

All rules in Section 209 apply to this contest.

A. NATURE OF THE CONTEST. The 10-minute test will consist of 80 mental mathematics problems designed to test speed and accuracy in working problems of varying levels of difficulty. **ALL PROBLEMS ARE TO BE SOLVED MENTALLY.**

B. USE OF CALCULATORS AND CALCULATIONS.

1. *No Calculators.* Contestants **will not** be allowed the use of calculators.
2. *Paper and Pencil Calculations.* **ALL PROBLEMS ARE TO BE SOLVED MENTALLY.** Make **no** calculations with paper and pencil. Only the results of calculations arrived at without the use of pencil and paper should be accepted. A contestant will be disqualified for violating this rule. A blue pen is mandatory for this contest

C. CONDUCTING THE CONTEST.

1. *Reading the Contest Instructions.* The contest director will read the following directions exactly as they are printed:
 - a. ***No Cell Phones or other electronic devices allowed in testing room.***
 - b. Put your name, school, and school classification in the directed place on your test and answer sheet. Failure to put your name and school will result in disqualification. (Allow time for this to be done).
 - c. Keep your papers closed until told to do otherwise; this is particularly important while test papers are being distributed and before the signal to begin has been given.
 - d. During the test, no questions may be asked or answered. The contestant talking or making distracting noises may be disqualified.
 - e. Leaving the room with any contest materials will result in disqualification.
 - f. Transferring information concerning this test to other contestants or coaches is a violation of the Academic Meet Code and subject to penalties up to and including disqualification.
 - g. **Non-erasable blue ball point pen must be used to take the number sense test.** Write only the answer in the space provided at the end of each problem. No erasures, mark-overs, and/or mark-outs are permitted. These will be counted as incorrect answers.
 - h. You have 10 minutes for this test. No oral time warning shall be given.
 - i. All problems through the last problem completed or attempted will be graded. A problem is considered attempted if any mark or erasure appears in the answer space for that problem. Scoring is plus five points for correct answers and minus four points for incorrect, skipped or illegible answers.

- j. If you finish the test before the end of the allotted time, you must remain in your seat and retain your paper until told to do otherwise. No talking or distracting noises will be permitted.
 - k. If you are in the process of actually writing down an answer on the answer sheet when the signal to stop is given, immediately stop writing, even if the answer is incomplete.
 - l. All problems are to be solved mentally. Make no calculations with paper and pencil. Do not attempt to solve the problem on paper, the desk, your hand, etc. You can be disqualified for violating this rule. All fractions must be reduced to the lowest terms. Decimal answers are permitted for those un-starred problems whose answers are exactly expressible as decimals. Starred problems on test sheet require approximate integral answers, i.e. they permit 5% error; un-starred problems require exact answers. Answers require only the writing of numerals. If a symbol is omitted from the printed test, the contestant need not include it in the answer. All dollars and cents problems must have complete answers. For example: twenty-three dollars must be written as \$23.00. Sixteen cents would be written \$.16 or 16¢, depending on the answer blank format. Answers should be written in the most efficient form possible. For example: if the answer is 16, 16.000 is not acceptable. Extraneous zeros are not to be used. For example: if .16 is the answer, 0.16 is not an acceptable answer. Answers should not be left in exponential form.
 - m. You will not be allowed the use of calculators on this test.
2. *Start and Stop Signals.* Exactly 10 minutes after the start signal was given, announce that time has expired and that contestants must turn in their test and answer sheet.
3. *Scoring.*
- a. *Scoring problems.* Those problems occurring after the last problem solved correctly or attempted are not considered skipped and hence no deduction for them is made. “Attempted problem” means having a mark in the answer blank. Only the answers to the problems should be written on the paper. No other writing is permitted. An answer once written must be allowed to stand. Answers may not be crossed out. Erasures, mark-overs, and mark-outs are not permitted. Should there be an erasure or a mark-out, that problem is to be counted incorrect. The contest director is empowered to determine if a number is legible.
 - b. *Fractions.* All fractions in test papers must be reduced to the lowest terms. Decimal answers are permitted for those un-starred problems whose answers are exactly expressible as decimals. For example, $\frac{3}{2}$, $1\frac{1}{2}$, and 1.5 are all acceptable. Starred problems on test sheets require approximate integral answers, i.e., they permit five percent error: un-starred problems require exact answers.

- c. *Symbols.* Symbols such as % and \$ are usually printed on the test. Therefore, answers require only the writing of numerals. If a symbol is omitted from the printed test, it is not the responsibility of the contestant to make sure the answer is complete. If not printed, the student need not include it in the answer.
 - d. *Dollars and Cents.* In agreement with the philosophy that answers should be complete, all dollars and cents problems must have complete answers. That is, twenty-three dollars must be written as \$23.00 (with \$ and 00). Sixteen cents would be written \$.16 or 16c, depending on the answer blank format.
 - e. *Numerical answers.* Numerical answers should be written so that the answers are complete as in the two examples above. However, the answer should be written in the most efficient form possible. For example, if the answer is 16, the written answer 16.000 is not acceptable for the purposes of the number sense competition. Extraneous zeros are not to be used. For example, if .16 is the answer, 0.16 is not an acceptable answer.
 - f. *Exponentials.* An answer such as 3×10^3 should be expressed as 3000 and not left in exponential form.
4. *Ties.* No ties are to be broken