Gordon Burgin's Puzzles

August 2025 challenge

Puzzle One

In a guessing game, five friends had to guess the exact number of balls in a box. The guesses were 31, 35, 39, 49, and 37, but none of guesses were correct. The guesses were off by (in random order) 1, 9, 5, 3, and 9.

Can you determine the number of balls in the box?

Puzzle Two

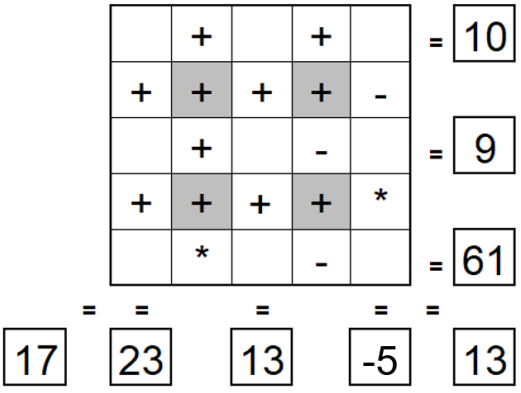
A man wanted to get into his locked office building, but he had forgotten his five number unlocking code. However, he did remember five clues. The following clues were:

a) The fifth number plus the third number equals fourteen.
b) The fourth number is one more than the second number.
c) The first number is one less than twice the second number.
d) The second number plus the third number equals ten.
e) The sum of all five numbers is 30.

With these clues, can you determine the five numbers in the unlocking sequence?

Puzzle Three

In this puzzle, each row, column & diagonal is a mathematical expression or calculation. Use the numbers 1 to 9 to satisfy each calculation (each number can be used only once). Find the combination of numbers that satisfy all the resulting answers as shown. Note: multiplication (*) & division (/) are performed before addition (+) and subtraction (-) when calculating.



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