

Problem-Conflict-Resolution

The following examples are actual MCAS questions. However, due to copyrights laws the actual text is not available.

1. In the story, the preacher first tells Opal, “No dogs.” Explain why the preacher changes his mind. Support your answer with important details from the story. (Grade 4, 2006)

Justify a Process or Solution

1. Karin’s and Howard’s gardens are shaped like rectangles. A model of each garden is shown below. How many square feet larger is the area of Karin’s garden than the area of Howard’s garden? Show or explain how you got your answer. (Grade 3, 2006)

2. Ms. Jones had 18 pencils. She gave her pencils to 6 students. She gave the same number of pencils to each student. How many pencils did Ms. Jones give to each student? Show your work or explain how you got your answer. (Grade 3, 2006)

3. The picture below shows the shaded figure that Diego drew on a piece of grid paper.

- What is the area, in square units, of the shaded figure? Show or explain how you got your answer.
- What are the dimensions (length and width), in units, of a rectangle with the same area as the shaded figure? Show or explain how you got your answer.
- What is the perimeter, in units, of the rectangle you described in part (b)? Show or explain how you got your answer. (Grade 4, 2006)

4. Hudson’s Bakery sells cakes in three different sizes – small, medium, and large. The picture below shows the cost of each size of cake at the bakery.

Small \$10 Medium \$15 Large \$25

a. Wilma bought 1 small cake and 2 medium cakes. What was the total cost of the cakes Wilma bought? Show your work or explain how you got your answer.

b. Justin has \$85.00 to spend on cakes. What is the greatest number of cakes he can buy with exactly \$85.00? Show your work or explain how you got your answer.

c. Sheila bought a group of cakes that cost a total of \$70.00. At least 2 of the cakes she bought were different sizes. List a group of cakes that Sheila could have bought. Show your work or explain how you got your answer. (Grade 4, 2006)

5. Gilda’s Gift Shop sells five different kinds of gift baskets. The graph below shows the total number of each kind of gift basket sold last week.

a. What was the total number of gift baskets that the shop sold last week? Show your work or explain how you got your answer.

b. For each basket sold, the shop donated \$5 to a local charity. For the week shown on the graph, how much did the shop donate to the charity? Show your work or explain how you got your answer. (Grade 5, 2006).