

Mu Alpha Theta National Convention: Denver, 2001  
Ciphering – Alpha Division

0. What is the secant of the smaller angle between the vectors  $[3, 4]$  and  $[12, -5]$ ?

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1. How many times do the graphs of  $y = 1000(x-1)(x-2)(x-3)$  and  $y = \ln(x)$  intersect?

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2. Evaluate:  $\frac{(\sin 225^\circ)(\tan 300^\circ)}{\cos 150^\circ}$

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3. What is the sum of the infinite geometric series whose first term is 2520 and whose second term is 1680?

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4. What is the smallest natural number with exactly nine positive integral factors?

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5. The probability of event A occurring, given that event B occurs, is  $\frac{2}{3}$ . The probability of event B occurring, given that event A does not occur, is  $\frac{3}{4}$ . If the probability that neither event occurs is  $\frac{1}{10}$ , what is the probability of both events occurring?

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6. What is the sum of the reciprocals of the complex roots of  $3x^3 - 22x^2 + 13x - 42 = 0$ ?

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7. Solve for  $x$ :  $\log_8(\log_{81}(\log_6 x)) = -\frac{2}{3}$



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8. A triangle with a perimeter of twelve centimeters has an inscribed circle with an area of  $\pi$  square centimeters. What is the area of the triangle, in square centimeters?

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9. What is the sum of the positive integral factors of 144?

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10. What is the area of a triangle whose sides have lengths of  $\sqrt{13}$ ,  $\sqrt{17}$ , and  $2\sqrt{10}$  ?

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11. What is the sum of the cubes of the twenty smallest natural numbers?

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12. In how many ways can five boys (Bob, Bill, Butch, Bernard, and Beau) and three girls (Gail, Glenda, and Gertrude) sit next to one another in a row of eight seats if no two girls may sit together?

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13. Evaluate:  $\sin^2 10^\circ + \sin^2 40^\circ + \sin^2 50^\circ + \sin^2 80^\circ$

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14. Determine the sum of all values of  $x$  between 0 and  $2\pi$  inclusive for which  $\sin(2x) = \frac{1}{2}$ .

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15. Evaluate:  $\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2 + n - 2}$



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16. Chords  $\overline{AB}$  and  $\overline{CD}$  of lengths 10 and 12, respectively, intersect at point  $E$  in circle  $O$ , intersecting in such a way that at least one of the segments produced ( $\overline{AE}$ ,  $\overline{BE}$ ,  $\overline{CE}$ , and  $\overline{DE}$ ) has a length of 4. Determine all possible lengths of  $\overline{AE}$ .

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17. Determine the equation of the parabola with vertex  $(5, 3)$  which passes through the point  $(1, 2)$  and whose axis of symmetry is parallel to the  $x$ -axis.