Katherine Johnson

Katherine Johnson (August 26, 1918) is an African-American physicist and mathematician. A bright child with a gift for numbers, she completed eighth grade by the age of 10, she graduated from high school at 14, and entered West Virginia State College and graduated from college at age eighteen with a degrees in mathematics and French. She was one of three black students to integrate West Virginia University's graduate school.

In 1953, she began working for NASA's predecessor, the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics (NACA) as a human computer that checked calculations and turned numbers into meaningful data. After 1958 she where she calculated trajectores for NASA. The work she did was critical to the success of the Mercury Project, Apollo Missions, and the start of the Space Shuttle program. NASA would not be what it is today if not for Mrs. Johnson.

What is 4 + 5 + 6?
1. Katherine Johnson was born in White Sulphur Springs, _____

a. 16 Wisconsin
b. 15 West Virginia
c. 12 Wyoming

How many cm are there in 1.3m?
2. Johnson graduated with degrees in math and _____.

a. 113cm biology
b. 103cm Spanish
c. 130cm French

Which number is not even?
3. Johnson got a job at NASA's predecessor the NACA in _____.
a. 68 1968
b. 53 1953
c. 72 1972

How many tens in 140?
4. At what age did Katherine Johnson graduated from high school at age _____.

a. 14
b. 18
c. 20

50000 - 19000 = ____
5. Johnson calculated the trajectory for _____, the first American in space.

a. 31000 Alan Shepard
b. 41000 Neil Armstrong
c. 32000 Scott Carpenter

What is the remainder when 22 is divided by 5?
6. After NASA began using electronic computers, _____ requested that Johnson personally recheck the calculations before his flight aboard. He became the first American to orbit the Earth.

a. 5 Gus Grissom
b. 2 John Glenn
c. 0 Gordon Cooper

Can 19 be divided by 3 exactly?
7. While in school, Johnson's favorite subject was _____

a. No   English
b. Yes Math

700 X 0 = ____
8. When Johnson started to work at NASA, she worked with a group of _____ performing math calculations. They were known as _____.

a. 700 professors, human computers
b. 7000 performers, human calculators
c. 0   trailblazers, human computers

Katherine Johnson answers: Grade 3
1. b 2. c 3. b 4. a

5. a 6. b 7. b 8. c