

1. In a Super Smash Brothers tournament,  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the contestants play as Fox,  $\frac{1}{3}$  of the contestants play as Falco, and  $\frac{1}{6}$  of the contestants play as Peach. Given that there were 40 more people who played either Fox or Falco than who played Peach, how many contestants attended the tournament?

**Answer: 60**

**Solution:** Let  $x$  denote the number of contestants in the tournament. Then  $\frac{1}{2}x + \frac{1}{3}x - \frac{1}{6}x = 40$ . Thus,  $\frac{2}{3}x = 40$  and hence  $x = \boxed{60}$  contestants attended the tournament.

2. Compute the number of ways 6 girls and 5 boys can line up if all 11 people are distinguishable and no two girls stand next to each other.

**Answer: 86400**

**Solution:** Note that the lineup must be GBGBGBGBGBG. There are  $6! \cdot 5! = \boxed{86400}$  ways that they can line up.

3. The line  $y = x + 2015$  intersects the parabola  $y = x^2$  at two points,  $(a, b)$  and  $(c, d)$ . Compute  $a + c$ .

**Answer: 1**

**Solution:** Note that  $a$  and  $c$  satisfy the equation  $x^2 - x - 2015 = 0$ . By the quadratic formula, the two solutions are  $\frac{1 + \sqrt{(-1)^2 - 4(1)(-2015)}}{2(1)}$  and  $\frac{1 - \sqrt{(-1)^2 - 4(1)(-2015)}}{2(1)}$ . Therefore, the two solutions sum to be  $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} = \boxed{1}$ .

4. Initially 2 miles apart, two cars are driving north on a straight freeway. The southern car is driving 80 mph and the northern car has a speed of 50 mph. A very fast bird, initially sitting on the front car flies off directly at the other car at a speed of 90 mph! When the bird approaches a car it instantly turns around and flies the other direction. What is the total distance that the bird flies, in miles, before getting smashed between the cars?

**Answer: 6**

**Solution:** The bird flies continuously while the cars are apart so if the cars crash in time  $T$  then the bird will have flown  $90T$  miles. The distance between the cars decreases at the difference of their speeds so they will crash in  $T = \frac{2mi}{80-50mi/h} = 4min$ . Thus the bird will travel  $\boxed{6}$  miles!

5. A certain high school has exactly 1000 lockers, numbered from 1 to 1000, all initially closed. Mark and Matt decide to practice lockpicking after school one day. Mark first opens every locker whose number has exactly 3 factors, starting with locker 4. Matt then opens every locker whose number is a power of 2, starting with locker 1. If Matt encounters a locker that Mark has already opened, he closes it and reopens it for extra practice. Compute the number of lockers that will be open when both Mark and Matt finish.

**Answer: 20**

**Solution:** Numbers with exactly three factors must be squares of primes (so the factors are 1,  $p$ , and  $p^2$ ). Between 1 and 1000 there are 11 such numbers:  $2^2, 3^2, 5^2, 7^2, 11^2, 13^2, 17^2, 19^2, 23^2, 29^2, 31^2$ . Furthermore, there are 10 powers of 2 between 1 and 1000:  $2^0, 2^1, \dots, 2^9$ . The number 4 is in each list, so there are a total of  $\boxed{20}$  distinct lockers that Mark and Matt will open.

6. An integer  $n$  is *almost square* if there exists a perfect square  $k^2$  such that  $|n - k^2| = 1$  and  $k$  is a positive integer. How many positive integers less than or equal to 2015 are almost square?

**Answer: 87**

**Solution:** First, there are  $\lfloor \sqrt{2015} \rfloor = 44$  perfect squares less than 2015. For each perfect square  $1, 4, 9, \dots$  there are 2 almost square integers corresponding to the perfect square. However, we've included 0, so there are  $44 \cdot 2 - 1 = \boxed{87}$  positive almost square integers less than or equal to 2015.

7. In a right triangle, dropping an altitude to the hypotenuse divides the hypotenuse into two segments of length 2 and 3 respectively. What is the area of the triangle?

**Answer:  $\frac{5\sqrt{6}}{2}$**

**Solution:** Denote the right triangle  $ABC$  with hypotenuse  $BC$ . Let  $D$  be the intersection of the altitude and  $BC$  and let  $CD = 2$  and  $BD = 3$ . Triangle  $ACD$  is similar to triangle  $ABC$  so  $\frac{AC}{CD} = \frac{BC}{AC}$ . Thus,  $AC = \sqrt{BC \cdot CD} = \sqrt{5 \cdot 2} = \sqrt{10}$ . Triangle  $ABD$  is similar to triangle  $ABC$  so  $\frac{AB}{BD} = \frac{BC}{AB}$ . Thus,  $AB = \sqrt{BC \cdot BD} = \sqrt{5 \cdot 3} = \sqrt{15}$ . Therefore, the area of  $ABC$  is  $\frac{1}{2} \cdot \sqrt{10} \cdot \sqrt{15} = \boxed{\frac{5\sqrt{6}}{2}}$ .

8. Let  $f(x) = ax^2 + bx + c$  where  $a \neq 0$ . Find  $d$  where  $0 < d < 1$  such that  $f(0) = 2014$ ,  $f(d^2) = 2015$ ,  $f(d) = 2016$ , and the sum of the roots of  $f$  equals 0.

**Answer:  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$**

**Solution:** The sum of the roots of a quadratic is  $-\frac{b}{2a}$ , so the sum of the roots of  $f$  equals 0 if and only if  $b = 0$ . Now, the three values of  $f$  give us

$$\begin{aligned} c &= 2014 \\ ad^4 + bd^2 + c &= 2015 \\ ad^2 + bd + c &= 2016 \end{aligned}$$

Subtracting the first equation from the second two and substituting  $b = 0$ , we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} ad^4 &= 1 \\ ad^2 &= 2 \end{aligned}$$

Dividing equation one by equation two, we get that

$$d^2 = \frac{1}{2}$$

Therefore, it follows that  $d = \pm \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$ . Since we want  $0 < d < 1$ , we conclude that  $d = \boxed{\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}}$ .

9. There are four seats arranged in a circle and a person is sitting on one of the seats. He rolls a die 6 times. For each roll of the die, if it lands on 4, he moves one seat clockwise. Otherwise, he moves  $k$  seats counterclockwise where  $k$  is the number he rolled. Compute the probability that he ends up on the same seat he originally started on.

**Answer:  $\frac{61}{243}$**

**Solution:** First, note that for each roll of the die, he has an equal probability of moving to any of the remaining seats. Let  $p_n$  be the probability that he returns to his seat after  $n$  rolls. Then

$p_{n+1} = \frac{1}{3}(1 - p_n)$  and  $p_1 = 0$ . Therefore, we compute:

$$p_1 = 0$$

$$p_2 = \frac{1}{3}$$

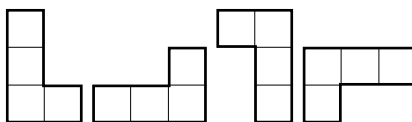
$$p_3 = \frac{2}{9}$$

$$p_4 = \frac{7}{27}$$

$$p_5 = \frac{20}{81}$$

$$p_6 = \boxed{\frac{61}{243}}$$

10. How many ways are there to tile a  $4 \times 14$  grid using the following tiles?



**Answer: 85**

**Solution:** Let  $a_{2n}$  denote the number of ways to tile a  $4 \times 2n$  grid. The leftmost part of any tiling must either consist of a  $4 \times 2$  block formed from the 2nd and 4th tiles or a  $4 \times 4$  block formed from either from two of each of the 1st and 3rd tiles or from a pinwheel-like design formed from one of each of the four tiles. Thus, we see that  $a_{2n} = a_{2n-2} + 2a_{2n-4}$ . Since  $a_2 = 1$  and  $a_4 = 3$ , we have the sequence  $\{1, 3, 5, 11, 21, 43, 85, \dots\}$ . It follows that  $a_{2n}$  is the  $n$ th number in this sequence and hence  $a_{14} = \boxed{85}$ .