

ANSWERS

MI2 Brain Tai Chi™ Warm-Ups MI2's Innovations in... Thinking Differently Forum 2017

1. What 4-letter word can be written forward, backward or upside down, and can still be read from left to right? **Answer: NOON**
2. What has an eye but cannot see? **Answer: Needle**
3. Two fathers and two sons went fishing one day. They were there the whole day and only caught 3 fish. One father said, that is enough for all of us, we will have one each. How can this be possible? **Answer: There was the father, his son, and his son's son. This equals 2 fathers and 2 sons for a total of 3!**
4. Though I should be unique, you've made most of us the same. I would be stronger, if my characters were strangers. **Answer: A password**
5. On a table is a row of 50 coins of various denominations. Alice picks a coin from one of the ends and puts it in her pocket; then Bob chooses a coin from one of the remaining ends and the alternations continue until Bob pockets the last coin. **Devise a strategy for Alice to guarantee that she will pocket at least as much money as Bob.**
Answer: The puzzle sounds more complicated than it really is – the solution has to do with odd or even coins. The first coin is odd and the last coin is even. Add the amount of all odd coins and then all the even coins. Alice should choose whichever coins add up to a greater amount. Since Alice goes first, she has the choice of picking all odd coins or all even coins. For example, if she picks up coin 1 (odd), all Bob can do is pick up coin 2 or 20 (even), then in Alice's next turn she can pick up the odd coin next to the one Bob picked. This guarantees that she will always pick up the odd or even coin she wants to pick up. So if the odd coins add up to more, she should first choose an odd coin or vice versa with the even coins.
6. A cowboy rode into town on Monday. He stayed for four nights and then left on Monday. How is this possible? **Answer: The horse's name is Monday**
7. Bobby likes Jimmy but not Joe, apples, but not pears, jeeps but not vans, shinny but not hockey, tennis but not squash. Who will he like, Sara or Sally? **Answer: Sally, he likes everything with double letters**
8. There are 2 ducks in front of 2 other ducks. There are 2 ducks behind 2 other ducks. There are 2 ducks beside 2 other ducks. How many ducks are there? **Answer: Just four in a square formation.**

Sources:

Doriddles. <http://www.doriddles.com/Riddles/Hard>. Retrieved Nov 1, 2017.

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