

Product Codes

Three code numbers (each with two digits) have to be sent to headquarters each week. For security reasons, three agents are used, each of whom is given the product of two of the numbers. For example, if the code numbers were 15, 40 and 50:

Agent A could be given $15 \times 40 = \mathbf{600}$

Agent B could be given $15 \times 50 = \mathbf{750}$

Agent C could be given $40 \times 50 = \mathbf{2000}$

- 1) If the code numbers were 23, 48, and 79, what numbers would the agents be given?
- 2) The agents arrive at headquarters with the numbers 220, 240, and 132. What are the three code numbers this week?
- 3) The next week, unfortunately one of the agents fails to arrive. The two numbers which are received are 273 and 357. Is it still possible for headquarters to work out the three code numbers?
- 4) The next week the agents arrive with numbers 432, 540, and 720. Explain how you work out what the three code numbers are.

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