

Integer Review Competition

Jennifer, Sarah, Darrell, Russ
Students in MathEd 300, Fall 1996
University of Regina

Assume there are 30 students in the class.

1. Break the class up into 5 groups of 6, group size is at the teachers discretion
2. The teacher is to give the class an integer, for example -5
3. Each group then has to record how many ways -5 could be found , for this example, using addition and subtraction. It is also important to set some sort of interval. So in this case, let's say the students can only use the numbers between -10 and 10. If an interval was not set, the amount of answers would be infinite.

In the case of -5, the students should have written, $-10+5$, $-9+4$, $-8+3$, $-7+2$ $-6+1$, $-5+0$, $-3-2$, $-4-1$

4. Have each group read out separately, the answers they have written down, then see if the other groups have the same answers, whether they disagree with any of the answers given, and if they have any they would like to add.

This exercise can also include multiplication and division. Also, the class can be broken up however the teacher would like. This type of group work could be used for many other topics in math. It is not just for integers as you may see. It is a good way for the students to work together and review a topic without the stress of a test. It could also help students who are having problems but are too afraid to ask a teacher. Group work can save a child from an uncomfortable situation, which could occur if they were to do it individually. Group work is much more productive method.

Obtained from Math Central

<http://MathCentral.uregina.ca/>