

Appendix

MATHEMATICS QUESTIONS

Name: _____ Age: _____

1) Below are some definitions of the equals sign. How clever is each definition? For each one circle “very clever”, “sort of clever” or “not so clever”.

a) = means the same as.
very clever *sort of clever* *not so clever*

b) = means add.
very clever *sort of clever* *not so clever*

c) = means the answer to the problem.
very clever *sort of clever* *not so clever*

d) = means the two sides can be swapped.
very clever *sort of clever* *not so clever*

2) Which of the definitions above is the best definition of the equals sign?

Write a, b, c or d in the box below.

3) For each example, decide if the number sentence is true. Then explain how you know.

a) $17 = 3 + 24$ True False Don't Know
Explain how you know.

b) $35 = 35$ True False Don't Know
Explain how you know.

4) Find a number that can go in each box.

$$8 + 12 + \boxed{} = 20 + \boxed{}$$

Could another number go in the boxes? Yes No
Explain why or why not.

5) $17 + 12 = 29$ is true.
Is $17 + 12 + 8 = 29 + 8$ true or false? True False
How do you know?

6) What is the value of x if $2x + 3 = 11$? $x =$

You can use the box below for your working.

7) What is the value of y if $5y + 3 = y + 15$? $y =$

You can use the box below for your working.

8) What are the values of x and y if
 $x + y = 9$ and $2x + 3y = 23$? $x =$ $y =$

You can use the box below for your working.

9) What are the values of x and y if
 $3x + 8y = 84$ and $8x + 3y = 59$? $x =$ $y =$

You can use the box below for your working.

10) If $e + f = 8$ then $e + f + g =$

11) When are the following true?

For each one circle "always", "never", or "sometimes".

If the answer is "sometimes", explain when.

a) $a + b + c = c + a + b$

always *never* *sometimes, when*

b) $x + y + z = x + w + z$

always *never* *sometimes, when*

c) $l + m = l + r + s$

always *never* *sometimes, when*

d) $e + f - 2g = e$

always *never* *sometimes, when*