

A country has decided to have just two different coins. It has been suggested that these should be 3z and 5z coins.



The shops think this is a good idea since most totals can be made:





 $2 \times 3z + 1 \times 5z = 11z$

 $7 \times 3z + 2 \times 5z = 31z$

Unfortunately some totals can't be made, for example 4z. **Which totals can be made?**

Is there a largest total that cannot be made?

How do you know?

They have decided that they will definitely have 3z coins but can't make up their minds about the other coin.

Experiment with other pairings containing 3z, and explore which totals can be made.

Can you find a relationship between 3z, the second coin, and the totals that can and can't be made?

In other countries they have also decided to have just two coins, but instead of the 3z coins they have chosen a different prime number.

Can you find a relationship between pairs of coin values and the totals that can and can't be made with them?