# Commentary
*Earth, VIII*

1. **(3)** January 21st is a Monday. Three Sundays have already passed in January: January 6, January 13, and January 20. The student can locate January 21, move backward a space to the Sunday column, and count backwards three Sundays in that month.

2. **(28)** The student must know what "triangle" means, and also know that there are "overlapping" triangles in the drawing. There are 8 triangles in the cat's head --each eye contains 3; 13 triangles in the cat's body, and 7 triangles in the cat's tail: $8 + 13 + 7 = 28$ in the entire body.

3. **(B)** The student may look for a pattern in several ways. The student may observe that column B only contains numbers that end in a 7 or a 2. Or a student may look at column E, mentally count to 50 and add "2 more." Or the student may complete the chart to make a list.

4. **(3 6 5 - 4 3 = 3 2 2)** Start in the ones column. "Guess" a number and then "check" to see if you are right. Then go to the tens column and "guess and check." End in the hundreds column. Continue "guessing and checking" until you find the right number. Or the student might "work backwards" by turning the subtraction situation into an addition one; for example, what plus 2 = 5? What goes in the box must be 3. Continue in this fashion.

5. **($\frac{1}{4}$)** The car covers half of the circle; the robot and the telephone each cover $\frac{1}{2}$ of the half that is left, or $\frac{1}{4}$. The chance of landing on the telephone would be "1 out of 4," or written as a fraction: $\frac{1}{4}$

6. **(50 feet)** It might be helpful to draw a picture. By drawing one "pole" or "dot" and then continuing until a total of 6 are drawn, one can understand that there are five spaces between the six poles. Each space is 10 feet, so $10 + 10 + 10 + 10 + 10 = 50$ feet in all.

7. **(33, 26, 31, 22, 14 go in the shapes.)** The problem can be solved in several ways In "guess-check-revise," try a number in the first box and calculate across; if the ending number is not correct try another number in the first box -- higher if the answer was too low, and lower if the answer was too high. Continue until the correct number is found. Or work backwards, by starting with the number you know, 17, and asking what number, when added to 3, gives 17? The number is 14. Continue working backward from the right end to the left end, in this fashion.