

FLORENTIN SMARANDACHE
Funny Problems

In Florentin Smarandache: “Collected Papers”, vol. II. Chisinau
(Moldova): Universitatea de Stat din Moldova, 1997.

FUNNY PROBLEMS

In this paper we present original or collected recreational mathematical problems.

1) Prove that $2 = 1$.

Solution:

2 pints = 1 quart.

2) A man weights the following weights on the following dates.
How is it possible?

6/1/70	150 lbs.
6/3/70	0 lbs.
6/5/70	25 lbs.
6/7/70	0 lbs.
6/9/70	145 lbs.

Solution:

Man is astronaut who went to Moon and back.

Outerspace weightlessness: 0 lbs.

$\frac{1}{6}$ of his Earth Gravity, or Gravity of Moon: 25 lbs.

3) If you have a couple of three's and divided them in half, why do you end up with 4 pieces?

Solution:

~~3 3~~

4) How $70 > 3 = \text{LOVE}$?

Solution:

Move the characters up or dow, or reverse them.

5) $10 - 1 = 0$.

Solution:

If you have a stick (1) and egg (0) and you give away the stick (1), you still have the egg (0) left.

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7) Twelve minus one is equal to two.

Solution:

$12 - 1 = 2$ (take the digit 1 out from 12).

8) $7 + 7 = \square$

Solution:

Take the four sticks from the 7's, rearrange them to form a rectangle.

9) $3 \times 2578 = \text{HELL}$

Solution:

Read your calculator upside down: 7734 (the product of the first two numbers) becomes HELL (approximately).

10) An earthworm is cut down the middle. How many halves are there?

Solution:

One,

because the other half can still be one whole earthworm!

11) From two false hypotheses get a true statement.

Examples:

a) Grass is edible. False
Edible things are green. False
Therefore, grass is green. True

b) All dogs are poodles.
Spot is a dog.
Thus, spot is a poodle.

12) How can you add 3 with 3 and get 8?

Solution:

$\text{E}3 = 8$

13) If 10 trees fall down, and no one is around to hear them falling,

how many of the trees fall ?

Solution:

Ten.

14) When algebraically $1 = 0$?

Solution:

In a null ring, which is a set with one element only, and one binary operation. If we take for “+” and for “·” in the same time this operation, we get a commutative, unitary ring.

In this case the unitary element for “·” (which normally is noted by “1”) and the null element for “+” (which normally is noted by “0”) coincide.

15) When is it possible to have : $1 + 1 = 10$?

Solution:

In base 2.

16) Another logic:

How can we have ten divided by two equal to zero ?

Answer:

Ten cookies divided by two kids are eaten and nothing is remained !

17) You are lost and walking down a road. You want to get to town and know the road leads to town but don't know which direction. You meet two twin boys. You know one boy always tells the truth and one always lies. The boys know the direction to town. You cannot tell the boys apart and can only ask one question to one boy to find out the direction to town. What question would you ask?

Solution:

Ask either boy what the other boy would say is the direction to town. This would be a lie because if you were asking the dishonest boy, he would tell you a lie. If you were asking the honest boy he would tell you the truth about what the dishonest boy would say (which would be a lie) so he would give you the wrong direction. Town would be in the opposite direction.

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18) Why are manhole covers round?

You know, the manholes on the streets, is there a reason why they made them round or could they be square or triangular?

Solution:

Manhole covers are round because a circle cannot fall inside of itself. If they were square, triangular or some other shape they could be dropped into the hole, which would be dangerous to traffic.

19) You have eleven lines. How can you move five lines and still have nine?

| | | | | | | | | | |

Solution:

| | | | | | | | | | |
<-move-->

to form:

· N I N E

20) You have a cannon and two identical cannon balls. You take the cannon to a large open location that is perfectly flat and you adjust the cannon barrel so that it is perfectly level. You load one of the cannon balls into the cannon and you hold the other cannon ball at the same height as the barrel. You fire the cannon and drop the other cannon ball at the same time. Which cannon ball will hit the ground first?

Solution:

Both cannon balls should hit the ground at the same time, since gravity acts equally on two objects having the same mass. The cannon barrel was leveled and the cannon ball would begin to fall as it moved forward out of the barrel at the same rate as the cannon ball that dropped by hand. They would hit at the same time but the cannon ball fired from the cannon would hit the ground far away.

21) I am invisible but can be measured. I affect everyone and everything that is anything. I span the universe and change from place to place. What am I?

Solution:

I am “gravity”.

22) The Moon rotates at a rate of one rotation to every 27.3 Earth days and revolves around the Earth at a rate of one revolution to every 27.3 Earth days. This seems to be a strange coincidence. How does it relate to our perception of the Moon as viewed from Earth?

Solution:

People on Earth only see one side of the Moon because the same side is always facing us. If you lived on the far side of the Moon you would never see Earth. Man first saw the far or “dark side of the Moon” in the 1960’s.

23) A semantic puzzle:

GEOMETRY IS THE MEASUREMENT OF THE WORLD, THE
GEO, THE SAME GEO WE PICTURE OR GRAPH IN GEOGRAPHY.
THESE ARE EASY AND SENSIBLE. THE ONE I COULD NEVER MAKE
HEADS OR TAILS OF, THOUGH IS

TRI ... GON (O) ... METRY

METRY IS MEASURE AND TRI IS THREE. BUT WHAT THE
HECK’S A GON-(O) THAT ONE HAS TO HAVE THREE OF IT TO
METRY?

EXPONENTIAL SILLINESS ...

24) What is a hungry man’s multiplication factor?

Solution:

8 x 8.

25) Spell out the number NINE!

Solution:

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(eleven bars!)

26) There are two 24 x 24 corrals. In each corral there are 6 steers. The farmer expects to produce a calf from each steer. How many calves will be produced?

Solution:

Zero! (Steers can't produce calves.)

27) How would a mathematician measure the intensity of an earthquake on a meter as in the movie Armageddon?

Solution:

It is impossible to have an earthquake on a meteor!

28) 15 Hunters Went Bear Hunting. One Killed 2 Bears. How Many Bears Have One Killed?

Solution:

Two. ("One" is the name of one of the hunters.)

29) $w/2 = u$. Find a logic for this equality.

Solution:

Double "u" divided by 2 is "u".