



The Great Trophy Heist of 2026

Grade 4 math · Multiplication, Subtraction, Rounding, Place value, Missing addends · Reading level grades 3-4

Detective: _____ **Date:** _____

The World Cup 2026 is in big trouble! Right before the giant final match at the Astro-Dome, someone snatched the glowing Golden Trophy. Championship Coach Cooper found a trail of neon grass clippings and scrambled computer codes near the locker room. It is up to you, Detective, to search the player database, solve the math clues, and stop the Soccer Saboteur 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 Soccer 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 TRICK	TECH GEAR	DIVISION	HAIRSTYLE	DISTRACTION
Striker Seth	Turbo Header	Glow Jersey	Boy Captain	Glitter Ponytails	Loud Vuvuzelas
Midfielder Mia	Turbo Header	Smart Visor	Boy Captain	Neon Green Mohawks	Squeaky Whistles
Pele Parker	Gravity Field Save	Glow Jersey	Girl Captain	Neon Green Mohawks	Soggy Turf
Davies Drew	Sonic Speed Dribble	Magnetic Gloves	Boy Captain	Spiky Blue Dreads	Loud Vuvuzelas
Mbappe Max	Laser Power Shot	Rocket Cleats	Boy Captain	Neon Green Mohawks	Squeaky Whistles
Winger Wyatt	Super Bicycle Kick	Hologram Shin Guards	Boy Captain	Spiky Blue Dreads	Loud Vuvuzelas
Blaze Beckham	Turbo Header	Smart Visor	Girl Captain	Glitter Ponytails	Squeaky Whistles
Pulisic Piper	Laser Power Shot	Smart Visor	Boy Captain	Spiky Blue Dreads	Loud Vuvuzelas
Marta Maya	Super Bicycle Kick	Smart Visor	Boy Captain	Neon Green Mohawks	Loud Vuvuzelas
Striker Sam	Gravity Field Save	Smart Visor	Boy Captain	Spiky Blue Dreads	Loud Vuvuzelas
Rapinoe Riley	Sonic Speed Dribble	Magnetic Gloves	Boy Captain	Neon Green Mohawks	Squeaky Whistles
Haaland Hugo	Sonic Speed Dribble	Glow Jersey	Girl Captain	Spiky Blue Dreads	Loud Vuvuzelas
Messi Mason	Laser Power Shot	Glow Jersey	Boy Captain	Glitter Ponytails	Squeaky Whistles
Kane Koby	Sonic Speed Dribble	Rocket Cleats	Girl Captain	Glitter Ponytails	Soggy Turf
Zidane Zach	Super Bicycle Kick	Smart Visor	Girl Captain	Spiky Blue Dreads	Soggy Turf
Neymar Noah	Gravity Field Save	Smart Visor	Boy Captain	Neon Green Mohawks	Loud Vuvuzelas
Salah Silas	Super Bicycle Kick	Rocket Cleats	Boy Captain	Spiky Blue Dreads	Soggy Turf
Ronaldo Ryan	Laser Power Shot	Glow Jersey	Boy Captain	Spiky Blue Dreads	Loud Vuvuzelas
Goalie Gabe	Turbo Header	Hologram Shin Guards	Boy Captain	Neon Green Mohawks	Loud Vuvuzelas
Sweeper Sophia	Sonic Speed Dribble	Glow Jersey	Girl Captain	Neon Green Mohawks	Squeaky Whistles
Defender Dan	Sonic Speed Dribble	Smart Visor	Boy Captain	Spiky Blue Dreads	Soggy Turf

CLUE 1

Multiplication facts (1-12)

You find the gear room where soccer ball crates are stacked. They are lined up in perfect rows. Counting the rows helps you crack the first locked locker!

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

T			T											T				
25	10	11	25	10	49	11	9	30	35	11	14	96	35	25	33	11	63	144
10	35	99	35	20	144	63	108	14	10	49	96	20	100	63	144	30	14	

$5 \times 5 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{T}}$

$7 \times 7 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{I}}$

$2 \times 5 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{H}}$

$10 \times 10 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{U}}$

$8 \times 12 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{N}}$

$3 \times 11 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{W}}$

$1 \times 9 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{F}}$

$5 \times 7 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{O}}$

$2 \times 10 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{G}}$

$3 \times 10 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{D}}$

$11 \times 1 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{E}}$

$9 \times 11 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{L}}$

$12 \times 9 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{M}}$

$7 \times 2 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{S}}$

$7 \times 9 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{A}}$

$12 \times 12 = \square \rightarrow \boxed{\text{R}}$

Scratch space:

CLUE 2
Subtraction

A box of penalty cards was dumped on the grass. You must count the total cards and subtract the missing red ones to decode a secret security message.

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

T					T												
6457	1748	7172	6685	1903	6457	5546	7172	5043	5043	5043	8300	6685	8300	1567	3908	5724	

			T									
1724	8300	5315	6457	8300	1903	5546	7172	5043	1724	8300	5315	7172

$8230 - 1773 = \square \rightarrow \text{[T]}$

$9413 - 3867 = \square \rightarrow \text{[N]}$

$6186 - 4283 = \square \rightarrow \text{[I]}$

$11789 - 3489 = \square \rightarrow \text{[A]}$

$4780 - 3213 = \square \rightarrow \text{[B]}$

$6618 - 1303 = \square \rightarrow \text{[P]}$

$7003 - 3095 = \square \rightarrow \text{[O]}$

$2136 - 388 = \square \rightarrow \text{[H]}$

$7206 - 1482 = \square \rightarrow \text{[Y]}$

$10253 - 3081 = \square \rightarrow \text{[E]}$

$9390 - 4347 = \square \rightarrow \text{[S]}$

$3247 - 1523 = \square \rightarrow \text{[C]}$

$10697 - 4012 = \square \rightarrow \text{[W]}$

Scratch space:

CLUE 3 Rounding

The stadium scoreboard is damaged and flickering. It only shows rounded estimates of the spectator counts. Rounding these numbers reveals the next clue!

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

T			T							T						
4700	310	30	4700	310	470	30	20000	310	20	4700	30	31000	500	1400000	70	310000
280	70	280	70	470000	30	500	20	31000								

Round 4,660 to the nearest hundred → **T**

Round 470,613 to the nearest ten thousand → **Z**

Round 71 to the nearest ten → **U**

Round 1,395,327 to the nearest hundred thousand → **O**

Round 314 to the nearest ten → **H**

Round 277 to the nearest ten → **V**

Round 466 to the nearest ten → **I**

Round 480 to the nearest hundred → **L**

Round 19 to the nearest ten → **A**

Round 314,805 to the nearest ten thousand → **D**

Round 27 to the nearest ten → **E**

Round 31,106 to the nearest thousand → **S**

Round 19,175 to the nearest ten thousand → **F**

Scratch space:

CLUE 4
Place value (tens & ones)

You inspect the giant digital VIP seating screen. The digit in the hundreds place of the ticket counts lights up to show a hidden digit of the suspect's code.

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

W															
97	40	49	36	83	21	58	19	44	46	45	24	14	56	83	40
58	99	40	61	58	91	61	46	99							

What number has 9 tens and 7 ones? → **W**

What number has 2 tens and 1 one? → **N**

What number has 6 tens and 1 one? → **A**

What number has 4 tens and 9 ones? → **F**

What number has 4 tens and 5 ones? → **K**

What number has 2 tens and 4 ones? → **Y**

What number has 9 tens and 1 one? → **H**

What number has 4 tens and 4 ones? → **P**

What number has 3 tens and 6 ones? → **O**

What number has 1 ten and 4 ones? → **B**

What number has 1 ten and 9 ones? → **S**

What number has 4 tens and 0 ones? → **E**

What number has 8 tens and 3 ones? → **U**

What number has 5 tens and 6 ones? → **L**

What number has 9 tens and 9 ones? → **R**

What number has 4 tens and 6 ones? → **I**

What number has 5 tens and 8 ones? → **D**

Scratch space:

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

A practice bag needs an exact total number of practice cones to balance the scale. Figure out the missing number of blue cones to reveal the final clue!

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:

$20 + \underline{\quad} = 28$

$9 + \underline{\quad} = 16$

$12 + \underline{\quad} = 13$

$20 + \underline{\quad} = 25$

$18 + \underline{\quad} = 22$

$26 + \underline{\quad} = 28$

$9 + \underline{\quad} = 19$

$28 + \underline{\quad} = 39$

$30 + \underline{\quad} = 42$

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

$35 + \underline{\quad} = 44$

Step 2 - cross out the sentence with each answer:

1. The villain demonstrates a sonic speed dribble, then grabs the ball with magnetic gloves.
2. The villain scores a turbo header, then grabs the ball with magnetic gloves.
3. The villain activates a gravity field save, then scans the field with a smart visor.
4. The villain fires a laser power shot, then grabs the ball with magnetic gloves.
5. The villain scores a turbo header, then flashes past in a glow jersey.
6. The villain demonstrates a sonic speed dribble, then scans the field with a smart visor.
7. The villain fires a laser power shot, then scans the field with a smart visor.
8. The villain fires a laser power shot, then flashes past in a glow jersey.
9. The villain activates a gravity field save, then flashes past in a glow jersey.
10. The villain demonstrates a sonic speed dribble, then zooms off with rocket cleats.
11. The villain fires a laser power shot, then zooms off with rocket cleats.
12. The villain performs a super bicycle kick, then scans the field with a smart visor.

Answer Key

The Great Trophy Heist of 2026

Culprit: Striker Sam

Gravity Field Save · Smart Visor · Boy Captain · Spiky Blue Dreads · Loud Vuvuzelas

Trail: Start 21 → Clue 1 19 → Clue 2 13 → Clue 3 7 → Clue 4 4 → Clue 5 1

Clue 1 (Multiplication facts (1-12)): "THE THIEF DOES NOT WEAR HOLOGRAM SHIN GUARDS"

$5 \times 5 = 25$ (T) · $7 \times 7 = 49$ (I) · $2 \times 5 = 10$ (H) · $10 \times 10 = 100$ (U) · $8 \times 12 = 96$ (N) · $3 \times 11 = 33$ (W) · $1 \times 9 = 9$ (F) · $5 \times 7 = 35$ (O) · $2 \times 10 = 20$ (G) · $3 \times 10 = 30$ (D) · $11 \times 1 = 11$ (E) · $9 \times 11 = 99$ (L) · $12 \times 9 = 108$ (M) · $7 \times 2 = 14$ (S) · $7 \times 9 = 63$ (A) · $12 \times 12 = 144$ (R)

Clue 2 (Subtraction): "THE WITNESS SAW A BOY CAPTAIN ESCAPE"

$8230 - 1773 = 6457$ (T) · $9413 - 3867 = 5546$ (N) · $6186 - 4283 = 1903$ (I) · $11789 - 3489 = 8300$ (A) · $4780 - 3213 = 1567$ (B) · $6618 - 1303 = 5315$ (P) · $7003 - 3095 = 3908$ (O) · $2136 - 388 = 1748$ (H) · $7206 - 1482 = 5724$ (Y) · $10253 - 3081 = 7172$ (E) · $9390 - 4347 = 5043$ (S) · $3247 - 1523 = 1724$ (C) · $10697 - 4012 = 6685$ (W)

Clue 3 (Rounding): "THE THIEF HATES LOUD VUVUZELAS"

Round 4,660 to the nearest hundred = 4700 (T) · Round 470,613 to the nearest ten thousand = 470000 (Z) · Round 71 to the nearest ten = 70 (U) · Round 1,395,327 to the nearest hundred thousand = 1400000 (O) · Round 314 to the nearest ten = 310 (H) · Round 277 to the nearest ten = 280 (V) · Round 466 to the nearest ten = 470 (I) · Round 480 to the nearest hundred = 500 (L) · Round 19 to the nearest ten = 20 (A) · Round 314,805 to the nearest ten thousand = 310000 (D) · Round 27 to the nearest ten = 30 (E) · Round 31,106 to the nearest thousand = 31000 (S) · Round 19,175 to the nearest ten thousand = 20000 (F)

Clue 4 (Place value (tens & ones)): "WE FOUND SPIKY BLUE DREAD HAIR"

What number has 9 tens and 7 ones? = 97 (W) · What number has 2 tens and 1 one? = 21 (N) · What number has 6 tens and 1 one? = 61 (A) · What number has 4 tens and 9 ones? = 49 (F) · What number has 4 tens and 5 ones? = 45 (K) · What number has 2 tens and 4 ones? = 24 (Y) · What number has 9 tens and 1 one? = 91 (H) · What number has 4 tens and 4 ones? = 44 (P) · What number has 3 tens and 6 ones? = 36 (O) · What number has 1 ten and 4 ones? = 14 (B) · What number has 1 ten and 9 ones? = 19 (S) · What number has 4 tens and 0 ones? = 40 (E) · What number has 8 tens and 3 ones? = 83 (U) · What number has 5 tens and 6 ones? = 56 (L) · What number has 9 tens and 9 ones? = 99 (R) · What number has 4 tens and 6 ones? = 46 (I) · What number has 5 tens and 8 ones? = 58 (D)

Clue 5 (Missing addends): surviving statement is box 3 → Striker Sam

$20 + \underline{\quad} = 28 = 8$ · $9 + \underline{\quad} = 16 = 7$ · $12 + \underline{\quad} = 13 = 1$ · $20 + \underline{\quad} = 25 = 5$ · $18 + \underline{\quad} = 22 = 4$ · $26 + \underline{\quad} = 28 = 2$ · $9 + \underline{\quad} = 19 = 10$ · $28 + \underline{\quad} = 39 = 11$ · $30 + \underline{\quad} = 42 = 12$ · $2 + \underline{\quad} = 8 = 6$ · $35 + \underline{\quad} = 44 = 9$