

CONVERSATION 2023 PUZZLE PAGES

Bring your answers to our desk in the Dealers' Room, or send us a Direct Message in the Reclamation Discord, to get a (small) prize. You do not have to solve all the puzzles! Answers will be available on Monday.

1. Dr Elma York has 5 Easter eggs and they are all of different weights:

1 & 2 together weigh 1.2 kg

2 & 3 together weigh 1.35 kg

3 & 4 together weigh 1.15 kg but

4 & 5 together weigh 0.8 kg and

1 & 3 & 5 together weigh 1.6 kg

What is the weight of any one of the eggs?

2. Paul Atreides has been captured by Fremen who want to know if he is intelligent enough to waste water on. There is a main water tank, an empty 7 hrar and a 5 hrar container. Paul is allowed exactly 1 hrar of water per day which he needs to extract from the tank by filling the containers – with 'spare' water going back in the tank. If he takes more or less than the 1 hrar, or if he spills or drinks the water, they will kill him. What is the minimum number of times he must empty a container back into the main water tank in order to do this?

3. Foul Ole Ron is quite mad, but has baffled all of the wizards. When he is freely offered a choice of two or more coins, he invariably takes the one of least value. Careful observation concludes that he does not decide based on the coin's size, weight, thickness, diameter, colour, age or lustre but instead he consistently selects the coin that leaves him worse off than otherwise. Why?

4. Fatma el-Sha'arawi asked me, 'Can you find an average of two consecutive prime numbers that is also a prime?'

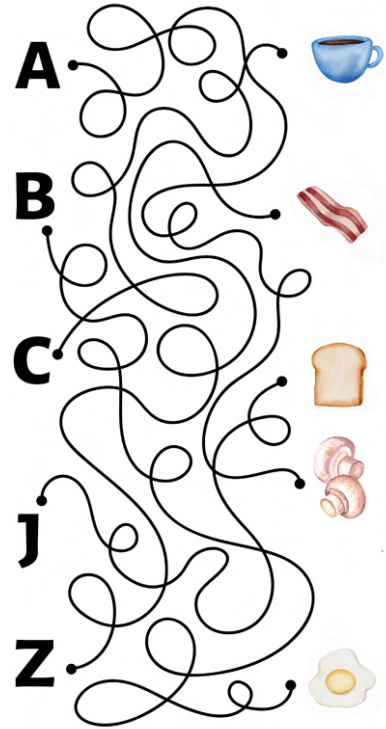
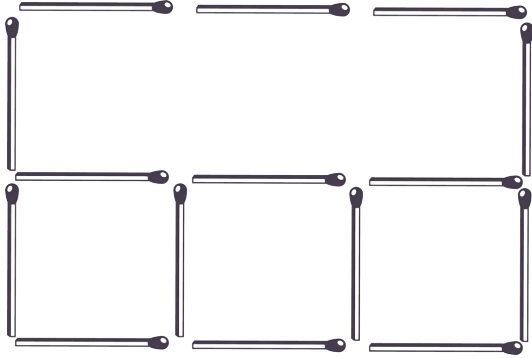
5. Miles Vorkosigan is staying with a family on Barrayar which has three daughters. He is told that the product of their ages (them all multiplied together) is 36 and asked the ages of the daughters. He is unable to give the answer and asks for another clue. He is told that the sum of their ages is equal to the house door number. Still he is unable to answer and asks for yet another clue. He is told that the youngest daughter has bright blue eyes, and Miles nods and gives the correct answer. What is it?

6. I invited James Holden and Naomi Nagata to an Easter egg party. James brought 6 eggs and Naomi brought 3, but I'd forgotten the arrangement and brought none. We ate all of the eggs equally and I offered my friends £9 in compensation for the eggs. James said, 'That's £3 for me and £6 for Naomi.' But I said, 'That's not fair!' What would be fair?

7. Han Solo was in a cantina where the aliens were playing games of chess and dominoes. He observed to Chewbacca that the rectangular dominoes exactly covered two of the chessboard squares. Chewie promptly took two coins and put each one on the diagonally opposite corner squares of a chess board. He then asked Han in a series of grunts whether he could cover the rest of the chessboard with dominoes lain flat that did not overlap with the coins, each other or extend over the edge of the board. Can you?

8. Alison, Brian, Caroline, James and Zi are eating breakfast. Who is lucky enough to get mushrooms?

9. Can you move one match to make four complete squares with no matches left over?



10. Colour in our lovely Conversation logo! You can see how Sue did it on our business cards, but we want to see what you can come up with.

