



The Championship Soccer Ball Caper

Grade 2 math · Addition, Subtraction, Skip counting, Place value, Missing addends · Reading level grades 3-4

Detective: _____ **Date:** _____

The big game is tonight, but someone has swiped the Championship Golden Soccer Ball right out of the trophy case! Coach Alex is in a panic. The culprit left a trail of mysterious clues around the stadium turf. We need to analyze the clues, profile the suspects, and save the tournament before kickoff!

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 stadium saboteur is _____

Possible suspects

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

NAME	SIGNATURE KICK	LUCKY GEAR	KICKING FOOT	HAIR STYLE	DISTRACTION SNACK
Kerr	Power Header	Striped Headband	Right Footed	Curly Blonde Hair	Orange Slices
Marta	Power Header	Glow Wristband	Right Footed	Curly Blonde Hair	Orange Slices
Horan	Nutmeg Dribble	Glow Wristband	Right Footed	Spiky Black Hair	Orange Slices
Haaland	Bicycle Kick	Patterned Socks	Left Footed	Spiky Black Hair	Orange Slices
Neuer	Nutmeg Dribble	Patterned Socks	Left Footed	Neon Green Hair	Orange Slices
Mbappe	Bicycle Kick	Gold Shin Guards	Right Footed	Curly Blonde Hair	Salted Pretzels
Lavelle	Bicycle Kick	Striped Headband	Right Footed	Curly Blonde Hair	Sports Drink
Morgan	Curving Free Kick	Gold Shin Guards	Right Footed	Curly Blonde Hair	Orange Slices
Dunn	Rocket Volley	Gold Shin Guards	Right Footed	Spiky Black Hair	Salted Pretzels
Salah	Rocket Volley	Striped Headband	Left Footed	Curly Blonde Hair	Orange Slices
Messi	Nutmeg Dribble	Patterned Socks	Right Footed	Curly Blonde Hair	Orange Slices
Kane	Nutmeg Dribble	Glow Wristband	Left Footed	Spiky Black Hair	Orange Slices
Ochoa	Power Header	Patterned Socks	Right Footed	Neon Green Hair	Orange Slices
Neymar	Nutmeg Dribble	Striped Headband	Left Footed	Curly Blonde Hair	Sports Drink
Saka	Curving Free Kick	Glow Wristband	Right Footed	Curly Blonde Hair	Orange Slices
Rapinoe	Rocket Volley	Patterned Socks	Right Footed	Neon Green Hair	Salted Pretzels
Ronaldo	Rocket Volley	Gold Shin Guards	Right Footed	Curly Blonde Hair	Salted Pretzels
Alisson	Rocket Volley	Striped Headband	Right Footed	Neon Green Hair	Salted Pretzels
Rashford	Bicycle Kick	Striped Headband	Right Footed	Spiky Black Hair	Orange Slices
Courtois	Power Header	Glow Wristband	Right Footed	Spiky Black Hair	Orange Slices
Sinclair	Power Header	Patterned Socks	Right Footed	Neon Green Hair	Sports Drink

CLUE 1 Addition

The coach needs to count the practice balls. Let us add up the soccer balls in the bin and the balls on the pitch to find the clue.

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

T			T											T				
22	30	65	22	30	86	65	83	28	90	65	45	43	90	22	48	65	40	21

		T	T										
44	40	22	22	65	21	43	65	28	45	90	66	31	45

$7 + 15 = \square \rightarrow$ T	$15 + 28 = \square \rightarrow$ N	$15 + 13 = \square \rightarrow$ D
$9 + 21 = \square \rightarrow$ H	$15 + 25 = \square \rightarrow$ A	$54 + 36 = \square \rightarrow$ O
$18 + 13 = \square \rightarrow$ K	$26 + 39 = \square \rightarrow$ E	$20 + 46 = \square \rightarrow$ C
$9 + 12 = \square \rightarrow$ R	$25 + 61 = \square \rightarrow$ I	$27 + 18 = \square \rightarrow$ S
$26 + 22 = \square \rightarrow$ W	$40 + 43 = \square \rightarrow$ F	$29 + 15 = \square \rightarrow$ P

Scratch space:

CLUE 2
Subtraction

Someone popped some training cones. Subtract the broken cones from the total to reveal the next hint.

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

T									T								
42	71	54	39	83	39	21	54	78	42	31	25	78	31	39			
								T		T						T	
27	57	25	26	28	75	66	25	42	71	42	71	54	38	25	88	71	42
			T														
87	34	34	42														

$52 - 10 = \square \rightarrow \text{T}$	$94 - 28 = \square \rightarrow \text{W}$	$69 - 15 = \square \rightarrow \text{E}$
$85 - 10 = \square \rightarrow \text{Y}$	$90 - 3 = \square \rightarrow \text{F}$	$49 - 28 = \square \rightarrow \text{P}$
$59 - 2 = \square \rightarrow \text{A}$	$101 - 13 = \square \rightarrow \text{G}$	$123 - 40 = \square \rightarrow \text{U}$
$34 - 8 = \square \rightarrow \text{N}$	$41 - 13 = \square \rightarrow \text{L}$	$109 - 38 = \square \rightarrow \text{H}$
$42 - 17 = \square \rightarrow \text{I}$	$63 - 32 = \square \rightarrow \text{K}$	$46 - 19 = \square \rightarrow \text{M}$
$54 - 15 = \square \rightarrow \text{S}$	$38 - 4 = \square \rightarrow \text{O}$	$92 - 14 = \square \rightarrow \text{C}$
$65 - 27 = \square \rightarrow \text{R}$		

Scratch space:

CLUE 3 Skip counting

The team is running laps in groups of five. Count by fives along the track lines to spot the hidden clue.

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

T														
55	8	33	90	24	33	16	70	100	90	24	110	110	36	
30	120	20	21	27	10	33	90	110	120	16	24	42	33	90

Skip-count by 5s. Fill the blank: 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, __, 60, 65 → **T**

Skip-count by 3s. Fill the blank: 3, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18, 21, 24, __, 30, 33 → **B**

Skip-count by 2s. Fill the blank: 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, __, 18, 20 → **A**

Skip-count by 10s. Fill the blank: 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90, 100, 110, __, 130, 140 → **R**

Skip-count by 10s. Fill the blank: 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, __, 90, 100 → **I**

Skip-count by 10s. Fill the blank: 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90, __, 110, 120 → **Y**

Skip-count by 3s. Fill the blank: 3, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18, 21, 24, 27, 30, 33, __, 39, 42 → **P**

Skip-count by 3s. Fill the blank: 3, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18, 21, 24, 27, 30, __, 36, 39 → **E**

Skip-count by 10s. Fill the blank: 10, 20, __, 40, 50 → **C**

Skip-count by 2s. Fill the blank: 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, __, 26, 28 → **N**

Skip-count by 10s. Fill the blank: 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, __, 100, 110 → **S**

Skip-count by 5s. Fill the blank: 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60, 65, __, 75, 80 → **K**

Skip-count by 5s. Fill the blank: 5, 10, 15, __, 25, 30 → **U**

Skip-count by 3s. Fill the blank: 3, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18, 21, 24, 27, 30, 33, 36, 39, __, 45, 48 → **G**

Skip-count by 10s. Fill the blank: 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90, 100, __, 120, 130 → **O**

Skip-count by 2s. Fill the blank: 2, 4, 6, __, 10, 12 → **H**

Skip-count by 2s. Fill the blank: 2, 4, 6, 8, __, 12, 14 → **L**

Skip-count by 3s. Fill the blank: 3, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18, __, 24, 27 → **M**

Scratch space:

CLUE 4 Place value

The stadium scoreboard has broken lights. Look at the digit in the tens place of the home team score to unlock this secret.

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

A													A				A	
18	86	48	56	12	91	22	12	15	77	69	57	33	18	90	56	71	18	96
12	57	25	79	15	77	79	33	57	77	57	79							

What number has 1 ten and 8 ones?

→

A

What number has 5 tens and 7 ones?

→

E

What number has 3 tens and 3 ones?

→

H

What number has 9 tens and 1 one?

→

Y

What number has 4 tens and 8 ones?

→

U

What number has 7 tens and 1 one?

→

W

What number has 1 ten and 5 ones?

→

O

What number has 6 tens and 9 ones?

→

D

What number has 2 tens and 5 ones?

→

F

What number has 7 tens and 7 ones?

→

N

What number has 8 tens and 6 ones?

→

C

What number has 7 tens and 9 ones?

→

T

What number has 1 ten and 2 ones?

→

L

What number has 9 tens and 0 ones?

→

I

What number has 5 tens and 6 ones?

→

R

What number has 9 tens and 6 ones?

→

S

What number has 2 tens and 2 ones?

→

B

Scratch space:

CLUE 5**Missing addends - the last clue**

We need twenty scrimmage vests but only found twelve on the bench. Find how many more vests are missing to solve this mystery.

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:

$6 + \underline{\quad} = 13$

$5 + \underline{\quad} = 7$

$9 + \underline{\quad} = 13$

$3 + \underline{\quad} = 4$

$3 + \underline{\quad} = 13$

$7 + \underline{\quad} = 19$

$10 + \underline{\quad} = 19$

$3 + \underline{\quad} = 6$

$3 + \underline{\quad} = 11$

$6 + \underline{\quad} = 12$

$7 + \underline{\quad} = 12$

Step 2 - cross out the sentence with each answer:

1. The villain tricks the goalie with a nutmeg dribble, then polishes their gold shin guards.
2. The villain blasts a curving free kick into the sky, then polishes their gold shin guards.
3. The villain fires a rocket volley, then adjusts their striped headband.
4. The villain blasts a curving free kick into the sky, then taps their glow wristband.
5. The villain fires a rocket volley, then pulls up their patterned socks.
6. The villain fires a rocket volley, then polishes their gold shin guards.
7. The villain scores a power header, then adjusts their striped headband.
8. The villain tricks the goalie with a nutmeg dribble, then pulls up their patterned socks.
9. The villain tricks the goalie with a nutmeg dribble, then flashes their neon cleats.
10. The villain tricks the goalie with a nutmeg dribble, then adjusts their striped headband.
11. The villain scores a power header, then taps their glow wristband.
12. The villain blasts a curving free kick into the sky, then pulls up their patterned socks.

Answer Key

The Championship Soccer Ball Caper

Culprit: Marta

Power Header · Glow Wristband · Right Footed · Curly Blonde Hair · Orange Slices

Trail: Start 21 → Clue 1 15 → Clue 2 12 → Clue 3 7 → Clue 4 4 → Clue 5 1

Clue 1 (Addition): "THE THIEF DOES NOT WEAR PATTERNED SOCKS"

$7 + 15 = 22$ (T) · $15 + 28 = 43$ (N) · $15 + 13 = 28$ (D) · $9 + 21 = 30$ (H) · $15 + 25 = 40$ (A) · $54 + 36 = 90$ (O) · $18 + 13 = 31$ (K) · $26 + 39 = 65$ (E) · $20 + 46 = 66$ (C) · $9 + 12 = 21$ (R) · $25 + 61 = 86$ (I) · $27 + 18 = 45$ (S) · $26 + 22 = 48$ (W) · $40 + 43 = 83$ (F) · $29 + 15 = 44$ (P)

Clue 2 (Subtraction): "THE SUSPECT KICKS MAINLY WITH THE RIGHT FOOT"

$52 - 10 = 42$ (T) · $94 - 28 = 66$ (W) · $69 - 15 = 54$ (E) · $85 - 10 = 75$ (Y) · $90 - 3 = 87$ (F) · $49 - 28 = 21$ (P) · $59 - 2 = 57$ (A) · $101 - 13 = 88$ (G) · $123 - 40 = 83$ (U) · $34 - 8 = 26$ (N) · $41 - 13 = 28$ (L) · $109 - 38 = 71$ (H) · $42 - 17 = 25$ (I) · $63 - 32 = 31$ (K) · $46 - 19 = 27$ (M) · $54 - 15 = 39$ (S) · $38 - 4 = 34$ (O) · $92 - 14 = 78$ (C) · $65 - 27 = 38$ (R)

Clue 3 (Skip counting): "THE SNEAKY SNOOP CRUMBLES ORANGE SLICES"

Skip-count by 5s. Fill the blank: $5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, \underline{\quad}, 60, 65 = 55$ (T) · Skip-count by 3s. Fill the blank: $3, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18, 21, 24, \underline{\quad}, 30, 33 = 27$ (B) · Skip-count by 2s. Fill the blank: $2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, \underline{\quad}, 18, 20 = 16$ (A) · Skip-count by 10s. Fill the blank: $10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90, 100, 110, \underline{\quad}, 130, 140 = 120$ (R) · Skip-count by 10s. Fill the blank: $10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, \underline{\quad}, 90, 100 = 80$ (I) · Skip-count by 10s. Fill the blank: $10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90, \underline{\quad}, 110, 120 = 100$ (Y) · Skip-count by 3s. Fill the blank: $3, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18, 21, 24, 27, 30, 33, \underline{\quad}, 39, 42 = 36$ (P) · Skip-count by 3s. Fill the blank: $3, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18, 21, 24, 27, 30, \underline{\quad}, 36, 39 = 33$ (E) · Skip-count by 10s. Fill the blank: $10, 20, \underline{\quad}, 40, 50 = 30$ (C) · Skip-count by 2s. Fill the blank: $2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, \underline{\quad}, 26, 28 = 24$ (N) · Skip-count by 10s. Fill the blank: $10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, \underline{\quad}, 100, 110 = 90$ (S) · Skip-count by 5s. Fill the blank: $5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60, 65, \underline{\quad}, 75, 80 = 70$ (K) · Skip-count by 5s. Fill the blank: $5, 10, 15, \underline{\quad}, 25, 30 = 20$ (U) · Skip-count by 3s. Fill the blank: $3, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18, 21, 24, 27, 30, 33, 36, 39, \underline{\quad}, 45, 48 = 42$ (G) · Skip-count by 10s. Fill the blank: $10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90, 100, \underline{\quad}, 120, 130 = 110$ (O) · Skip-count by 2s. Fill the blank: $2, 4, 6, \underline{\quad}, 10, 12 = 8$ (H) · Skip-count by 2s. Fill the blank: $2, 4, 6, 8, \underline{\quad}, 12, 14 = 10$ (L) · Skip-count by 3s. Fill the blank: $3, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18, \underline{\quad}, 24, 27 = 21$ (M)

Clue 4 (Place value): "A CURLY BLONDE HAIR WAS LEFT ON THE NET"

What number has 1 ten and 8 ones? = 18 (A) · What number has 5 tens and 7 ones? = 57 (E) · What number has 3 tens and 3 ones? = 33 (H) · What number has 9 tens and 1 one? = 91 (Y) · What number has 4 tens and 8 ones? = 48 (U) · What number has 7 tens and 1 one? = 71 (W) · What number has 1 ten and 5 ones? = 15 (O) · What number has 6 tens and 9 ones? = 69 (D) · What number has 2 tens and 5 ones? = 25 (F) · What number has 7 tens and 7 ones? = 77 (N) · What number has 8 tens and 6 ones? = 86 (C) · What number has 7 tens and 9 ones? = 79 (T) · What number has 1 ten and 2 ones? = 12 (L) · What number has 9 tens and 0 ones? = 90 (I) · What number has 5 tens and 6 ones? = 56 (R) · What number has 9 tens and 6 ones? = 96 (S) · What number has 2 tens and 2 ones? = 22 (B)

Clue 5 (Missing addends): surviving statement is box 11 → Marta

$6 + \underline{\quad} = 13 = 7$ · $5 + \underline{\quad} = 7 = 2$ · $9 + \underline{\quad} = 13 = 4$ · $3 + \underline{\quad} = 4 = 1$ · $3 + \underline{\quad} = 13 = 10$ · $7 + \underline{\quad} = 19 = 12$ · $10 + \underline{\quad} = 19 = 9$ · $3 + \underline{\quad} = 6 = 3$ · $3 + \underline{\quad} = 11 = 8$ · $6 + \underline{\quad} = 12 = 6$ · $7 + \underline{\quad} = 12 = 5$