NUMBER SENSE (updated 6/4/16)

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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 - - - > #80 … answer key should read: 1,459 - 1,611 (See Test Discussion section below)

A - - - > No errors, corrections, or comments reported at this time. (Release dates: 1/8/16 - 2/6/16)
      #15 --- (See Test Discussion section below)

B - - - > No errors, corrections, or comments reported at this time. (Release dates: 2/12/16 - 3/12/16)

District 1 - - - > #8 … 1 19/24 can be written as 43/24
           #61 … 1 4/5 can be written as 1.8 and 9/5   (Release dates: 3/21/16 - 3/26/16)

District 2 - - - > No errors, corrections, or comments reported at this time. (Release dates: 4/1/16 - 4/6/16)

Regional - - - > #49 … the word "sides" should be "edges"
           #51 … see test discussion below   (Release dates: 4/21/16 - 4/23/16)

State - - - > No errors, corrections, or comments reported at this time. (Release dates: 5/23/16 - 5/25/16)

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

 # 6   - - - > No errors, corrections, or comments reported at this time. (Release date: 12/5/15)

 # 13 - - - > No errors, corrections, or comments reported at this time. (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:
1. UIL Capitol Conference, Austin on June 20-21-2016.
2. *What's Your 7th 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.
                     ---- SAC 2016 Number Sense Test (take/grade) NEW 10 min-80 question test
                     ---- Q&A - discuss/answer questions from the test

    10:45–noon   ---- Mathematics contest: guidelines, rules, resources, practice materials, etc.

---- SAC 2016 Mathematics Test (take/grade) New 20 min-30 question test
---- Q&A - discuss/answer questions from the test

12:15 1:30 p.m.   ---- UIL Constitution and Contest Rules: discussion and clarifications
---- 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

Note: I have been writing 12 practice number sense tests for HEXCO each of the past three years and will be writing them again this year. Contact Linda at HEXCO.com if you are interested in ordering some of these tests.

2015SAC #80 … All answers to estimation problems have to be integers. Problems with "$" signs have to be written to the nearest cent. #80 is an estimation problem, so it can't be rounded to the nearest cent since it has to be an integer. I changed this problem and similar ones in the future to have a blank for the answer without the $ sign and used the unit "dollars" at the end of the blank (i.e. _____ dollars).

2016A #15 … I was asked whether the answer .63 can be written as 0.63, like it is in the question. No, the answers in the blank have to follow the UIL rules. Zeros in front of the decimal and the end are not allowed. There are only two correct ways to write this answer: .63 or 63/100. I put the zero in front of the decimal in the question to make sure the decimal point is not overlooked in the question. Similarly, if I choose to put the fraction 4/12 in a question it is okay, but if the student puts 4/12 in the answer blank it is considered not simplified and will be counted as incorrect. Be sure your students are very familiar with the rules governing how answer can be written in the answer blank.

2016 Reg #51 … A group of students from Edinburg North had their coach send me an email about this problem. They were working on it the week before state and noticed that the answer should be - 1/5 instead of 1/5. The natural instinct is to keep the 5i as a single imaginary term, however without the parenthesis around the 5i, the order of operations kicks in. So (2+3i) should be divided by 5 then multiplies by i. In the future, I will try to avoid this type of issue by putting in the parenthesis. Great catch Edinburg North group!

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**.

Good Luck! Work Hard! Play Fair!   I am off on another tangent ...