



Stage 3 ★★

Mixed Selection 1 - Solutions

1. Don't be late

Let the time for which Mary drove at 70 mph be t hours. Then the total distance covered was $55 \times 2 + 70 \times t$ miles. Also, as her average speed over $2+t$ hours was 60 mph, so the total distance travelled was $60(2+t)$ miles.

Therefore $110 + 70t = 120 + 60t$, that is $10t = 10$, that is $t=1$.
So in total Mary's journey took 3 hours.

2. Bike shop

Suppose the distance to and from the bike shop is x miles.
Then the time taken on the journey there is $x/3$ hours, and the time taken on the journey back is $x/12$ hours.

So altogether a distance of $2x$ miles is travelled in $x/3 + x/12 = 5x/12$ hours.

So the average speed is $2x \div 5x/12 = 4.8$ miles per hour

3. Decimal clock

Six hours, i.e. one quarter of a day will have elapsed. One quarter of the ten 'hour' day is two and a half 'hours', or 2 'hours' 50 'minutes'.

4. Overtake

Tom travels for 10 minutes longer than Tim, a time of 1 hour and 50 minutes.

Travelling at a speed of 60 mph (or 1 mile per minute), Tom travels a distance of 110 miles.

Tim travelled the same distance in 1 hour 40 minutes, so his speed in mph was $110 \div 5/3 = 110 \times 3/5 = 66$ mph.

5. Very long line

To convert from millimetres to metres, we need to divide by 1000, so $0.2\text{mm} = 0.0002\text{m}$. Then, as the area is length multiplied by width, the line needs to be $1\text{m}^2 \div 0.0002\text{m} = 5000\text{m}$ long.

Therefore the line needs to be 5km long!

These problems are adapted from UKMT Mathematical Challenge problems (ukmt.org.uk)