

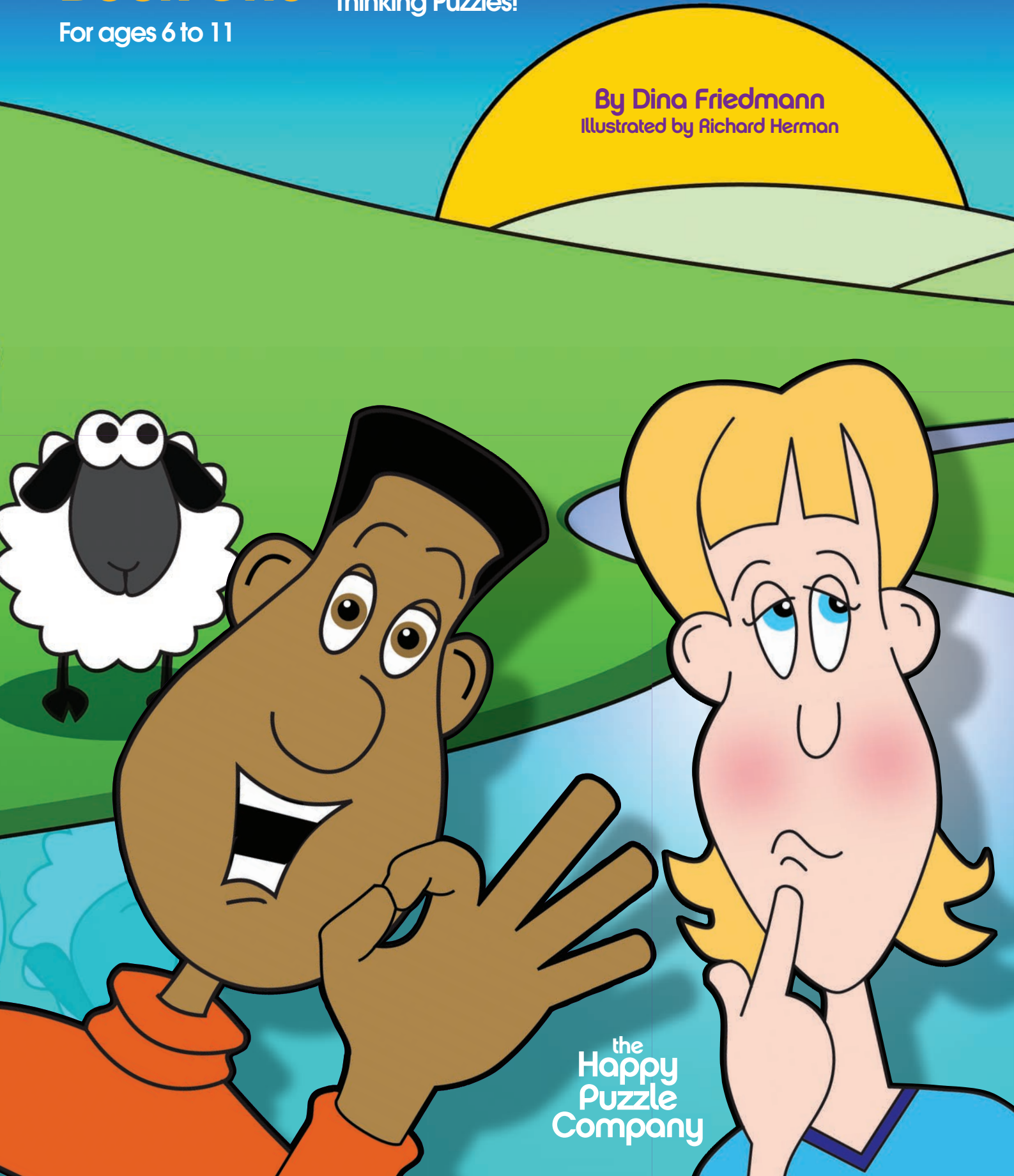
THE PUZZLING THINKATHON

Book One

A Fun Collection Of Brain-Teasing & Mind-Bending
Thinking Puzzles!

For ages 6 to 11

By Dina Friedmann
Illustrated by Richard Herman



the
Happy
Puzzle
Company

THE PUZZLING THINKATHON

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For Dalia

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Also available;
Thinkathon Book 2,
for ages 10
to adult.

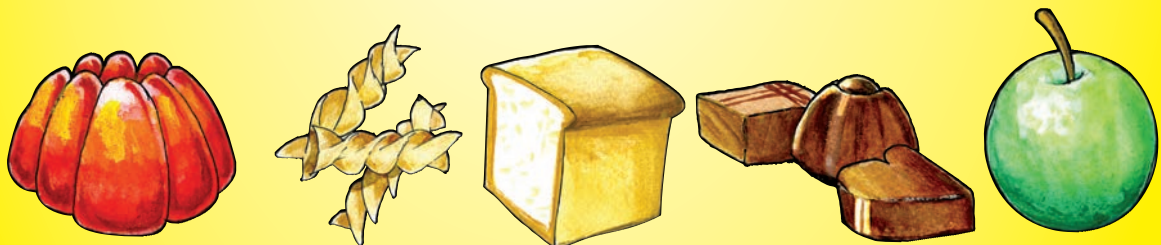
Which one of the following is the odd one out and why?

1 Green, Maroon, Lilac, Orange, Yellow, Purple
(Clue: Look at the actual words!)

2 3, 19, 7, 13, 11, 20
(Clue: The answer is not; 'only one is an even number')

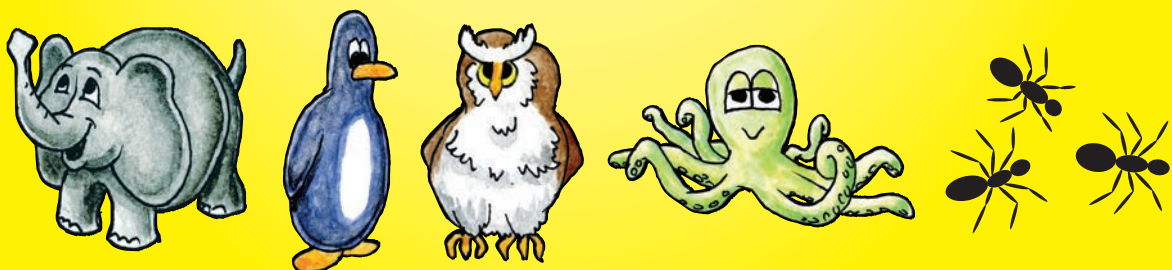
3 Tone, Sixty, Tennis, Nile, Water
(Clue: It's got something to do with numbers)

4



(Clue: Look at the spelling of each food)

5



(Clue: Vowels & consonants)

CHAPTER 2 JOINING WORDS

Can you get from the first word to the last word,
by changing just one letter at a time?

You must not change the order of the letters,
and you must ensure that each word is a real word!

6 MILE → _____ → _____ → POKE

7 HALO → _____ → _____ → WILL

8 PRAM → _____ → _____ → GRIT

9 GREY → _____ → _____ → PRAM

10 THIS → _____ → _____ → TWIT

11 GOAT → _____ → _____ → MEAN

12 SAID → _____ → _____ → WANT

13 SAYS → _____ → _____ → ROTS

14 RISK → _____ → _____ → NOSE

15 MINE → _____ → _____ → WINK

CHAPTER 3 CONCENTRATION NECESSARY!

16 Jenna gets up every day at 7:00am. She spends 8 minutes waiting for her brother Derek to free up the bathroom. She spends 10 minutes in the bathroom and quarter of an hour deciding what to wear. She then gets dressed quickly and is in the kitchen within 7 minutes. Her mother Sally has already been drinking coffee for 5 minutes. Her dad Joe reads the paper for 17 minutes before he leaves the house to drop Jenna at the bus stop (which is three minutes away).

If Jenna spends 5 minutes eating breakfast, and her bus arrives at 8:00am, how many minutes is she waiting for the bus?

17 Andrew splits his Sunday in to 5 consecutive 2 hour time slots, breaking up his day between 9:00am and 7:00pm. Breakfast is at 9:00, lunch at 1:00 and supper at 6:00. Each meal lasts for 30 minutes.

If he goes swimming between 11:00 and 12 midday, and he takes his brother to the park after lunch for an hour, which is the only uninterrupted time slot he can use to play computer games?

18 Rosie and Charlotta spend 1 hour cleaning every day. They spend 12 minutes vacuuming, quarter of an hour dusting and quarter of an hour mopping the floors. The washing up takes the same length of time as the vacuuming.

How many minutes do they have remaining for taking the rubbish out?

19 Caroline shares a room with her sister Christine and they always fight over clothes. They each have 5 pairs of socks which have just been washed, but rather than sort them in to pairs, they just dump them in the cupboard.

What is the minimum number of socks that Caroline will have to take out the cupboard, to ensure that she gets a pair?

20 Gilbert and Justin earn £10 a week each from their newspaper delivery job and they decide to go shopping. Gilbert spends £4.80 on sweets, while Justin spends £2.00. Justin spends £1.80 on magazines and £4.00 on a card game. He then spends £0.80 on the bus fare home. Gilbert spends £1.50 on his travel home.

How much more money does Justin spend than Gilbert?

CHAPTER 4 HIDDEN WORDS

Find the hidden colours in the sentences below...

(Clue: There may be more than one)

21

His eyebrow naturally rose in surprise!

22

The girls heard a yell.. 'ow! ow!' and went to investigate it!

23

Did you know his car letters on the number plate are B..LUE?

24

Do you like to jump in kayaks? The newer edition style are the best!

25

The ogre entered the forest very loudly, and then the ogre yelled ROAR!

Find the hidden fruits in the sentences below...

(Clue: There may be more than one)

26

Jason looked at all the figures, but they just didn't make sense to him!

27

They received a laptop each for their birthdays!

28

If you have a home, London is the place to be!

29

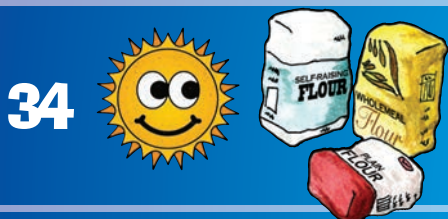
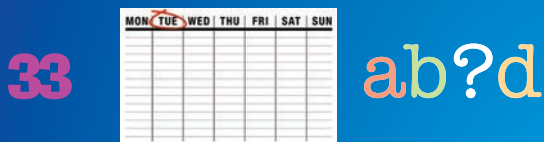
Jono rang Ethel to find out where Carlo lives!

30

Apparantly a woman goes faster round the shops than a man does, but a man is able to leave a shop earlier!

CHAPTER 5 PICTURE DINGBATS

Can you work out which flower(s) the pictures represent?



• Can you work out what these countries are?



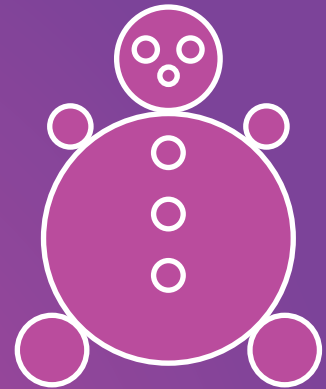
Can you work out what these animals are?



CHAPTER 6 SHAPE SORTER

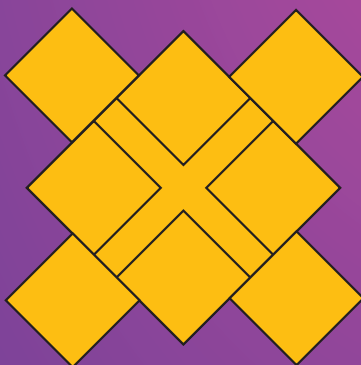
Can you work out how many smaller shapes make up the larger picture?

46 How many circles have been used to make up the clown?



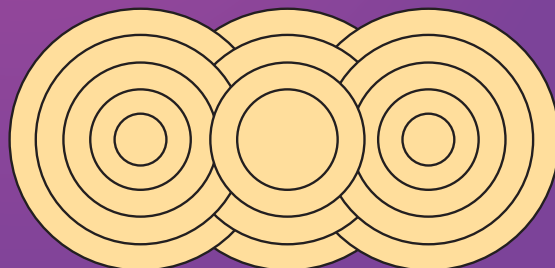
47 How many rectangles / squares are in the football pitch?

48 How many triangles make up the larger triangle?



49 How many diamonds are in the adjacent shape?

50 How many full circles make up the adjacent shape?



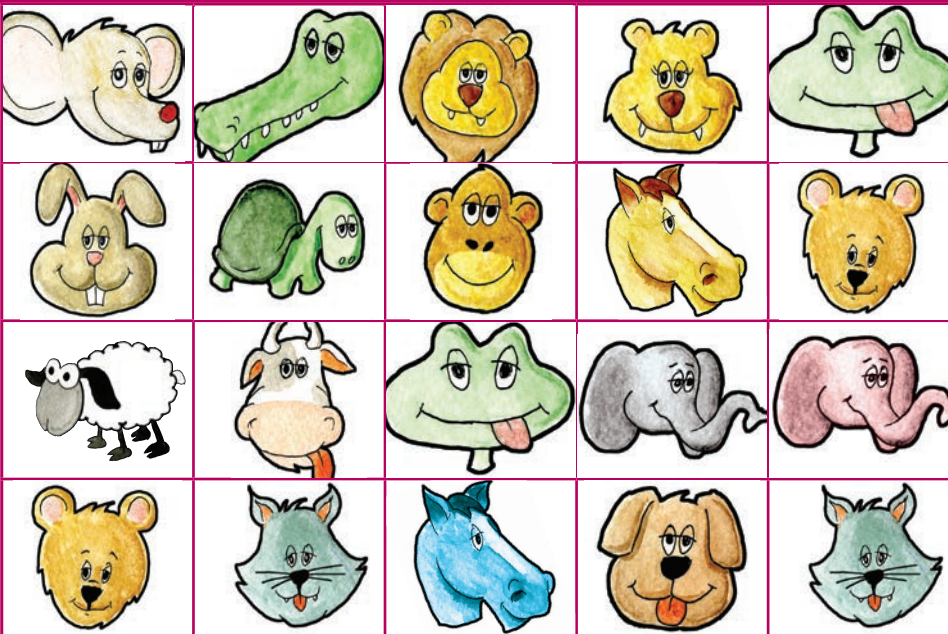
CHAPTER 7 VISUAL PERCEPTION

Give yourself 30 seconds to answer the following questions

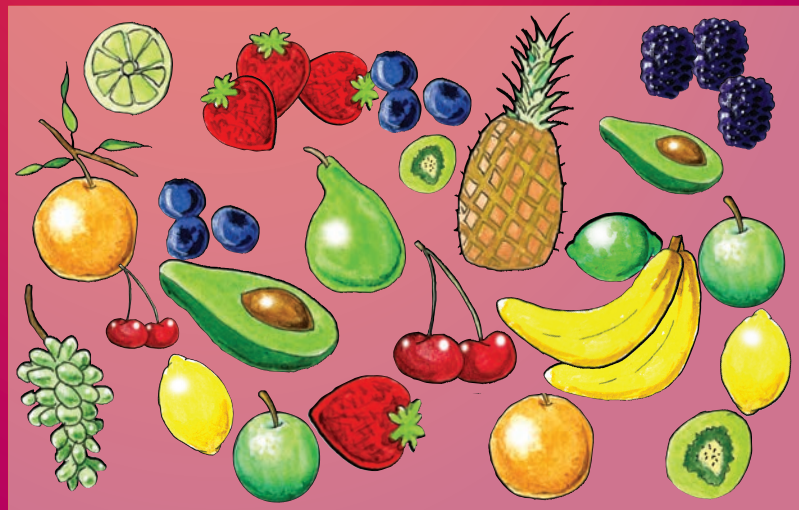
51 How many more number 1's are in the box than number 9's?

1	3	56	8	9	5	3	5
7	8	33	5	7	1	33	
55	8	0	6	4	22	4	66
88	9	3	6	8	1	0	2 9
3	8	3	7	4	8	4	5 8 1

52 Which animal is two above, and four to the left of the pink elephant?



53 How many different types of green fruit are there in the box?
(Clue: green leaves do not count)

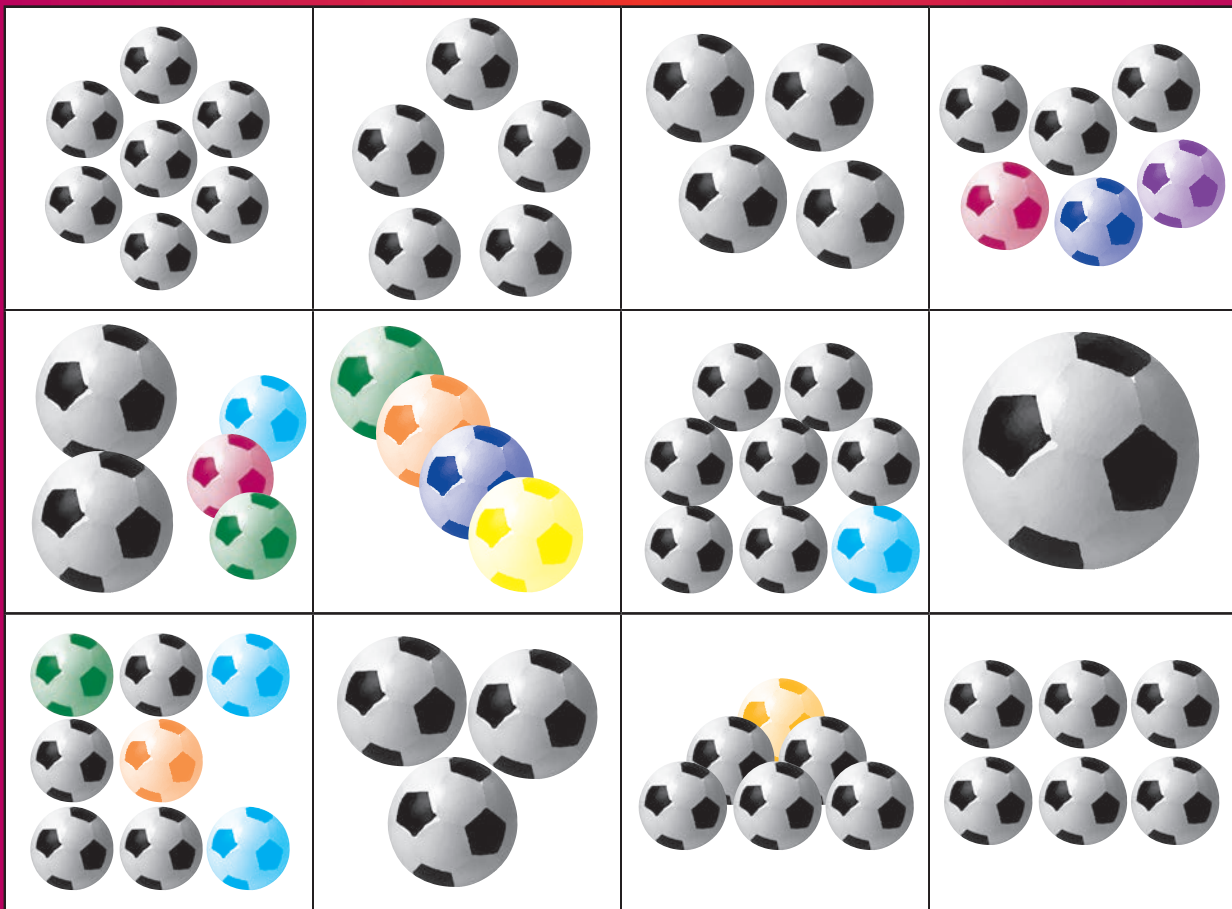


VISUAL PERCEPTION

54 How many of the words have been printed in their colour?

RED ORANGE BROWN SILVER
 BLACK WHITE RED BLUE
 GREEN YELLOW PINK PURPLE
 GREY LILAC MAROON BLUE
 WHITE GREEN YELLOW

55 How many of the grid boxes below have an even number of balls in them?

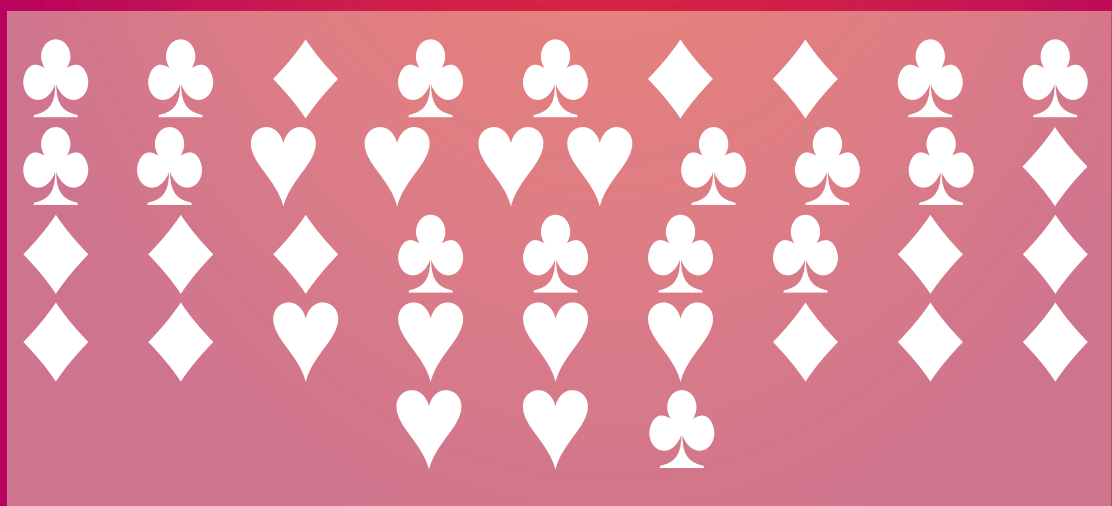


VISUAL PERCEPTION



56 Which colour appears most often in the flags?
(Clue: Do not count the silver border on each flag)

57 Which shape appears most often in the box below?



VISUAL PERCEPTION

58 What colour is the animal which is next to the lion and ladybird, but not the worm?



59 How many of the flags have more than two colours in them?

60 Which letter of the alphabet is missing from the grid?



CHAPTER 8 CLOSE RELATIONS

61 Can you change one letter of each of the words below to make foods?

SEAS TAM TINA WELLY SHONE

62 Can you change all of the vowels in the words below to make animals?

LEAN COT DIG GEUT KEELO

63 All of the vowels have been taken out of these words, can you put them back in to make flowers?

RS SNFLWR DFFDL LLY TLP

64 Can you solve these anagrams? All the words are connected to a calendar?

IARYD CHARM THUORF LIYOHAD EPAL-AREY

65 Can you solve these anagrams? All the words are connected to music.

OINAP SCYRIL SUNET TCIRENAL RRCDEEOR

CHAPTER 9 CRAZY SEQUENCES

Can you fill in the blanks?

66 Which shapes fill in the blanks?



67 Fill in the blanks, using the example to help you.

Example	3	7	15	31
A	9	19	39	??
B	12	25	??	103
C	19	??	79	159

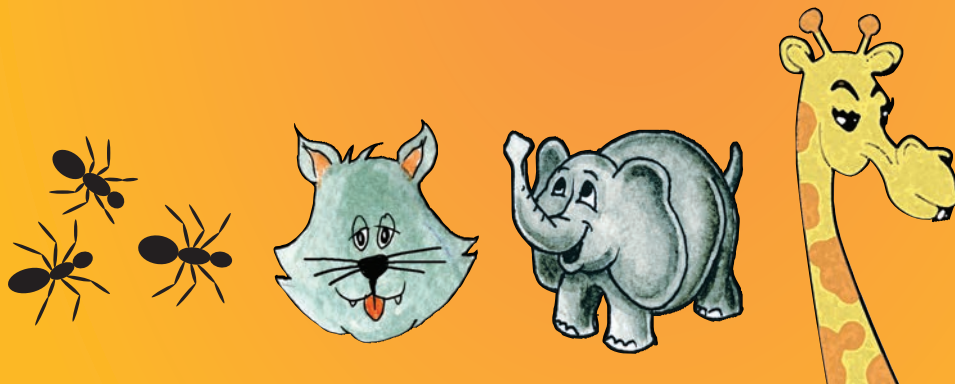
68 Which item of clothing could not fill the blank?
Tie, Shorts, T-shirt, Blouse, Necklace



69 What colour should the blank image be?

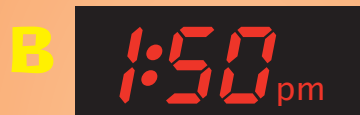


70 Which animal comes next?
Horse, Iguana, Jaguar or Kangaroo?

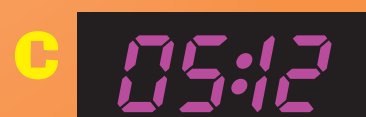
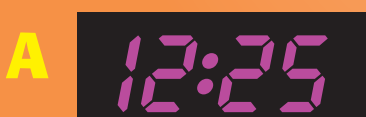


CHAPTER 10 TIME OF DAY

71 Match the backward clock faces to the digital times.



72 Match the backward clock faces to the digital times.



73 Put these clock times in order, starting earliest in the day.

A 2:27_{pm}

B 06:00

C 23:41

D 19:55

E 12:15_{am}

F 10:10_{pm}

G 10:37_{am}

74 Put these clock times in order, starting earliest in the day.

A 03:33

B 13:33

C 12:12_{pm}

D 1:11_{pm}

E 12:12_{am}

F 1:11_{am}

75 Put these clock times in order, starting earliest in the day.

A 14:44

B 19:19

C 9:09_{am}

D 16:16

E 04:44

F 4:44_{pm}

ANSWERS

Chapter 1

- 1 Orange – It is the only colour in whose name no letter is repeated
- 2 20 – It is the only number which is not a prime number
- 3 Water – All the other words have a number in them (**T**one, **S**ixty, **T**ennis, **N**ile)
- 4 Chocolate – All the other food names have five letters in them
- 5 Penguin – It is the only animal whose name starts with a consonant

Chapter 2 *(There may be other acceptable answers)*

- 6 MILE → **MOLE** → **POLE** → POKE
- 7 HALO → **HALL** → **WALL** → WILL
- 8 PRAM → **PRIM** → **GRIM** → GRIT
- 9 GREY → **PREY** → **PRAY** → PRAM
- 10 THIS → **THIN** → **TWIN** → TWIT
- 11 GOAT → **MOAT** → **MEAT** → MEAN
- 12 SAID → **SAND** → **WAND** → WANT
- 13 SAYS → **RAYS** → **RATS** → ROTS
- 14 RISK → **RISE** → **ROSE** → NOSE
- 15 MINE → **MIND** → **WIND** → WINK

Chapter 3

- 16 12 minutes
- 17 3:00 – 5:00pm
- 18 6 minutes
- 19 11 socks
- 20 £2.30 (Justin spends £8.60 and Gilbert spends £6.30)

Chapter 4

- 21 His **eyebrow** naturally rose in surprise!
- 22 The girls heard a **yell**.. '**ow!** ow!' and went to investigate it!
- 23 Did you know his **car** letters on the number plate are **B.. LUE**?
- 24 Do you like to jump **in** kayaks? The newer **edition** style are the best!
- 25 The **ogre** entered the forest very loudly, and then the **ogre** yelled ROAR!
- 26 Jason looked at all the **figures**, but they just didn't make sense to him!
- 27 They received a laptop **each** for their birthdays!
- 28 If you have a **home**, **London** is the place to be!
- 29 Jono **rang** Ethel to find out where Carlo **lives**!
- 30 Apparently a **woman** goes faster round the shops than a man does, but a man is able to leave a shop **earlier**!

Chapter 5

- | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| 31 Tulips | 39 Belgium (Bell-Gym) |
| 32 Buttercup | 40 Cuba (Queue-Baa) |
| 33 Daisy | 41 Flamingo (Flame-in-go) |
| 34 Sunflowers | 42 Chimpanzee (Chim-Pan-Zee) |
| 35 Orchids | 43 Crocodile (Crow-Cow-Dile) |
| 36 Turkey | 44 Wallaby (Wall-A-Bee) |
| 37 Finland | 45 Kangaroo (Can-Gear-Oo) |
| 38 Seychelles (Say-Shells) | |

Chapter 6

- 46 12
- 47 11
- 48 16
- 49 9
- 50 6

Chapter 7

- 51 1
- 52 Mouse
- 53 6 (Apples, Limes, Grapes, Kiwis, Avocados, Pear)
- 54 8
- 55 6
- 56 White
- 57 ♣
- 58 Purple
- 59 13
- 60 E

Chapter 8

- | | | | | |
|----------|-----------|----------|----------|-----------|
| 61 PEAS | JAM | TUNA | JELLY | SCONE |
| 62 LION | CAT | DOG | GOAT | KOALA |
| 63 ROSE | SUNFLOWER | DAFFODIL | LILY | TULIP |
| 64 DIARY | MARCH | FOURTH | HOLIDAY | LEAP-YEAR |
| 65 PIANO | LYRICS | TUNES | CLARINET | RECORDER |

Chapter 9

- 66 ▼◀ ▶▼ (Look at the direction the arrows are facing)
- 67 A: 79 B: 51 C: 39
(To get from one number to the next, multiply the number by 2 and then plus 1)
- 68 Shorts (If you imagine where the clothes go on the body, from head to toe, shorts is the only item that is not worn between glasses and belts)
- 69 Green (The images are each a colour of the rainbow – Red, Orange, Yellow, Green, Blue, Indigo, Violet)
- 70 Iguana (Each animal is in alphabetic order, missing out a letter each time - A B C D E F G H I)

Chapter 10

- 71 1C 2B 3A
- 72 1C 2A 3B
- 73 E B G A D F C
- 74 E A F C D B
- 75 E C A D F B

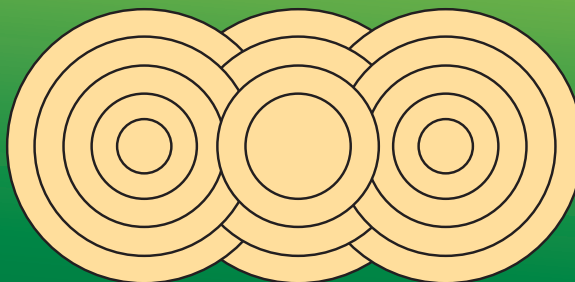
SO WHAT IS A THINKATHON?

- Well really, it's like running a marathon in your head, but with thinking instead of running and with puzzles instead of roads!
- Navigate your way through the 75 puzzles and challenges inside this book and you'll feel a fantastic sense of achievement!
- You'll find some of the puzzles harder than others, but they are all very solvable with a little bit of patience and concentration! Oh, and they're great fun too!
- Thinkathon will require you to use different types of thinking skills... it's a fantastic workout for your brain and you should feel fantastic at the end!

Which item of clothing could not fill the blank?
Tie, Shorts, T-shirt, Blouse, Necklace



How many full circles
make up the shape below?



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