



The Championship Trophy Caper

Grade 3 math · Place value, Skip counting, Word problems, Bar models, Missing addends · Reading level grades 3-4

Detective: _____ Date: _____

Right before kickoff at the championship game, the golden trophy disappeared from the display case! A mysterious figure was seen dashing down the tunnel in full football gear.

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 trophy thief is _____

Possible suspects

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

NAME	GEAR CHOICE	SIDELINE ITEM	THROWING HAND	HAIRSTYLE	DISTRACTION
CJ Stroud	Visor	Megaphone	Right-handed	Curly Hair	Yellow Flag
Aaron Donald	Visor	Air Horn	Left-handed	Curly Hair	Water Bucket
Josh Allen	Helmet	T-Shirt Cannon	Left-handed	Curly Hair	Water Bucket
George Kittle	Visor	Air Horn	Left-handed	Curly Hair	Yellow Flag
Myles Garrett	Shoulder Pads	Turf Shoes	Right-handed	Curly Hair	Water Bucket
Saquon Barkley	Helmet	Megaphone	Left-handed	Curly Hair	Water Bucket
Joe Burrow	Visor	T-Shirt Cannon	Right-handed	Long Locks	Water Bucket
Cooper Kupp	Shoulder Pads	Air Horn	Left-handed	Curly Hair	Loud Whistle
Lamar Jackson	Shoulder Pads	Foam Finger	Left-handed	Long Locks	Loud Whistle
Nick Bosa	Cleats	T-Shirt Cannon	Right-handed	Buzz Cut	Loud Whistle
Travis Kelce	Visor	Air Horn	Right-handed	Curly Hair	Water Bucket
Derrick Henry	Helmet	Megaphone	Left-handed	Curly Hair	Loud Whistle
Davante Adams	Helmet	Foam Finger	Left-handed	Curly Hair	Loud Whistle
TJ Watt	Shoulder Pads	Air Horn	Left-handed	Curly Hair	Water Bucket
Christian McCaffrey	Shoulder Pads	Turf Shoes	Left-handed	Long Locks	Water Bucket
JaMarr Chase	Shoulder Pads	Megaphone	Left-handed	Long Locks	Water Bucket
Patrick Mahomes	Cleats	Air Horn	Left-handed	Curly Hair	Water Bucket
Jalen Hurts	Shoulder Pads	Air Horn	Right-handed	Long Locks	Water Bucket
Sauce Gardner	Visor	Turf Shoes	Right-handed	Buzz Cut	Loud Whistle
Justin Jefferson	Visor	Air Horn	Left-handed	Curly Hair	Loud Whistle
Dak Prescott	Shoulder Pads	Foam Finger	Right-handed	Long Locks	Yellow Flag

CLUE 1 Place value

The digital clock in the tunnel flickers with locker numbers. You read the place value grid to clear the first clue.

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

A number line from 0 to 1000. The line is divided into segments by boxes. The boxes are labeled with numbers: 500, 5000, 300, 900, 100, 9000, 9000, 40, 100, 700, 4000, 20, 300, 2000, 700, 20, 500. The box containing 500 is highlighted in orange and contains a 'T'.

What is the value of the 5 in 1,533? → **T**

What is the value of the 7 in 739? → **N**

What is the value of the 4 in 437? → **G**

What is the value of the 1 in 199? →

What is the value of the 2 in 924? →

What is the value of the 4 in 84,192? → **D**

What is the value of the 3 in 9,379? → **E**

What is the value of the 3 in 7,137? → **M**

What is the value of the 5 in 5,183? → **H**

What is the value of the 9 in 9,615? → **L**

What is the value of the 9 in 901? → **V**

What is the value of the 4 in 849? → **A**

What is the value of the 1 in 616? → **P**

What is the value of the 7 in 57,988? → **U**

What is the value of the 2 in 72,174? → **S**

Scratch space:

CLUE 2

Yard lines are painted along the field. You skip count past the ten yard markers to find where the thief stepped.

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

Skip-count by 10s. Fill the blank: 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90, 100, 110, 120, __, 140, 150 → **T**

Skip-count by 5s. Fill the blank: 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60, __, 70, 75 → **S**

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

Skip-count by 5s. Fill the blank: 5, 10, 15, 20, __, 30, 35 → **N**

Skip-count by 10s. Fill the blank: 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90, 100, 110, 120, 130, __, 150, 160 → **K**

Skip-count by 10s. Fill the blank: 10, 20, 30, __, 50, 60 → **E**

Skip-count by 2s. Fill the blank: 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, __, 22, 24 →

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

Skip-count by 5s. Fill the blank: 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, __, 50, 55 → **R**

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

Skip-count by 2s. Fill the blank: 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, __, 24, 26 → **L**

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

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

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

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

Scratch space:

CLUE 3

Word problems

The equipment manager needs help tallying sports gear. Solving these word problems reveals the next clue.

Solve each problem, then write its letter in the boxes to fill in the missing word.

Someone scared the villain off with

W							C	K		
78	23	69	7	9	47	77			7	69

.

There were 96 helmets. 18 were used up. How many helmets are left?

Answer: → **W**

There were 40 jerseys. 17 were used up. How many jerseys are left?

Answer: → **A**

There were 47 water bottles. 38 were used up. How many water bottles are left?

Answer: → **R**

There were 68 helmets. 21 were used up. How many helmets are left?

Answer: → **B**

Equipment manager found 53 footballs yesterday and 16 more today. How many footballs in all?

Answer: → **T**

Equipment manager found 5 playbooks yesterday and 2 more today. How many playbooks in all?

Answer: → **E**

Equipment manager lined up 11 rows of 7 playbooks. How many playbooks in all?

Answer: → **U**

Scratch space:

CLUE 4

Bar model word problems

The head coach drew play diagrams on the whiteboard. You compare the bar models to track down the suspect.

Draw a bar model to solve each word problem, then write its letter in the boxes to fill in the missing word.

A strand of C hair turned up at the scene.

49 25 28 51 40 18 13 28

Equipment manager has 147 footballs, packed 3 to a bag. How many bags can be filled?

draw a bar model

Answer: → C

There were 62 footballs in all. 37 footballs were used. How many footballs are left?

draw a bar model

Answer: → U

The red team has 55 water bottles and the blue team has 15 water bottles. How many more water bottles does the red team have?

draw a bar model

Answer: → Y

Equipment manager has 9 times as many jerseys as a teammate. The teammate has 2 jerseys. How many jerseys does equipment manager have?

draw a bar model

Answer: → H

There were 19 helmets in all. 6 helmets were used. How many helmets are left?

draw a bar model

Answer: → A

Equipment manager has 102 jerseys, packed 2 to a bag. How many bags can be filled?

draw a bar model

Answer: → L

There were 55 playbooks in all. 27 playbooks were used. How many playbooks are left?

draw a bar model

Answer: → R

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

The main scoreboard is missing some points on the board. Finding the missing addends unveils the final piece of evidence.

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:

$2 + \underline{\quad} = 8$

$1 + \underline{\quad} = 11$

$5 + \underline{\quad} = 10$

$8 + \underline{\quad} = 10$

$8 + \underline{\quad} = 20$

$1 + \underline{\quad} = 10$

$4 + \underline{\quad} = 8$

$4 + \underline{\quad} = 11$

$5 + \underline{\quad} = 16$

$9 + \underline{\quad} = 10$

$8 + \underline{\quad} = 11$

Step 2 - cross out the sentence with each answer:

1. The villain pulled on gloves, then blared a megaphone.
2. The villain tightened shoulder pads, then blared a megaphone.
3. The villain tightened shoulder pads, then scuffed turf shoes.
4. The villain laced up cleats, then loaded a t-shirt cannon.
5. The villain adjusted a visor, then honked an air horn.
6. The villain tightened shoulder pads, then honked an air horn.
7. The villain pulled on gloves, then loaded a t-shirt cannon.
8. The villain laced up cleats, then honked an air horn.
9. The villain laced up cleats, then waved a foam finger.
10. The villain strapped on a helmet, then loaded a t-shirt cannon.
11. The villain strapped on a helmet, then waved a foam finger.
12. The villain pulled on gloves, then scuffed turf shoes.

Answer Key

The Championship Trophy Caper

Culprit: Patrick Mahomes

Cleats · Air Horn · Left-handed · Curly Hair · Water Bucket

Trail: Start 21 → Clue 1 17 → Clue 2 10 → Clue 3 5 → Clue 4 4 → Clue 5 1

Clue 1 (Place value): "THE VILLAIN DOES NOT USE A MEGAPHONE"

What is the value of the 5 in 1,533? = 500 (T) · What is the value of the 7 in 739? = 700 (N) · What is the value of the 4 in 437? = 400 (G) · What is the value of the 1 in 199? = 100 (I) · What is the value of the 2 in 924? = 20 (O) · What is the value of the 4 in 84,192? = 4000 (D) · What is the value of the 3 in 9,379? = 300 (E) · What is the value of the 3 in 7,137? = 30 (M) · What is the value of the 5 in 5,183? = 5000 (H) · What is the value of the 9 in 9,615? = 9000 (L) · What is the value of the 9 in 901? = 900 (V) · What is the value of the 4 in 849? = 40 (A) · What is the value of the 1 in 616? = 10 (P) · What is the value of the 7 in 57,988? = 7000 (U) · What is the value of the 2 in 72,174? = 2000 (S)

Clue 2 (Skip counting): "THE SNEAKY THIEF THROWS WITH THE LEFT HAND"

Skip-count by 10s. Fill the blank: 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90, 100, 110, 120, __, 140, 150 = 130 (T) · Skip-count by 5s. Fill the blank: 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60, __, 70, 75 = 65 (S) · Skip-count by 10s. Fill the blank: 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90, 100, 110, __, 130, 140 = 120 (F) · Skip-count by 5s. Fill the blank: 5, 10, 15, 20, __, 30, 35 = 25 (N) · Skip-count by 10s. Fill the blank: 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90, 100, 110, 120, 130, __, 150, 160 = 140 (K) · Skip-count by 10s. Fill the blank: 10, 20, 30, __, 50, 60 = 40 (E) · Skip-count by 2s. Fill the blank: 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, __, 22, 24 = 20 (I) · Skip-count by 10s. Fill the blank: 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, __, 80, 90 = 70 (D) · Skip-count by 5s. Fill the blank: 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, __, 50, 55 = 45 (R) · Skip-count by 3s. Fill the blank: 3, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18, 21, 24, 27, __, 33, 36 = 30 (W) · Skip-count by 2s. Fill the blank: 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, __, 24, 26 = 22 (L) · Skip-count by 10s. Fill the blank: 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, __, 100, 110 = 90 (Y) · Skip-count by 10s. Fill the blank: 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90, __, 110, 120 = 100 (O) · Skip-count by 3s. Fill the blank: 3, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18, 21, 24, __, 30, 33 = 27 (H) · Skip-count by 10s. Fill the blank: 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, __, 70, 80 = 60 (A)

Clue 3 (Word problems): "WATER BUCKET"

There were 96 helmets. 18 were used up. How many helmets are left? = 78 (W) · There were 40 jerseys. 17 were used up. How many jerseys are left? = 23 (A) · There were 47 water bottles. 38 were used up. How many water bottles are left? = 9 (R) · There were 68 helmets. 21 were used up. How many helmets are left? = 47 (B) · Equipment manager found 53 footballs yesterday and 16 more today. How many footballs in all? = 69 (T) · Equipment manager found 5 playbooks yesterday and 2 more today. How many playbooks in all? = 7 (E) · Equipment manager lined up 11 rows of 7 playbooks. How many playbooks in all? = 77 (U)

Clue 4 (Bar model word problems): "CURLY HAIR"

Equipment manager has 147 footballs, packed 3 to a bag. How many bags can be filled? = 49 (C) · There were 62 footballs in all. 37 footballs were used. How many footballs are left? = 25 (U) · The red team has 55 water bottles and the blue team has 15 water bottles. How many more water bottles does the red team have? = 40 (Y) · Equipment manager has 9 times as many jerseys as a teammate. The teammate has 2 jerseys. How many jerseys does equipment manager have? = 18 (H) · There were 19 helmets in all. 6 helmets were used. How many helmets are left? = 13 (A) · Equipment manager has 102 jerseys, packed 2 to a bag. How many bags can be filled? = 51 (L) · There were 55 playbooks in all. 27 playbooks were used. How many playbooks are left? = 28 (R)

Clue 5 (Missing addends): surviving statement is box 8 → Patrick Mahomes

$2 + \underline{\quad} = 8 = 6$ · $1 + \underline{\quad} = 11 = 10$ · $5 + \underline{\quad} = 10 = 5$ · $8 + \underline{\quad} = 10 = 2$ · $8 + \underline{\quad} = 20 = 12$ · $1 + \underline{\quad} = 10 = 9$ · $4 + \underline{\quad} = 8 = 4$ · $4 + \underline{\quad} = 11 = 7$ · $5 + \underline{\quad} = 16 = 11$ · $9 + \underline{\quad} = 10 = 1$ · $8 + \underline{\quad} = 11 = 3$