54 fote of lēgth /  
the halfe is 27, a the thyrde is 18 / and there  
be 45 fote within the water, and 9 without  
that is 54. And so maye ye do of all other  
semblable, as of a toure.

The

**T**he rule and questyon of two mē that  
went that one agaynst that other

**T**wo men begyn to go and take they;  
tourney that one agaynst that other  
byō one daye and in one houre. For  
that one that goeth fro Parys to Londō /  
and goeth euery daye 7 myles, that other  
goeth from Lyon to Parys, and goeth  
eche daye 9 myles / and from Lyon vnto  
Parys ben 80 myles. I demaunde howe  
lōge tyme shal it be o; they mete. Answere.  
Set togyder the myles that they go in  
one daye / þ is to wpt, 7 and 9 ben 16 / foze;  
now the rule of 16 come of 1 daye, of howe  
moche shal come 80 that they haue to go /  
multyppe 80 by 1 and it is 80 they which ye  
may deuyde by 16 a therof cometh 5 / ther-  
foze in 5 dayes they mete. The p;ouc is, foze  
he þ from Parys to Lyō goeth in 5 dayes,  
goeth 35 myles / and that other 45 the wyche  
ben 80 myles.

**T**he rule and questyon  
of a catte.

**T**here is a catte at the fote of a tre the  
lēght of 300 fote / this catte goeth by-  
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warde eche daye 17 fote, and descendeth  
che nyghte 12 fote. I demaunde in howe  
ōge tyme shal she be at y toppe. Answere.  
Take by and abate the nyghte of the day,  
that is 12 of 17 and there remaineth 5, there  
foze the catte mounteth eche daye 5 fote/  
deuyde now 300 by 5 and thereof cometh 60  
dayes then she shall be at the toppe. And  
thus ye maye do of ail other semblable.

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thus ye maye do of ail other semblable.

## The rule and questyon of a catte

There is a catte at the fote of a tre the lēght of 300 fote / this catte goeth upwarde eche day 17 fote, and descendeth the nyghte 12 fote. I demaunde in howe ōge tyme that she be at ȳ toppe. Answere. Take by and abate the nyghte of the day, that is 12 of 17 and there remayneth 5, there fore the catte mounteth eche daye 5 fote / deuyde now 300 by 5 and thereof cometh 60 dayes then she shall be at the toppe. And thus ye maye do of all other semblable.

## The rule and question of a cat

There is a cat at the foot of a tree of height 300 feet. This cat goes upward each day 17 feet, and descends each night 12 feet. I ask, how long a time will she take to reach the top?

## The rule and question of a cat

There is a cat at the foot of a tree of height 300 feet. This cat goes upward each day 17 feet, and descends each night 12 feet. I ask, how long a time will she take to reach the top?

Answer. Subtract the night from the day, that is 12 from 17: this gives 5, therefore the cat mounts each day 5 feet. Divide now 300 by 5 and you get 60 days: then she shall be at the top. And thus you may do all other similar problems.

What do we want of a textbook problem?

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I'd suggest it should be

- Real-world
- Useful
- Correct

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So not recommended at £95,000

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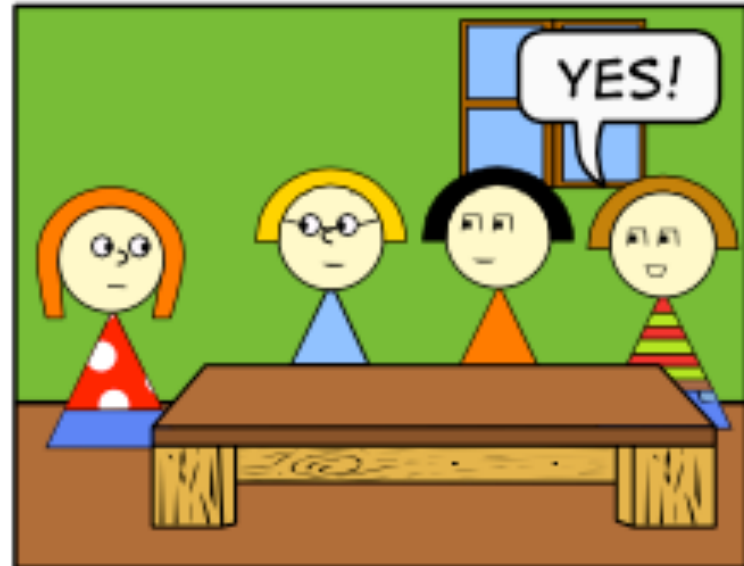
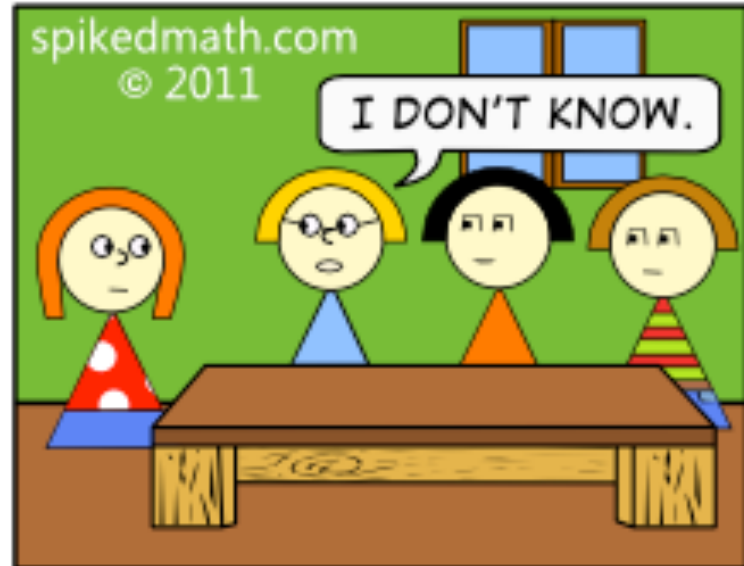




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Mathematics jokes

# THREE LOGICIANS WALK INTO A BAR...



# The mathematician, the doctor and the lawyer

