



BEAT THE CALCULATOR

Divide yourselves into 2 groups.

One group has calculators, the other group does not.

Find the mean of each set of data.

Which group was quicker?

Which sets can be done mentally and which are best done using a calculator?



Example

Find the mean of these times (in minutes) to eat breakfast.

10 4 6 7 13

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Mean} &= \frac{10 + 4 + 6 + 7 + 13}{5} \\ &= \frac{40}{5} \\ &= \mathbf{8} \end{aligned}$$

Set 1

Number of skips in 20 seconds

12, 13, 6, 6, 7, 8, 14, 14, 5, 15

Set 2

Ages of people at a workshop

34, 45, 39, 48, 50, 36, 48, 47, 52, 51

Set 3

Number of points in a problem-solving quiz

12, 13, 6, 6, 7, 8, 14, 14, 5, 15