

## MATHEMATICS (updated 6/04/16)

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### UIL Test Comments — 2015-16

\*\*\* NOTE: See Off on a Tangent for information on workshops and the Student Activity Conferences \*\*\*

**SAC** - - - > #22 ... should read Germain Prime instead of Germanian Prime  
#29 ... It appears that answers A, C, and D would work

**A** - - - > #14 ... the answer should be B not A (Release dates: 1/8/16 - 2/6/16)  
#39 ... both B and D are correct answers  
#58 --- (See Test Discussion section below)

**B** - - - > #19 ... both A and C are correct answers ... answer choice C should have had a "-" sign  
#53 ... the answer should be D not E (Release dates: 2/12/16 - 3/12/16)

**District 1** - - - > # 29 ... answer E is missing a "2" ... it should be (E) - 2  
# 37 ... typo on the key ... it should be C, not D  
# 58 ... typo on the key ... it should be E, not D (Release dates: 3/21/16 - 3/26/16)

**District 2** - - - > #33 ... typo on the problem ... point B obviously is not on the circle  
#39 ... there was no correct answer available, so the problem had to be thrown out ...  
the correct answer should have been 29 yds 2 ft 6 in.  
#36 ... the word "obtuse" should be replaced with "largest".  
#52 ... typo on the problem ... I. should be 13 not 130  
(Release dates: 4/1/16 - 4/6/16)

**Regional** - - - > #58 ... missing the "s" at the end of the word "choice" (Release dates: 4/21/16 - 4/23/16)

**State** - - - > #28 ... problem was not workable with the given information stated the way it was  
#34 ... key should have A not E  
#42 ... key should have B not A (Release dates: 5/23/16 - 5/25/16)

### TMSCA Test Comments — 2015-16 (tests I write for TMSCA)

# 6 - - - > #58 ... the answer choices available were the wrong ones ... 3.8 should be the correct answer.  
(Release date: 12/5/15)

# 13 - - - > #27 ... there was no correct answer available ... 8" should be the correct answer  
#41 ... typo on the key ... it should be D  
#45 ... typo on the key ... it should be A (Release date: 3/5/16)

**State** - - - > No errors, corrections, or comments reported at this time. (Release date: 3/19/16)

### Off on a Tangent

**Workshops and/or Presentations I will be doing the summer and fall of 2015:**

1. UIL Capitol Conference, Austin on June 20-21-2016.
2. *What's Your 7<sup>th</sup> Problem* - Math Camp at Texas Tech University, Lubbock on July 12-16, 2016.  
For more information contact Jack Barton at jack.barton@ttu.edu or 806-742-2350.
3. Student Activity Conferences:
  - A. WTAMU, Canyon on Sept. 17, 2016
  - B. TAMUCC, Corpus Christi on Sept. 24, 2016
  - C. UT Austin, Austin on Oct. 22, 2016
  - D. UT Arlington, Arlington on Nov. 5, 2016

**2016 Student Activity Conference (SAC) information: (Schedule below is tentative)**

- |                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| 9:00 10:30 a.m. | ---- Number Sense contest: guidelines, rules, resources, practice materials, etc.<br>---- SAC 2016 Number Sense Test (take/grade) NEW 10 min-80 question test<br>---- Q&A - discuss/answer questions from the test |
| 10:45–noon      | ---- Mathematics contest: guidelines, rules, resources, practice materials, etc.<br>---- SAC 2016 Mathematics Test (take/grade) New 20 min-30 question test<br>---- Q&A - discuss/answer questions from the test   |
| 12:15 1:30 p.m. | ---- UIL Constitution and Contest Rules: discussion and clarifications<br>---- Special session: Topic to be posted at a later time   |

NOTE: For those of you not able to attend one of the SACs, all presentations, tests, keys, etc. should be posted on the UIL Academic website following the UT Arlington SAC.

**Test Discussions**

**#58 ...** I have been having a good discussion with several coaches concerning this problem. It is a lengthy discussion and too long to post here. However, if you are interested in the full discussion, send me an email and I will forward the full discussion to you. Here is the concluding observation from the discussions concerning whether B or D is correct. Can a function be continuous at an endpoint?

**Throughout the discussion I tried to point out that not all math concepts are agreed upon by all people ... purist mathematicians tend to believe one way and other mathematicians another way. The point remains that this particular problem falls in that category of the color "grey". When I was still teaching and I came across these types of problems that had conflicting differences based on different schools of thought, I tried to inform my students that there were different schools of thought on numerous things in mathematics.**

**With this in mind, I have flagged this problem as a reminder that I need to write the problem in such a way that the difference in schools of thought do not come into play as far as competition is concerned. I will try not to use endpoints and try to use limits and continuity on intervals. However, I think it is important that we, as teachers, make sure our students understand that some concepts in mathematics do have different schools of thought that can and are justifiable.**

**STATE MEET PROOFERS AND GRADERS**

Coaches of the regional team champions and the coaches of the regional wild card teams will be needed to proof the state test (while the contestants are testing) and grade the tests.

**Note:**

- You must be a full time employee of the school district.
- You must be listed as the team's coach.
- You must be willing to stay in the proofing/grading room until **all** proofing **and** grading is complete.  
(Please do not agree to proof and grade if you are not going to be in the room at the designated time.)

If you are one of the 24 regional team championship coaches or one of the 6 regional wild card team coaches, you need to email me no later than May 16 with the following information:

Number Sense Contest Regional Team Champion \_\_\_\_\_ Wild Card Team \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ School & District \_\_\_\_\_

Classification \_\_\_\_\_ Region # \_\_\_\_\_ District # \_\_\_\_\_

I will \_\_\_\_\_ will not \_\_\_\_\_ be able to help proof and grade the test.

I will send you a reply confirming that I received your email. If you do not receive an email back from me then I did not receive your email. Hence, I will begin a search for a replacement for you beginning May 17. Email me at [\*\*texasmath@centex.net\*\*](mailto:texasmath@centex.net).

Good Luck! Work Hard! Play Fair!

I am off on another tangent ...