

Self-Guided Logic Activities #2

Interpretations and Problem Solving

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Unit 3

Utah or Maine?

This activity will involve you in making choices—and trying to find connections between things. Some of the connections will be a little hard to make, but you won't have any trouble if you let your imagination go to work.

Following is the kind of choice you'll be making: Which is easier—sneezing or whistling?

Some people find it hard to whistle, but for most of us, whistling comes naturally. On the other hand, some people can whistle, but they don't whistle in tune. So, it is either hard for them or hard on us—or both! Since sneezing is an automatic behavior, you may not think of it as easy or hard, but many people have problems when they sneeze. Their eyes water, or they may even get a nosebleed. Some people make a little noise. Others make a loud noise, and when they try not to sneeze, they put pressure on their eardrums.

Following are some choices for you to make. Give reasons for each of your decisions.

1. Which is *deeper*: the Panama Canal or the Golden Gate Bridge? _____

Why do you think so? _____

2. Which is *flatter*: bituminous coal or natural gas? _____

Why? _____

3. Which is *costlier*: erosion or pollution? _____

Why? _____

4. Which is *easier*: the Sears Tower in Chicago or the Florida Everglades? _____

Why? _____

5. Which are *hotter*: grapes from California or coconuts from Hawaii? _____

Why? _____

6. Which is *simpler*: Yellowstone's Old Faithful or the Grand Canyon? _____

Why? _____

7. Which is *cheaper*: the eruption of Mt. St. Helens or Hurricane Hugo? _____

Why? _____

8. Which is *faster*: a tropical rain forest or the Erie Canal? _____

Why? _____

9. Which is *harder*: New York City or Kansas City? _____

Why? _____

10. Which is *lower*: Utah or Maine? _____

Why? _____

Can you respond to which is "lower" of these two states in some other way? _____

How? _____

Which is more *difficult*—doing an activity such as this or memorizing the capitals of the United States? _____

Why? _____

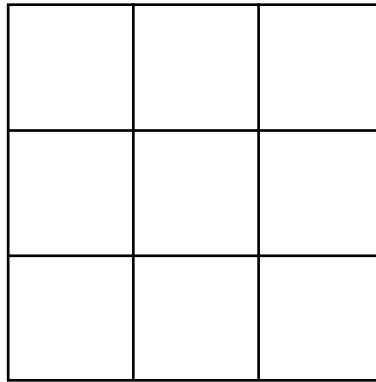
Unit 5

Figure It Out

There is structure in everything we see, but usually we do not look very deeply into the nature of the shapes that appear before us. Sometimes we don't see all of the geometrical figures in familiar objects, such as the rectangles in this lawn chair.

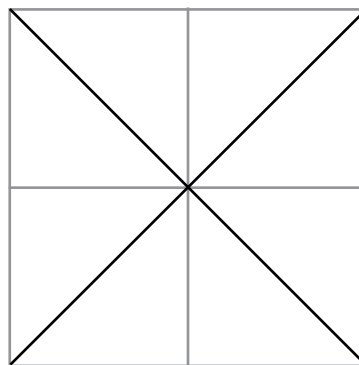


In this exercise, look carefully at three geometric figures. Before answering the questions below the figures, look at them closely.

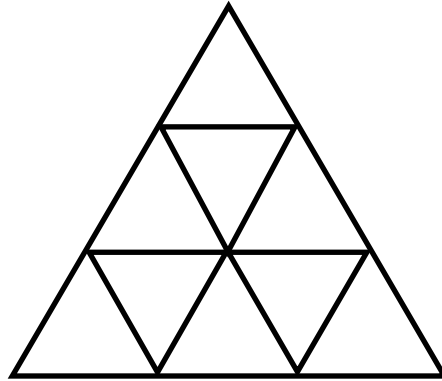


How many squares can you find in the figure above? _____

How many rectangles can you find in the figure above? _____



How many triangles can you find in the figure above? _____



How many triangles do you find in the figure above? _____

Have you ever made false assumptions about someone because you didn't know what that person really thinks? For example, you may see someone turn down a dessert at lunch and think the person is dieting. But he or she may be diabetic or allergic to certain foods such as peanuts or milk. If you were to ask a friend to loan you a sweater and that sweater was that person's favorite, what assumptions would you be making about your friend? Write your assumptions below.
