





## **MPORTANT**

The information contained in this file is ONLY for the use of registered participants of the 2024 APSMO Maths Games.

All questions and solutions are copyright © 2024 by Australasian Problem Solving Mathematical Olympiads (APSMO) Inc. All rights reserved.

This file and/or its contents must NOT be distributed by any means, including electronically, without written consent from Australasian Problem Solving Mathematical Olympiads (APSMO) Inc.

This file and/or its contents must NOT be made available on the internet in any format. This includes school websites.





# APSMO 2024 MATHS GAMES

### **ORGANISATION AND PROCEDURES** For full details, see the Members' Area

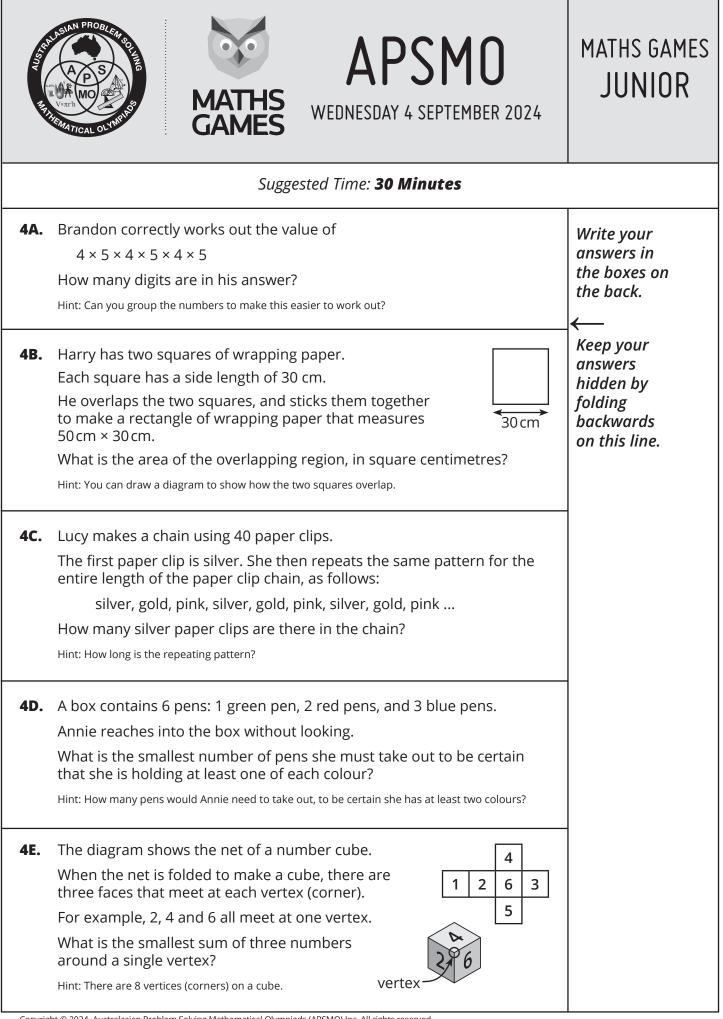
• Maths Games papers are to be conducted under test conditions.

	DO NOT
<ul> <li>Maintain silence.</li> <li>Provide blank working paper.</li> <li>Collect, mark and retain the papers.</li> <li>Pet th</li> <li>Pet th</li> </ul>	rint the papers prior to the scheduled ate. ead the questions aloud to the students. nterpret the questions for students. ermit any discussion or movement around ne room. ermit the use of calculators or other lectronic devices.

- Papers should be scored by the PICO using the *Solutions and Answers* sheet provided.
- Original student answer sheets should be retained by the PICO until the end of the year.

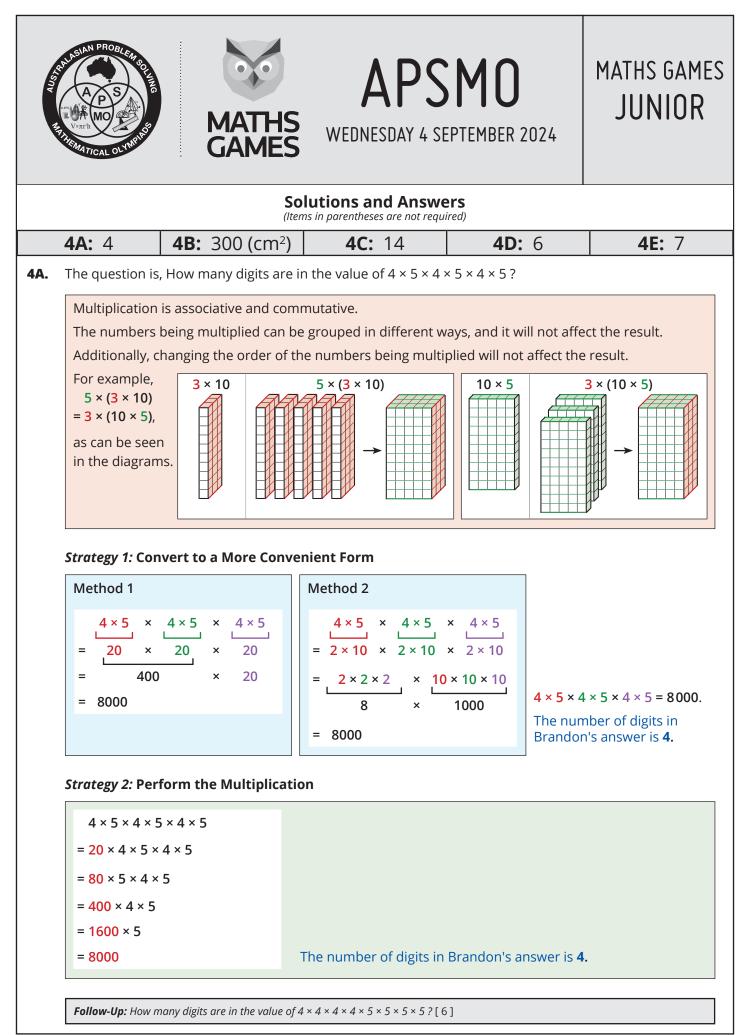
### Absent Students

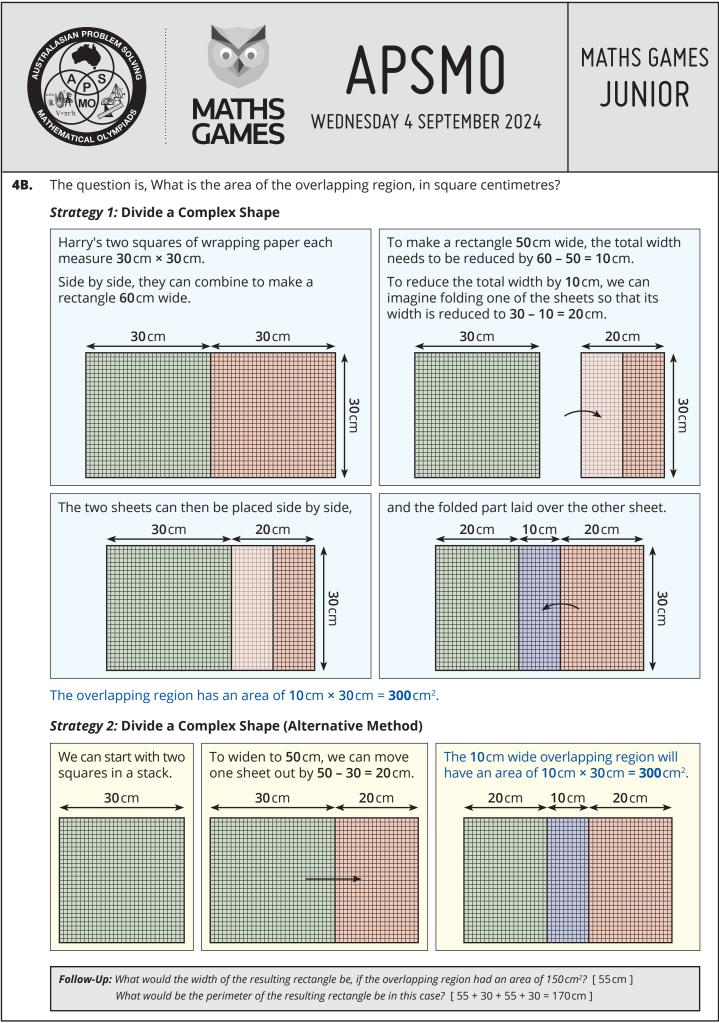
- A student who is legitimately absent on the date of the Maths Games paper, may sit the paper on their return to school.
- If an absent student does not sit the paper on their return to school they should be marked as 'absent'.
- Note: This policy differs from the Maths Olympiads Absent Student Policy which has additional requirements.



A C S C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C	MATHS GAMES	<b>APSMO</b> WEDNESDAY 4 SEPTEMBER 2024	MATHS GAMES JUNIOR
<b>4A.</b>	Student Name:		
<b>4B.</b>	Fold here. Keep yo		
<b>4C</b> .	Fold here. Keep your answers hidden.		
4D.			
<b>4E.</b>			

T









# **APSMO** WEDNESDAY 4 SEPTEMBER 2024

## MATHS GAMES JUNIOR

**4C.** The question is, How many silver paper clips are there in the chain?

#### Strategy 1: Convert to a More Convenient Form, and Find a Pattern

The paper clips occur in the following sequence:

silver, gold, pink, silver, gold, pink, silver, gold, pink ...



We can arrange the sequence so that it is more convenient to see the pattern - like this:

silver, gold, pink,

silver, gold, pink,

silver, gold, pink,

...

Using our new arrangement, we can list all **40** of the paper clips in the chain.

silver	gold	pink	3
silver	gold	pink	6
silver	gold	pink	9
silver	gold	pink	12
silver	gold	pink	15
silver	gold	pink	18
silver	gold	pink	21
silver	gold	pink	24
silver	gold	pink	27
silver	gold	pink	30
silver	gold	pink	33
silver	gold	pink	36
silver	gold	pink	39
silver			

There are **14** silver paper clips in Lucy's paper clip chain.

Alternatively, we can see that, for every group of **3** paper clips in the chain, there will be **1** silver paper clip.

In the first 30 paper clips, there will be  $30 \div 3 = 10$  silver ones.

silver	gold	pink	3
silver	gold	pink	30

The **40** – **30** = **10** remaining paper clips in the chain are:

silver	gold	pink	33
silver	gold	pink	36
silver	gold	pink	39
silver			

There are **10** + **4** = **14** silver paper clips in Lucy's paper clip chain.

#### Strategy 2: Convert to a More Convenient Form, and Find a Pattern (Alternative Method)

The paper clips follow the	The positions of the pink paper clips are all multiples of <b>3</b> :	
pattern silver, gold, pink, silver, gold, pink, silver, gold, pink,	3       6       9       12       15       18       21       24       27       30       33       36       39       42 <ul> <li>too far</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>We note that:</li> <li>There are 3 colours in the repeating pattern.</li> <li>Every 3rd paper clip is pink.</li> </ul>	The <b>39</b> th paper clip is pink. It is the <b>39</b> ÷ <b>3</b> = <b>13</b> th pink paper clip in the chain. Since the pattern has silver following pink, the <b>40</b> th paper clip is silver. It will be the <b>14</b> th silver paper clip in the chain. There are <b>14</b> silver paper clips in Lucy's paper clip chain.	

Follow-Up: Lucy adds more paper clips until there are 100 paper clips in the chain. What colour is the 100th paper clip? [Silver]



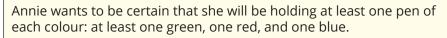




## **4D.** The question is, What is the smallest number of pens she must take out to be certain that she is holding at least one of each colour?

#### Strategy: Solve a Simpler Related Problem

There are 6 pens in the box: 1 green, 2 red, and 3 blue.



Since it is possible for Annie to take any combination of pens, we can consider a related question:

What is the greatest number of pens that Annie can take out, and still not be holding one pen of each colour?

Method 1: Deliberately select pens so that not all of the colours are represented.

Let's suppose that Annie wants to take out as many pens as possible, but she must stop as soon as she has one of each colour.

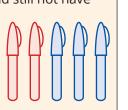
She might then begin by taking out as many pens as possible, that are all the same colour.

Since there are more blue pens than any other colour, it would make sense for Annie to begin by taking out all three blue pens.

The next most common colour is red.

Annie can take out both of the red pens, and still not have every colour.

We can see that it is possible for Annie to take 3 + 2 = 5 pens out of the box, and still not have one pen of every colour.



Method 2: Remove the smallest number of pens so that it is impossible to pick up every colour.

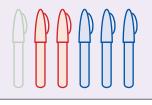
MATHS GAMES

JUNIOR

Alternatively, we can remove pens from the original set until it is no longer possible to take out one of each of the original colours.

The most uncommon colour is green. There is just one green pen.

We can see that, after selectively removing just one pen, it is no longer possible to take out one green, one red, and one blue pen.

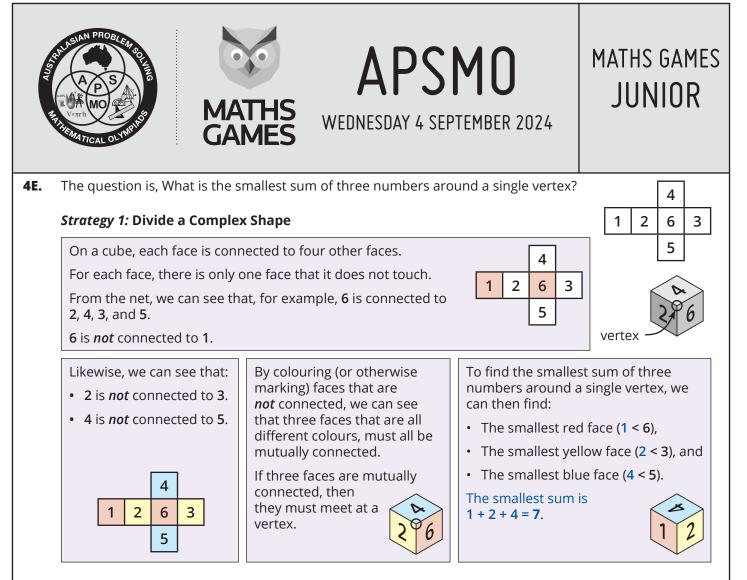


We have determined that the greatest number of pens that Annie can take out and still not have one pen of each colour, is **5**.

To be certain that she is holding at least one of every colour, Annie must take out every pen from the box.

#### Annie must take **6** pens out of the box.

Follow-Up: What is the smallest number of pens Annie must take out, to be certain she has two pens of the same colour? [4]



#### Strategy 2: Divide a Complex Shape, and Make an Organised List

