

Class: _____ Name: _____

Score: ____ /15

[1-4] Complete the sentences.

century

unlucky

languages

express

1. What do we do to _____ the number three hundred and seven?
2. Zero finally became a number in India in the mid-7th _____.
3. Is there an _____ number that brings bad luck?
4. These three countries use some Chinese characters in their _____.

[5-8] Choose the correct words.

5. The Babylonians and Mayans used a special (century / symbol) to indicate a placeholder.
6. However, it took some time for people to (accept / bring) zero as a number.
7. People believe it (determines / brings) good luck.
8. In many countries around the world, the number 7 is (considered / betrayed) a lucky number.

[9-11] Read and answer the questions.

Ancient civilizations did not have the number zero. But they had a placeholder in their numeral system. The Babylonians and Mayans used a special symbol to indicate a placeholder. And the Chinese used an empty space between their numbers.

Zero finally became a number in India in the mid-7th century. However, it took some time for people to accept zero as a number. By the 15th century, Arabic numbers with zero (0, 1, 2, 3 ...) were widely accepted by all mathematicians. Zero has become an important part of modern-day mathematics and science.

9. What did the Babylonians and Mayans use to indicate a placeholder?
Ⓐ a special symbol Ⓑ an empty space Ⓒ zero
10. When was zero widely accepted by all mathematicians?
Ⓐ in ancient times Ⓑ in the mid-7th century Ⓒ by the 15th century

11. What is true about zero?

- Ⓐ It was used in ancient times.
- Ⓑ It took time for people to accept it as a number.
- Ⓒ It is not important in modern-day mathematics.

[12-15] Read and answer the questions.

In many countries around the world, the number 7 is considered a lucky number. People believe it brings good luck. Then, is there an unlucky number that brings bad luck? Yes, there is. People have their own superstitions about certain numbers.

Ask people from China, Japan, or Korea what their unlucky number is. Most of **them** will answer that the number 4 is unlucky. There is a simple reason behind this superstition. These three countries use some Chinese characters in their languages. The number 4 and the word "death" in Chinese characters sound the same. So some people from these countries consider the number 4 unlucky, and try to avoid it. In these Eastern countries, many buildings do not have a 4th floor at all.

12. What is the second paragraph mainly about?

- Ⓐ the number 4 and the superstition about it
- Ⓑ the number 13 and the superstition about it
- Ⓒ lucky numbers around the world

13. What do some buildings in China, Japan, and Korea NOT have?

- Ⓐ a 4th floor
- Ⓑ a 7th floor
- Ⓒ a 13th floor

14. What does **them** refer to?

- Ⓐ China, Japan, and Korea
- Ⓑ people from China, Japan, or Korea
- Ⓒ unlucky numbers

15. What word sounds the same as the number 4 in Chinese characters?

- Ⓐ good luck
- Ⓑ bad luck
- Ⓒ death