



The Case of the Missing Golden Censer

Grade 4 math · Place value, Addition, Subtraction, Rounding, Division · Reading level grades 3-4

Detective: _____ Date: _____

A priceless golden censer disappeared from the abbey library during morning prayers. Detective Ezra needs your math skills to narrow down the suspects and recover the artifact.

1. Solve each math problem. The answer is a number, and the letter beside it is what that number stands for.
2. In the clue boxes, write that letter in every box showing the same number, then read the secret clue.
3. Use each clue to cross suspects off the list. The one suspect left at the end is the culprit!

My answer: the thief is _____

Possible suspects

Cross off a row as each clue rules it out. The one left at the end is the culprit.

NAME	ABBEY ROLE	CARRIED ITEM	RING HAND	HAIR STYLE	KNOWN FEAR
Gideon	Scroll Keeper	Bronze Bell	Left Handed Ring	Braided Hair	Fear of Bees
Ezra	Olive Grower	Clay Jar	Right Handed Ring	Braided Hair	Fear of Heights
Priscilla	Harp Player	Bronze Bell	Right Handed Ring	Short Hair	Fear of Dogs
Jude	Harp Player	Silver Chalice	Right Handed Ring	Wavy Hair	Fear of Heights
Lydia	Olive Grower	Clay Jar	Left Handed Ring	Braided Hair	Fear of Heights
Caleb	Harp Player	Bronze Bell	Right Handed Ring	Wavy Hair	Fear of Dogs
Hannah	Scroll Keeper	Clay Jar	Right Handed Ring	Braided Hair	Fear of Heights
Anna	Scroll Keeper	Wooden Staff	Right Handed Ring	Braided Hair	Fear of Bees
Silas	Scroll Keeper	Clay Jar	Right Handed Ring	Braided Hair	Fear of Dogs
Asher	Olive Grower	Clay Jar	Left Handed Ring	Wavy Hair	Fear of Bees
Martha	Harp Player	Flax Banner	Right Handed Ring	Short Hair	Fear of Dogs
Ruth	Lantern Bearer	Flax Banner	Right Handed Ring	Wavy Hair	Fear of Bees
Samuel	Scroll Keeper	Clay Jar	Left Handed Ring	Braided Hair	Fear of Bees
Naomi	Olive Grower	Flax Banner	Right Handed Ring	Braided Hair	Fear of Heights
Tabitha	Olive Grower	Bronze Bell	Right Handed Ring	Braided Hair	Fear of Dogs
Deborah	Harp Player	Clay Jar	Left Handed Ring	Braided Hair	Fear of Heights
Jonah	Harp Player	Clay Jar	Right Handed Ring	Braided Hair	Fear of Heights
Miriam	Harp Player	Silver Chalice	Right Handed Ring	Braided Hair	Fear of Heights
Titus	Trumpet Blower	Clay Jar	Left Handed Ring	Wavy Hair	Fear of Dogs
Phoebe	Olive Grower	Bronze Bell	Left Handed Ring	Short Hair	Fear of Dogs
Noah	Scroll Keeper	Wooden Staff	Right Handed Ring	Short Hair	Fear of Dogs

CLUE 1 Place value

Ezra examines the numbered scroll catalog to read the digits of the room seal

Solve each problem, then write its letter in every clue box that shows the same number.

T																	T
70	900	500	10	400	1000	1000	8000	400	80	60	3000	500	9000	80	3000	70	
4000	8000	20	20	7000	8000	50	1000	8000	700	200	8000	80	80	500	20		

What is the value of the 7 in 4,871? → **T**

What is the value of the 7 in 6,739? → **X**

What is the value of the 2 in 726? → **R**

What is the value of the 3 in 23,948? → **O**

What is the value of the 7 in 57,348? → **Y**

What is the value of the 4 in 495? → **I**

What is the value of the 8 in 989? → **N**

What is the value of the 5 in 3,541? → **E**

What is the value of the 9 in 5,984? → **H**

What is the value of the 1 in 714? → **V**

What is the value of the 2 in 211? → **B**

What is the value of the 4 in 64,718? → **C**

What is the value of the 1 in 51,978? → **L**

What is the value of the 9 in 9,220? → **S**

What is the value of the 8 in 38,342? → **A**

What is the value of the 5 in 356? → **F**

What is the value of the 6 in 2,863? → **D**

Scratch space:

CLUE 2 Addition

Miriam adds up the supply crates brought into the courtyard this morning

Solve each problem, then write its letter in every clue box that shows the same number.

T														
8641	7094	6697	2647	9707	2647	5557	6697	7779	8641	6192	9526	7018	6697	5836

				T										
7018	4613	4788	7094	8641	7094	5836	6339	4794	6697	4794	7018	4613	6339	4788

$$3534 + 5107 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{T}}$$

$$3744 + 2595 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{N}}$$

$$6490 + 3217 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{U}}$$

$$2655 + 2902 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{P}}$$

$$2133 + 2655 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{G}}$$

$$3690 + 3328 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{R}}$$

$$1846 + 2948 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{D}}$$

$$5392 + 4134 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{O}}$$

$$2575 + 3617 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{W}}$$

$$3321 + 3376 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{E}}$$

$$1344 + 1303 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{S}}$$

$$5052 + 2727 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{C}}$$

$$2547 + 4547 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{H}}$$

$$1961 + 3875 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{A}}$$

$$2986 + 1627 = \boxed{} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{I}}$$

Scratch space:

CLUE 3

Subtraction

Silas subtracts the missing oil lamps from the total recorded in the ledger

Solve each problem, then write its letter in every clue box that shows the same number.

T									T								
4074	6483	6590	2712	2061	2712	5440	6590	3871	4074	4530	2712	2410	3071	6351	2410	4530	4419

		T								T		
8048	3071	4074	2410	1719	1719	6483	6590	4530	6985	6483	4074	2712

$8233 - 4159 = \square \rightarrow \text{T}$

$4153 - 282 = \square \rightarrow \text{C}$

$3105 - 1386 = \square \rightarrow \text{L}$

$4950 - 2889 = \square \rightarrow \text{U}$

$7810 - 1220 = \square \rightarrow \text{E}$

$5455 - 1036 = \square \rightarrow \text{D}$

$12754 - 4706 = \square \rightarrow \text{O}$

$2535 - 125 = \square \rightarrow \text{A}$

$8422 - 1939 = \square \rightarrow \text{H}$

$3525 - 813 = \square \rightarrow \text{S}$

$3967 - 896 = \square \rightarrow \text{F}$

$9691 - 2706 = \square \rightarrow \text{G}$

$10997 - 4646 = \square \rightarrow \text{R}$

$5694 - 1164 = \square \rightarrow \text{I}$

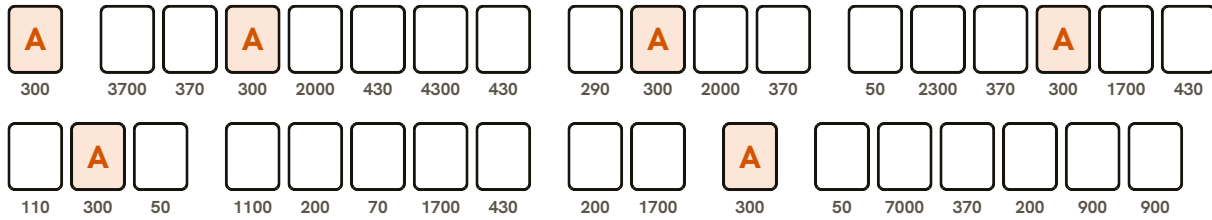
$7434 - 1994 = \square \rightarrow \text{P}$

Scratch space:

CLUE 4
Rounding

Hannah looks at the sun dial counter which rounds the hour total to the nearest ten

Solve each problem, then write its letter in every clue box that shows the same number.



Round 342 to the nearest hundred → **A**

Round 1,974 to the nearest thousand → **I**

Round 908 to the nearest hundred → **L**

Round 431 to the nearest ten → **D**

Round 4,336 to the nearest hundred → **E**

Round 292 to the nearest ten → **H**

Round 53 to the nearest ten → **S**

Round 3,748 to the nearest hundred → **B**

Round 2,265 to the nearest hundred → **T**

Round 1,676 to the nearest hundred → **N**

Round 73 to the nearest ten → **U**

Round 206 to the nearest hundred → **O**

Round 106 to the nearest ten → **W**

Round 7,025 to the nearest thousand → **C**

Round 374 to the nearest ten → **R**

Round 1,072 to the nearest hundred → **F**

Scratch space:

CLUE 5**Division facts (1-12) - the last clue**

Caleb splits the bread loaves equally into baskets for the garden workers

First solve each problem. Then find each answer in the numbered list below and cross that sentence out. One sentence will be left - that is exactly what the villain did!

Step 1 - solve these:

$88 \div 8 = \boxed{}$

$30 \div 10 = \boxed{}$

$88 \div 11 = \boxed{}$

$42 \div 7 = \boxed{}$

$4 \div 2 = \boxed{}$

$30 \div 3 = \boxed{}$

$8 \div 8 = \boxed{}$

$36 \div 9 = \boxed{}$

$81 \div 9 = \boxed{}$

$77 \div 11 = \boxed{}$

$36 \div 3 = \boxed{}$

Step 2 - cross out the sentence with each answer:

1. The villain sounded the silver trumpet, then carried the heavy clay jar.
2. The villain lit the bright lantern, then carried the heavy clay jar.
3. The villain played the brass harp, then carried the heavy clay jar.
4. The villain harvested the olive trees, then snatched the silver chalice.
5. The villain played the brass harp, then snatched the silver chalice.
6. The villain lit the bright lantern, then rang the small bronze bell.
7. The villain played the brass harp, then rang the small bronze bell.
8. The villain unrolled the ancient scroll, then carried the heavy clay jar.
9. The villain harvested the olive trees, then rang the small bronze bell.
10. The villain unrolled the ancient scroll, then snatched the silver chalice.
11. The villain harvested the olive trees, then carried the heavy clay jar.
12. The villain unrolled the ancient scroll, then leaned on the wooden staff.

Answer Key

The Case of the Missing Golden Censer

Culprit: Miriam

Harp Player · Silver Chalice · Right Handed Ring · Braided Hair · Fear of Heights

Trail: Start 21 → Clue 1 18 → Clue 2 11 → Clue 3 5 → Clue 4 4 → Clue 5 1

Clue 1 (Place value): "THE VILLAIN DOES NOT CARRY A FLAX BANNER"

What is the value of the 7 in 4,871? = 70 (T) · What is the value of the 7 in 6,739? = 700 (X) · What is the value of the 2 in 726? = 20 (R) · What is the value of the 3 in 23,948? = 3000 (O) · What is the value of the 7 in 57,348? = 7000 (Y) · What is the value of the 4 in 495? = 400 (I) · What is the value of the 8 in 989? = 80 (N) · What is the value of the 5 in 3,541? = 500 (E) · What is the value of the 9 in 5,984? = 900 (H) · What is the value of the 1 in 714? = 10 (V) · What is the value of the 2 in 211? = 200 (B) · What is the value of the 4 in 64,718? = 4000 (C) · What is the value of the 1 in 51,978? = 1000 (L) · What is the value of the 9 in 9,220? = 9000 (S) · What is the value of the 8 in 38,342? = 8000 (A) · What is the value of the 5 in 356? = 50 (F) · What is the value of the 6 in 2,863? = 60 (D)

Clue 2 (Addition): "THE SUSPECT WORE A RIGHT HANDED RING"

3534 + 5107 = 8641 (T) · 3744 + 2595 = 6339 (N) · 6490 + 3217 = 9707 (U) · 2655 + 2902 = 5557 (P) · 2133 + 2655 = 4788 (G) · 3690 + 3328 = 7018 (R) · 1846 + 2948 = 4794 (D) · 5392 + 4134 = 9526 (O) · 2575 + 3617 = 6192 (W) · 3321 + 3376 = 6697 (E) · 1344 + 1303 = 2647 (S) · 5052 + 2727 = 7779 (C) · 2547 + 4547 = 7094 (H) · 1961 + 3875 = 5836 (A) · 2986 + 1627 = 4613 (I)

Clue 3 (Subtraction): "THE SUSPECT IS AFRAID OF TALL HEIGHTS"

8233 - 4159 = 4074 (T) · 4153 - 282 = 3871 (C) · 3105 - 1386 = 1719 (L) · 4950 - 2889 = 2061 (U) · 7810 - 1220 = 6590 (E) · 5455 - 1036 = 4419 (D) · 12754 - 4706 = 8048 (O) · 2535 - 125 = 2410 (A) · 8422 - 1939 = 6483 (H) · 3525 - 813 = 2712 (S) · 3967 - 896 = 3071 (F) · 9691 - 2706 = 6985 (G) · 10997 - 4646 = 6351 (R) · 5694 - 1164 = 4530 (I) · 7434 - 1994 = 5440 (P)

Clue 4 (Rounding): "A BRAIDED HAIR STRAND WAS FOUND ON A SCROLL"

Round 342 to the nearest hundred = 300 (A) · Round 1,974 to the nearest thousand = 2000 (I) · Round 908 to the nearest hundred = 900 (L) · Round 431 to the nearest ten = 430 (D) · Round 4,336 to the nearest hundred = 4300 (E) · Round 292 to the nearest ten = 290 (H) · Round 53 to the nearest ten = 50 (S) · Round 3,748 to the nearest hundred = 3700 (B) · Round 2,265 to the nearest hundred = 2300 (T) · Round 1,676 to the nearest hundred = 1700 (N) · Round 73 to the nearest ten = 70 (U) · Round 206 to the nearest hundred = 200 (O) · Round 106 to the nearest ten = 110 (W) · Round 7,025 to the nearest thousand = 7000 (C) · Round 374 to the nearest ten = 370 (R) · Round 1,072 to the nearest hundred = 1100 (F)

Clue 5 (Division facts (1-12)): surviving statement is box 5 → Miriam

88 ÷ 8 = 11 · 30 ÷ 10 = 3 · 88 ÷ 11 = 8 · 42 ÷ 7 = 6 · 4 ÷ 2 = 2 · 30 ÷ 3 = 10 · 8 ÷ 8 = 1 · 36 ÷ 9 = 4 · 81 ÷ 9 = 9 · 77 ÷ 11 = 7 · 36 ÷ 3 = 12