



Problem of the Week

Grade 7 and 8

Better Than Average Solution

Problem

Stu Dent has six marks on his report card. His overall average is 75%. But after looking more closely at his marks, Stu discovered that his mathematics mark was incorrectly recorded as a 39% instead of his actual mark of 93%. Determine Stu Dent's correct report card average.

Solution

To calculate an average we add the six marks and divide by 6.

$$\frac{\text{sum of six marks}}{6} = 75$$

To then obtain the sum of the six marks we would multiply the average by 6.

$$\text{sum of six marks} = 6 \times 75 = 450$$

But this sum includes the wrong mathematics mark of 39%. So we need to adjust the sum by subtracting the wrong mark and adding the corrected mark.

$$\text{correct sum of six marks} = 450 - 39 + 93 = 504$$

We can now obtain Stu's corrected average by dividing the corrected sum by 6.

$$\text{correct average} = \frac{\text{correct sum of six marks}}{6} = \frac{504}{6} = 84$$

∴ Stu's corrected average is 84%. His day is now much better than average!

