

Number Theory _____ 1

1. Six proofs of the infinity of primes	3
2. Bertrand's postulate	9
3. Binomial coefficients are (almost) never powers	15
4. Representing numbers as sums of two squares	19
5. The law of quadratic reciprocity	25
6. Every finite division ring is a field	33
7. The spectral theorem and Hadamard's determinant problem	37
8. Some irrational numbers	45
9. Three times $\pi^2/6$	53

Geometry _____ 61

10. Hilbert's third problem: decomposing polyhedra	63
11. Lines in the plane and decompositions of graphs	73
12. The slope problem	79
13. Three applications of Euler's formula	85
14. Cauchy's rigidity theorem	91
15. The Borromean rings don't exist	95
16. Touching simplices	103
17. Every large point set has an obtuse angle	107
18. Borsuk's conjecture	113

Analysis _____ 121

19. Sets, functions, and the continuum hypothesis	123
20. In praise of inequalities	139
21. The fundamental theorem of algebra	147
22. One square and an odd number of triangles	151

23. A theorem of Pólya on polynomials	159
24. On a lemma of Littlewood and Offord	165
25. Cotangent and the Herglotz trick	169
26. Buffon's needle problem	175

Combinatorics **179**

27. Pigeon-hole and double counting	181
28. Tiling rectangles	193
29. Three famous theorems on finite sets	199
30. Shuffling cards	205
31. Lattice paths and determinants	215
32. Cayley's formula for the number of trees	221
33. Identities versus bijections	227
34. The finite Kakeya problem	233
35. Completing Latin squares	239

Graph Theory **245**

36. The Dinitz problem	247
37. Permanents and the power of entropy	253
38. Five-coloring plane graphs	261
39. How to guard a museum	265
40. Turán's graph theorem	269
41. Communicating without errors	275
42. The chromatic number of Kneser graphs	285
43. Of friends and politicians	291
44. Probability makes counting (sometimes) easy	295

About the Illustrations **304**

Index **305**