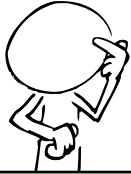


Name: _____ Date: _____

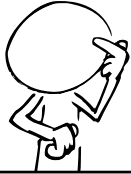


These merchants from different early civilisations have noted down how many jars of grain they sold over three weeks. Can you work out how many jars they sold each week?

Hi! I'm a Sumerian merchant.	Week 1 	Week 2 	Week 3
Hi! I'm an Egyptian merchant.	Week 1 	Week 2 	Week 3
Hi! I'm a Shang merchant.	Week 1 	Week 2 	Week 3

Which merchant sold the most jars of grain altogether?

Name: _____ Date: _____

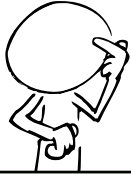


These merchants from different early civilisations have been selling jars of grain at the market for three weeks. Can you record how many jars they have sold each using their own number systems?

Hi! I'm a Sumerian merchant. 	Week 1 23	Week 2 15	Week 3 8
Hi! I'm an Egyptian merchant. 	Week 1 1211	Week 2 103	Week 3 38
Hi! I'm a Shang merchant. 	Week 1 230	Week 2 85	Week 3 139

Which merchant sold the most jars of grain altogether?

Name: _____ Date: _____



These merchants from different early civilisations have been selling jars of grain at the market for three weeks. Can you record how many jars they have sold each using their own number systems?

Hi! I'm a Sumerian merchant. 	Week 1 109	Week 2 83	Week 3 66
Hi! I'm an Egyptian merchant. 	Week 1 1312	Week 2 503	Week 3 391
Hi! I'm a Shang merchant. 	Week 1 762	Week 2 577	Week 3 1113

Which merchant sold the most jars of grain altogether?

Name: _____ Date: _____



Have a look at the number systems used by the ancient Sumerians, the ancient Egyptians and the Shang Dynasty. Answer the questions.

List three reasons why you think early civilisations needed to devise number systems:

Which number system do you think is the easiest to understand? Why?

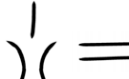
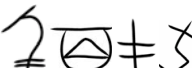
Which number system do you think is the most difficult to understand? Why?

Which number system do you think is the most similar to ours? Explain your answer.

Which number system do you think differs the most from ours? Explain your answer.

The Shang Dynasty

This table shows some of the numerals that the Shang Dynasty used in their number system. Can you see how the system worked?

					
1	2	3	4	5	6
					
7	8	9	10	11	12
					
13	20	30	40	50	60
					
70	80	100	200	500	700
					
1000	3000	5000	82	754	4129

How do you think you would write the number 14?

How do you think you would write the number 120?

How do you think you would write the number 300?

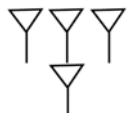
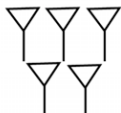
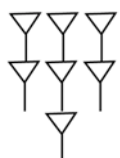
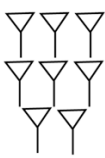
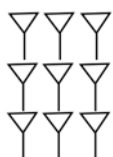
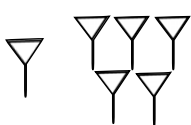
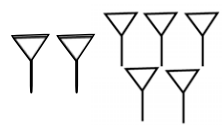
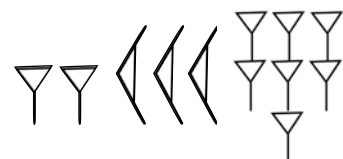
How do you think you would write the number 210?

How do you think you would write the number 800?

How do you think you would write the number 2000?

Ancient Sumer

This table shows some of the numerals that the Ancient Sumerians used in their number system. Can you see how the system worked?

 1	 2	 3	 4	 5	 6
 7	 8	 9	 10	 11	 12
 13	 20	 40	 50	 36	
 60	 65	 70	 80	 91	
 100		 125		 157	

How do you think you would write the number 15?

How do you think you would write the number 24?

How do you think you would write the number 51?

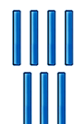
How do you think you would write the number 74?

How do you think you would write the number 130?

How do you think you would write the number 123?

Ancient Egypt

This table shows some of the numerals that the Ancient Egyptians used in their number system. Can you see how the system worked?

					
1	2	3	4	5	6
					
7	8	9	10	11	12
					
13	20	30	90		
					
100	200	300	1000	10,000	100,000
					
1,000,000	1203		13,218		

How do you think you would write the number 42?

How do you think you would write the number 550?

How do you think you would write the number 7000?

How do you think you would write the number 56?

How do you think you would write the number 2129?

How do you think you would write the number 25672?

Can you make a ruler that has equal division without using a ruler?!

The Indus Valley civilisation were very good mathematicians. Several rulers have been found that were made by the Indus people. These are some of the earliest rulers in the world. But how did they make them without a measuring system to work from?

Your task today is to make a ruler which has equal division without using any measuring devices to help you. Make your ruler on strips of card.

Think about:

- How much space you will have between each division
- How you will make each division exactly the same size
- What you will call each unit of measurement



When you have made your ruler, test it out! Can you measure different objects? How accurately can you measure?

Now test your ruler with a real ruler to see how accurate your divisions are!

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