Math Test – Calculator Answer Explanations

Question 1

KEY: B

DIFFICULTY: Easy

Calculator

Choice B is correct. Looking at the graph, it can be concluded that there is an increase of fewer than 10 students during quarters 4 through 6, quarters 11 through 14, and quarters 13 through 16. There is an increase of more than 20 students during quarters 7 through 10. Therefore, of the four ranges given in the answer choices, the greatest increase in the number of students occurs during quarters 7 through 10.

Choices A, C, and D are incorrect. There is an increase of fewer than 10 students during quarters 4 through 6, quarters 11 through 14, and quarters 13 through 16. There is an increase of more than 20 students during quarters 7 through 10. Therefore, the greatest increase in the number of students does not occur in the ranges given in choices A, C, and D.

Question 2

KEY: A

DIFFICULTY: Easy

Calculator

Choice A is correct. The time at which Eli began saving corresponds to $m = 0$. Therefore, the value of T when $m = 0$ represents the amount of money Eli started with. Substituting 0 for m gives $T = 83 + 30(0)$, or $T = 83$. Therefore, the amount of money Eli started with is 83 units of money. (Note: The item does not specify a unit of money, such as dollars; however, this does not change the interpretation of the number 83 in the equation.)

Choice B is incorrect because the number of months Eli has been saving corresponds to the value of m. Choice C is incorrect because the amount of money Eli saves each month is 30 units of money. Choice D is incorrect because the amount of money Eli wants to save is not provided in the problem.

Question 3

KEY: B

DIFFICULTY: Easy

Calculator

Choice B is correct. Since 0.15 milligrams (mg) of zinc is provided by 100 grams (g) of banana, the number of mg of zinc provided by 140 g of banana can be found by solving for x in the proportion $\frac{0.15 \text{ mg}}{100 \text{ g}} = \frac{x}{140 \text{ g}}$. Cross multiplying gives $100x = 140(0.15)$, or $x = 0.21$ mg.

Choice A is incorrect because 0.15 milligrams is the amount of zinc in 100 grams of banana, not in 140 grams. Choices C and D are incorrect and likely the result of calculation errors.

Question 4

Choice D is correct. In the xy-plane, the point $(-2, 1)$ is the point where $x = -2$ and $y = 1$. Because $(-2, 1)$ is on the line, we can substitute $x = -2$ and $y = 1$ into the equation for the line. This substitution yields $1 = 5(-2) + p$, or $1 = -10 + p$. Solving this equation for p gives $p = 11$.

Choice A is incorrect and likely arises by subtracting 10 from both sides of the equation $1 = 5(-2) + p$ rather than by adding 10. Choice B is incorrect and likely arises from mistakenly equating the value of p with the x-coordinate of the given point. Choice C is incorrect and likely the result of calculation errors.

KEY: D

DIFFICULTY: Medium

Calculator

Question 5

Choice B is correct. The line of best fit shown for the data has a positive slope. It can be concluded from this that higher values for the number of times at bat correspond to higher values for the number of hits. Therefore, as the number of times at bat increases, the number of hits increases.

Choice A is incorrect because the number of hits increases, not decreases, as the number of times at bat increases. Choice C is incorrect because the number of hits increases as the number of times at bat increases. Choice D is incorrect because as the number of times at bat decreases, the number of hits decreases, not increases.

KEY: B

DIFFICULTY: Easy

Calculator

Question 6

Choice A is correct. According to the scatterplot, the player with 450 times at bat had approximately 113 hits (the y-coordinate of the point representing this player is approximately halfway between 100 and 125). The line of best fit predicts approximately 123 hits. Therefore, the actual number of hits made by this player is approximately 10 fewer than the number of hits predicted by the line of best fit.

Choices B, C, and D are incorrect because each gives a value much greater than 10, which is the best approximation of how many fewer hits were made by the player with 450 times at bat than predicted by the line of best fit.

KEY: A

DIFFICULTY: Medium

Calculator

Question 7

Choice B is correct. Since the printer can print 400 characters per second and there are 60 seconds in each minute, the printer can print 400×60, or 24,000, characters per minute. Using the convention of 5 characters per word, the printer can print $\frac{24{,}000}{5}$, or 4,800, words per minute.

KEY: B

DIFFICULTY: Medium

Calculator

Choice A is incorrect; it is the result of multiplying 400 characters per second by 5 characters per word. Choice C is incorrect because it is the number of characters that can be printed each minute, not the number of 5-character words that can be printed each minute. Choice D is the result of multiplying, rather than dividing, the 24,000 characters the printer can print each minute by 5 characters per word.

Question 8

KEY: C

DIFFICULTY: Medium

Calculator

Choice C is correct. From Year 0 to Year 1, the salary increases by $1,140; from Year 1 to Year 2, the salary increases by $1,174; from Year 2 to Year 3, the salary increases by $1,210; and from Year 3 to Year 4, the salary increases by $1,245. Because the dollar amount of the salary increases each year at a nonconstant rate, a linear model will not be a good fit to the data. However, the ratio of the salary in a certain year to the salary in the preceding year remains about the same from one year to the next. For example, the ratio of the salary in Year 1 to the salary in Year 0 is $\frac{39,140}{38,000}$, and the ratio of the salary in Year 2 to the salary in Year 1 is $\frac{40,314}{39,140}$. Both these ratios are approximately 1.03, which corresponds to a 3% increase each year. Therefore, an exponential model increasing by approximately 3% each year would describe the data better than the models in the other choices.

Choices A and B are incorrect because they suggest a linear model is most appropriate; in a linear model, the dollar amount of the salary increase would be approximately the same from one year to the next. In this example, the dollar amount of the salary increase is increasing each year, so a linear model wouldn't fit the data well. Choice D is incorrect because the ratio of the salary in a certain year to the salary in the preceding year (for example, $\frac{40,314}{39,140}$ and $\frac{39,140}{38,000}$) is approximately 1.03, which corresponds to a 3% increase each year, not a 9% increase each year.

Question 9

KEY: A

DIFFICULTY: Medium

Calculator

Choice A is correct. Distributing the factor of –1 through the second expression in parentheses in $(x^2y - 3y^2 + 5xy^2) - (-x^2y + 3xy^2 - 3y^2)$ yields $x^2y - 3y^2 + 5xy^2 + x^2y - 3xy^2 + 3y^2$. Regrouping by like terms, the expression becomes $(x^2y + x^2y) + (-3y^2 + 3y^2) + (5xy^2 - 3xy^2)$, which simplifies to $2x^2y + 2xy^2$.

Choice B is incorrect; it is the result of adding, rather than subtracting, the given expressions $(x^2y - 3y^2 + 5xy^2)$ and $(-x^2y + 3xy^2 - 3y^2)$. Choice C is incorrect; it is the result of subtracting only the first term in the second expression from the first expression and adding the other terms in the second expression to the first expression. Choice D is incorrect; it is the result of attempting to multiply the first, second, and third terms in each of the two expressions rather than subtracting.

Question 10

KEY: D

DIFFICULTY: Medium

Calculator

Choice D is correct. The equation $4x - \frac{1}{2}x - 7 = 7\left(\frac{1}{2}x - 7\right)$ can be rewritten as $\frac{7}{2}x - 7 = \frac{7}{2}x - 49$, which results in the equation $7 = 49$. Because 7 is not equal to 49, there is no value of x that makes the equation true. Therefore, there are no solutions to this equation.

Choice A is incorrect. It may be the result of substituting 0 for x in the given equation and incorrectly applying the distributive property on the right side of the equation, yielding –7 = –7. Choice B is incorrect and likely results from errors made when simplifying the left- and right-hand sides of the equation when solving for x. Choice C is incorrect and may result from incorrectly distributing the 7 on the right-hand side of the equation to obtain $\frac{7}{2}x - 7 = \frac{7}{2}x - 7$; this equation has infinitely many solutions.

Question 11

KEY: D

DIFFICULTY: Medium

Calculator

Choice D is correct. The range of Joseph's bills is \$193.12 – \$145.30 = \$47.82, which is greater than the range of Samuel's bills, which is \$188.99 – \$149.23 = \$39.76. The median of Joseph's bills is \$180.33, which is less than the median of Samuel's bills, \$181.27.

Choices A, B, and C are incorrect. The range of Joseph's bills is greater than the range of Samuel's bills, and the median of Joseph's bills is less than the median of Samuel's bills. Each of choices A, B, and C gets at least one of these facts wrong.

Question 12

KEY: A

DIFFICULTY: Medium

Calculator

Choice A is correct. According to the table, there are 16 double-decker train cars that have been in service for less than 10 years. Since there are 810 train cars in service on the railroad, the portion of the train cars that are double-decker train cars that have been in service for less than 10 years is $\frac{16}{810} \approx 0.0198$. This corresponds to 1.98%, or about 2%.

Choice B is incorrect and may be the result of dividing 16 by 215, which gives the ratio of the number of double-decker train cars that have been in service less than 10 years to the number of single-level train cars that have been in service less than 10 years, and then multiplying by 100. Choice C is incorrect and may be the result of using the number of double-decker train cars that have been in service for more than 10 years, 82, rather than using the number of double-decker train cars that have been in service for less than 10 years, 16. Choice D is incorrect and may be the result of identifying that there are 16 double-decker cars that have been in service for less than 10 years and assuming that the answer is 16%, rather than dividing 16 by the total number of train cars in service to find the actual percentage.

Question 13

KEY: B

DIFFICULTY: Medium

Calculator

Choice B is correct. There are 12 inches in one foot, so the 900 inches of plastic wrap used for each group of boxes is equal to $\frac{900}{12} = 75$ feet. The total number of groups of boxes that can be bundled with 1,500 feet of plastic wrap can be found by dividing the total number of feet of plastic wrap, 1,500, by the number of feet of plastic wrap needed for each group, 75. Therefore, $\frac{1,500}{75} = 20$ groups of boxes can be bundled with 1,500 feet of plastic wrap.

Choice A is incorrect because more than 15 groups of boxes can be bundled with 1,500 feet of plastic wrap. If 900 inches of plastic wrap are needed per group, then the amount of plastic wrap needed to bundle 15 groups is 1,125 feet (900 inches × 15 groups = 13,500 inches; 13,500 inches ÷ 12 inches per foot = 1,125 feet). The problem

states that there are 1,500 feet of plastic wrap available. Choices C and D are incorrect because there is not enough plastic wrap to bundle this many groups of boxes. To bundle 25 groups, 1,875 feet of plastic wrap are needed (900 inches × 25 groups = 22,500 inches; 22,500 inches ÷ 12 inches per foot = 1,875 feet). To bundle 30 groups, 2,250 feet of plastic wrap are needed (900 inches × 30 groups = 27,000 inches; 27,000 inches ÷ 12 inches per foot = 2,250 feet).

Question 14

KEY: C

DIFFICULTY: Medium

Calculator

Choice C is correct. The number of calories listed in the table can be ordered from least to greatest, as follows: 700, 740, 810, 900, 1,050, and 1,120. Since the total of numbers in the list, 6, is an even number, the median is the mean of the two middle numbers, 810 and 900, which is $\frac{810 + 900}{2} = 855$. According to the table, the cheeseburger at the Riverside Diner has 1,120 calories. Therefore, the difference in the number of calories in a cheeseburger at the Riverside Diner and the median number of calories in cheeseburgers at all six restaurants is $1{,}120 - 855 = 265$.

Choice A is incorrect. This answer choice is the result of incorrectly finding the median by using the mean of the two middle numbers, 740 and 1,120, in the table's unsorted list of the number of calories in cheeseburgers. Choice B is incorrect. This answer choice is the approximate difference between the number of calories in a cheeseburger at the Riverside Diner and the mean (rather than the median) number of calories in the cheeseburgers at all six restaurants. Choice D is incorrect. This answer choice may be the result of assuming that the median is the third number listed in the table, finding the difference between the number of calories in a cheeseburger at the Riverside Diner and the number of calories in a cheeseburger at Molly's $(1{,}120 - 740 = 380)$, and then selecting the closest available value, 390.

Question 15

KEY: C

DIFFICULTY: Medium

Calculator

Choice C is correct. The standard form for the equation of a circle in the xy-plane with center (h, k) and radius r is $(x - h)^2 + (y - k)^2 = r^2$. Therefore, the equation of a circle with radius 3 and center $(4, -2)$ is $(x - 4)^2 + (y + 2)^2 = 9$.

Choice A is incorrect. This equation is of a circle with center at $(-4, 2)$ and a radius of $\sqrt{3}$, not 3. Choices B and D are incorrect because these equations define ellipses rather than circles; in the standard form for an equation of a circle, the two squared terms on the left-hand side of the equation are added, not subtracted.

Question 16

KEY: B

DIFFICULTY: Medium

Calculator

Choice B is correct. Since the 327 9th-grade students are a random sample selected from all 9th-grade students in the school, the sample can be considered to be representative of all the 9th-grade students in the school. This means that the proportion of 9th-grade students in the school who had a GPA of 3.0 or greater can be estimated using the proportion of 9th-grade students who had a GPA of 3.0 or greater in the sample. Of the 327 9th-grade students in the study, $61 + 95 = 156$ students had a GPA of 3.0 or greater. Therefore, the probability that a 9th-grade student at the school chosen at random had a GPA of 3.0 or greater is estimated to be $\frac{156}{327} \approx 0.477$, which rounds to 0.48.

Choice A is incorrect. This answer choice is the result of dividing the number of students in the study enrolled in Propel with a GPA of 3.0 or greater, 61, by the number of students in the study not enrolled in Propel with a GPA of 3.0 or greater, 95, rather than dividing the total number of students with a GPA of 3.0 or higher by the total number of students in the study. Choice C is incorrect. This answer choice reflects the probability that a 9th-grade student, selected at random, is enrolled in Propel. It is the result of dividing the total number of students enrolled in Propel, rather than the total number of students with a GPA of 3.0 or greater, by the total number of students in the study. Choice D is incorrect. This answer choice reflects the probability that a 9th-grade student, selected at random, is enrolled in Propel and has a GPA of 3.0 or greater. It is the result of dividing the number of students who both are enrolled in Propel and had a GPA of 3.0 or greater, rather than all students who had a GPA of 3.0 or greater, by the total number of students in the study.

Question 17

KEY: D

DIFFICULTY: Hard

Calculator

Choice D is correct. There are 61 students enrolled in Propel who had a GPA of 3.0 or greater and 48 students enrolled in Propel who had a GPA of less than 3.0, so there are a total of $61 + 48 = 109$ students enrolled in Propel. The percentage of students enrolled in Propel who had a GPA of 3.0 or greater is $\frac{61}{109} \times 100\% \approx 55.96\%$, or about 56%. There are 95 students who are not enrolled in Propel who had a GPA of 3.0 or greater and 123 students not enrolled in

Propel who had a GPA of less than 3.0, so there are a total of $95 + 123 = 218$ students who are not enrolled in Propel. The percentage of students not enrolled in Propel who had a GPA of 3.0 or greater is $\frac{95}{218} \times 100\% \approx 43.58\%$, or about 44%. Therefore, the difference, to the nearest whole percent, between the percentage of students enrolled in Propel who had a GPA of 3.0 or greater and the percentage of students not enrolled in Propel who had a GPA of 3.0 or greater is $56\% - 44\% = 12\%$.

Choice A is incorrect. This answer choice is the result of finding the difference between the percentage of students in the study who both are enrolled in Propel and had a GPA of 3.0 or greater ($61 \div 327 \times 100\% \approx 18.7\%$) and the percentage of students in the study who both are enrolled in Propel and had a GPA less than 3.0 ($48 \div 327 \times 100\% \approx 14.7\%$). Choice B is incorrect. This answer choice is the result of finding the difference between the percentage of students in the study who both are not enrolled in Propel and had a GPA of 3.0 or greater. Choice C is incorrect. This answer choice may be the result of subtracting the number of students enrolled in Propel who had a GPA of 3.0 or greater from the number of students not enrolled in Propel who had a GPA of 3.0 or greater ($95 - 61 = 34$), then dividing the result by the total number of students in the study.

Question 18

KEY: B

DIFFICULTY: Hard

Calculator

Choice B is correct. There are a total of 109 students enrolled in Propel (61 with a GPA of 3.0 or greater and 48 with a GPA of less than 3.0). If the ratio of boys to girls in Propel is 2:3, for every group of 5 students enrolled in Propel, 3 are girls. Since $\frac{3}{5}$ of 109 is about 65.4, the best estimate of the number of girls enrolled in Propel is 65.

Choice A is incorrect; it is the best estimate for the number of boys enrolled in Propel. Choice C is incorrect; it is the result of multiplying the total number of students in Propel, 109, by $\frac{2}{3}$ rather than first using the ratio of the number of boys to the number of girls to find the percentage of students in Propel who are girls. Choice D is incorrect. There are only 109 students enrolled in Propel, so there cannot be 131 girls enrolled in Propel.

Question 19

KEY: C

DIFFICULTY: Medium

Calculator

Choice C is correct. Let S be the length, in inches, of each of the 4 sides of the square sculpture, and let T be the length, in inches, of each of the 3 sides of the equilateral triangle sculpture. Since the rod used to make the square sculpture is the same length as the rod used to make the triangle sculpture, $4S = 3T$. The fact that each side of the triangle, T, is 2 inches longer than each side of the square, S, can be expressed by the equation $T = S + 2$. Substituting $S + 2$ for T in the equation $4S = 3T$ gives $4S = 3(S + 2)$. This equation simplifies to $4S = 3S + 6$, so $S = 6$ and $T = 8$. Therefore, the length, in inches, of each rod is $4(6) = 3(8) = 24$.

Choice A is incorrect. If the length of each rod were 16 inches, the length of each side of the square would be $16 \div 4 = 4$ inches, and the length of each side of the triangle would be $16 \div 3 \approx 5.3$ inches. In this case, each side of the triangle is about 1.3 inches longer than each side of the square, but the question states that each side of the triangle is 2 inches longer than each side of the square. Choice B is incorrect. It is the result of correctly solving the system of equations to find that $S = 6$ but incorrectly assuming that the length, in inches, of the rod is equal to $3S$, not $4S$. Choice D is incorrect. If the length of each rod were 30 inches, the length of each side of the square would be $30 \div 4 = 7.5$ inches, and the length of each side of the triangle would be $30 \div 3 = 10$ inches. In this case, each side of the triangle is 2.5 inches longer than each side of the square, but the question states that each side of the triangle is 2 inches longer than each side of the square.

Question 20

KEY: B

DIFFICULTY: Hard

Calculator

Choice B is correct. The domain of the rational function $f(x) = \dfrac{2x - 4}{2x^2 + 2x - 4}$ will be all real values of x except the values of x for which the denominator, $2x^2 + 2x - 4$, becomes 0. Solving the equation $2x^2 + 2x - 4 = 0$ gives $x = 1$ and $x = -2$. The equation in choice B, $f(x) = \dfrac{2(x - 2)}{2(x + 2)(x - 1)}$, is equivalent to the given function, since the numerator and denominator are just the factored forms of $2x - 4$ and $2x^2 + 2x - 4$, respectively. Therefore, the equation in choice B is an equivalent form of $f(x)$ that displays values not included in the domain as constants.

Choice A is incorrect because the values of x where the denominator is equal to 0 are not displayed as constants or coefficients. Choices C and D are incorrect because neither is equivalent to $f(x) = \dfrac{2x - 4}{2x^2 + 2x - 4}$.

Question 21

KEY: B

DIFFICULTY: Hard

Calculator

Choice B is correct. It is given that the equation $A = 4p + 64$ will relate the area A, in square feet, of the path and the perimeter p, in feet, of the fountain. This equation can be rewritten to express p in terms of A: subtracting 64 from each side of $A = 4p + 64$ gives $A - 64 = 4p$, and dividing by 4 and simplifying gives $p = \frac{A}{4} - 16$. For each additional square foot of area, the value of A increases by 1. Using $p = \frac{A}{4} - 16,$ an increase in A by 1 results in an increase in p by $\frac{1}{4}$. Therefore, the perimeter of the fountain increases by $\frac{1}{4}$ foot for each additional square foot of the path's area.

Choices A and D are incorrect and may be the result of misinterpreting the constant term 64 in the given equation. Choice C is incorrect; it is the number of square feet the area, A, of the path will increase for every increase in p by 1 foot rather than the number of feet the perimeter will increase for each additional square foot of area.

Question 22

KEY: D

DIFFICULTY: Hard

Calculator

Choice D is correct. Since q is a function and its graph is a parabola, it follows that q is a quadratic function and the parabola is symmetric about the vertical line through its vertex. Thus, the x-coordinate of the vertex $(2, 4)$ is the average of the x-coordinates of the two x-intercepts $(-1, 0)$ and $(r, 0)$. That is, $2 = \frac{-1 + r}{2}$. It follows that $4 = -1 + r$, so $r = 5$.

Choices A, B, and C are incorrect and may result from confusing the roles of the x-coordinates and y-coordinates in the question.

Question 23

KEY: D

DIFFICULTY: Hard

Calculator

Choice D is correct. The temperature when chilling began was $100°C$. Since the time the chilling began corresponds to the value $t = 0$, the correct equation must yield the value $C = 100$ for $t = 0$. This eliminates choices A, B, and C. The temperature decreases at a constant rate from $100°C$ to $25°C$. So the function that represents C in terms of t must be a linear function of the form $C = 100 - at$, where a is the rate at which the temperature decreases, in degrees Celsius per second. The temperature decreases from $100°C$ to $25°C$, or $75°C$, in 5 seconds. This is a rate of decrease of $15°C$ per second. Thus, $a = 15$. Therefore, the linear function in choice D represents correctly the temperature C, in degrees Celsius, as a function of the time t, in seconds, after the chilling began.

Choices A, B, and C are incorrect because each of these functions fails to give the correct value $C = 100$ for $t = 0$.

Question 24

KEY: C

DIFFICULTY: Medium

Calculator

Choice C is correct. Let r_E be the radius of Earth, and let r_J be the radius of Jupiter. Since the radius of Jupiter is 11 times the radius of Earth, $r_J = 11r_E$. Assuming Jupiter is a sphere, the volume of Jupiter is $\frac{4}{3}\pi r_J^3$. Substituting $11r_E$ for r_J in this expression gives $\frac{4}{3}\pi(11r_E)^3$, which can be rewritten as follows: $\frac{4}{3}\pi(11)^3(r_E)^3 = (11)^3\left[\frac{4}{3}\pi(r_E)^3\right]$. Since the expression in brackets is the volume of Earth, it follows that the volume of Jupiter is $(11)^3$, or 1,331, times larger than the volume of Earth.

Choice A is incorrect. This is the result of assuming that because the radius of Jupiter is 11 times the radius of Earth, the volume of Jupiter is 11 times the volume of Earth. If the radius of a sphere is multiplied by a factor of 11, its volume is multiplied by $11^3 = 1{,}331$, not 11. Choice B is incorrect. This is the result of multiplying the volume of the sphere by 11^2 rather than 11^3. If the radius of a sphere is multiplied by a factor of 11, its volume is multiplied by $11^3 = 1{,}331$, not $11^2 = 121$. Choice D is incorrect. If the radius of a sphere is multiplied by a factor of 11, the volume is multiplied by a factor of $11^3 = 1{,}331$, not $\frac{4}{3}(11)^3 \approx 1{,}775$.

Question 25

KEY: B

DIFFICULTY: Hard

Calculator

Choice B is correct. Since the population of squirrels in the park has been doubling every 15 years, it means that if the current population of squirrels is A, 15 years later it will be $2A$. The increase of a function value at a rate that is proportional to the current function's value is characteristic of an exponential growth function. For this example, the squirrel population can be modeled by the function $P(t) = A \cdot 2^{\frac{t}{15}}$, where A is the population of squirrels at an initial moment in time, t is the number of years since the initial time, and $P(t)$ is the population of the squirrels t years after the initial time.

Choices A and C are incorrect because the squirrel population is increasing by the same percentage each 15-year time period, not by the same amount. Choice D is incorrect because a population that is increasing by the same percentage over each time period is experiencing exponential growth, not linear growth.

Question 26

KEY: D

DIFFICULTY: Hard

Calculator

Choice D is correct. The definition of a function describes the rule by which each input, x, is assigned a single output, $f(x)$. So $f(x-4)$ is the output obtained when the same rule, f, is applied to a different input, $x-4$. Therefore, to find $f(x-4)$, take the definition $f(x)=3x^2-5x+4$ and substitute $x-4$ for x throughout the equation to obtain $f(x-4)=3(x-4)^2-5(x-4)+4$.

Now expand the right-hand side and collect like terms:

$$\begin{aligned} f(x-4) &= 3(x-4)^2-5(x-4)+4 \\ &= 3(x^2-8x+16)-5(x-4)+4 \\ &= 3x^2-24x+48-5x+20+4 \\ &= 3x^2-24x-5x+48+20+4 \\ &= 3x^2-29x+72 \end{aligned}$$

Choice A is incorrect; it subtracts 4 from the right-hand side only, when to find $f(x-4)$ in terms of x, $x-4$ should be substituted for x throughout the equation $f(x)=3x^2-5x+4$. Choices B and C are incorrect and likely result from errors in expanding and simplifying the equation $f(x-4)=3(x-4)^2-5(x-4)+4$.

Question 27

KEY: D

DIFFICULTY: Hard

Calculator

Choice D is correct. If (x_0, y_0) is the point at which the two lines intersect, the coordinates x_0 and y_0 must satisfy each of the given equations in the system of equations below:

$$\begin{aligned} x &= \frac{1}{3}y \\ 154-4y &= 10x \end{aligned}$$

This system can be solved by writing the second equation in terms of only x. To do so, first multiply each side of the first equation, $x=\frac{1}{3}y$, by 3, which gives $3x=y$. Substituting $3x$ for y in the second equation, $154-4y=10x$, gives $154-12x=10x$. Adding $12x$ to each side of $154-12x=10x$ gives $154=22x$, so $x=7$. Finally, substituting 7 for x in the equation $x=\frac{1}{3}y$ gives $7=\frac{1}{3}y$, and multiplying each side of $7=\frac{1}{3}y$ by 3 gives $21=y$. When the two equations are graphed in the xy-plane, the resulting lines intersect at the point $(7, 21)$.

Choices A, B, and C are incorrect. Each of these points lies on the line with equation $x = \frac{1}{3}y$, but none of these points lies on the line with equation $154 - 4y = 10x$. For example, the point $(1, 3)$ does not lie on the line with equation $154 - 4y = 10x$ because substituting $x = 1$ and $y = 3$ in the equation gives $154 - 4(3) = 10(1)$; this simplifies to $142 = 10$, which is not a true statement.

Question 28

KEY: 65

DIFFICULTY: Hard

Calculator

The correct answer is 65. Based on the table, 10 Szechuan chicken meals contain $(5)(10) = 50$ grams of fat and $(35)(10) = 350$ grams of carbohydrates. So the greatest number of stir-fry meals that John can purchase must contain no more than $350 - 50 = 300$ grams of fat and no more than $2975 - 350 = 2625$ grams of carbohydrates. It follows that the greatest number of stir-fry meals he can purchase so that the combination will satisfy the fat requirement is $\frac{300}{4} = 75$, and the greatest number of stir-fry meals he can purchase so that the combination will satisfy the carbohydrate requirement is $\frac{2625}{40} = 65.625$. Since John cannot purchase parts of a meal and purchasing 66 stir-fry meals would exceed the carbohydrate requirement, the greatest number of meals he can purchase so that the carbohydrate requirement will be satisfied is 65. Therefore, the greatest number of stir-fry meals he can purchase so that the combination will satisfy both requirements is 65.

Question 29

KEY: 0, 12

DIFFICULTY: Hard

Calculator

The correct answer is 0 or 12. To solve the given system of equations, one can use the second equation, $y = x - 1$, and substitute $x - 1$ for y in the first equation, giving $x - 1 = x^2 - 4x + 3$. This equation can be rewritten as $x^2 - 5x + 4 = 0$. Since 1 and 4 are the two numbers whose sum is 5 and whose product is 4, they are the solutions to the equation $x^2 - 5x + 4 = 0$. From the equation $y = x - 1$, it follows that $(1, 0)$ and $(4, 3)$ are the solutions to the given system of equations. Therefore, the value of the product xy can be $(1)(0) = 0$ or $(4)(3) = 12$. Either 0 or 12 can be gridded as the correct answer.

Question 30

KEY: 1368

DIFFICULTY: Hard

Calculator

The correct answer is 1368. According to the graph, the king crab supply in 2006 was 180 million pounds. It is given that 60% of this supply was sold at \$8 per pound and the rest of the supply was sold at \$7 per pound. It follows that $(0.6)(180) = 108$ million pounds of king crab was sold at \$8 per pound, and $180 - 108 = 72$ million pounds of king crab was sold at \$7 per pound. Therefore, the revenue generated, in millions of dollars, from the sales of king crab in 2006 was $(108)(8) + (72)(7) = 1368$.

Question 31

KEY: 85

DIFFICULTY: Hard

Calculator

The correct answer is 85. According to the graph, the king crab supply in 2011 was 80 million pounds. So at the price of \$17 per pound, the revenue generated, in millions of dollars, from the sales of king crab in 2011 was $(80)(17) = 1360$. Since x millions pounds of king crab was sold in 2012 at the price of \$16 per pound, the revenue in 2012 was $16x$ million dollars. It is given that the revenue generated from the sales of king crab in 2011 was the same as the revenue in 2012. Therefore, $16x = 1360$, so $x = 85$.