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Japanese Elementary School Students Math Performance: A Case of Tottori Prefecture regional “Math Diagnostic Test”

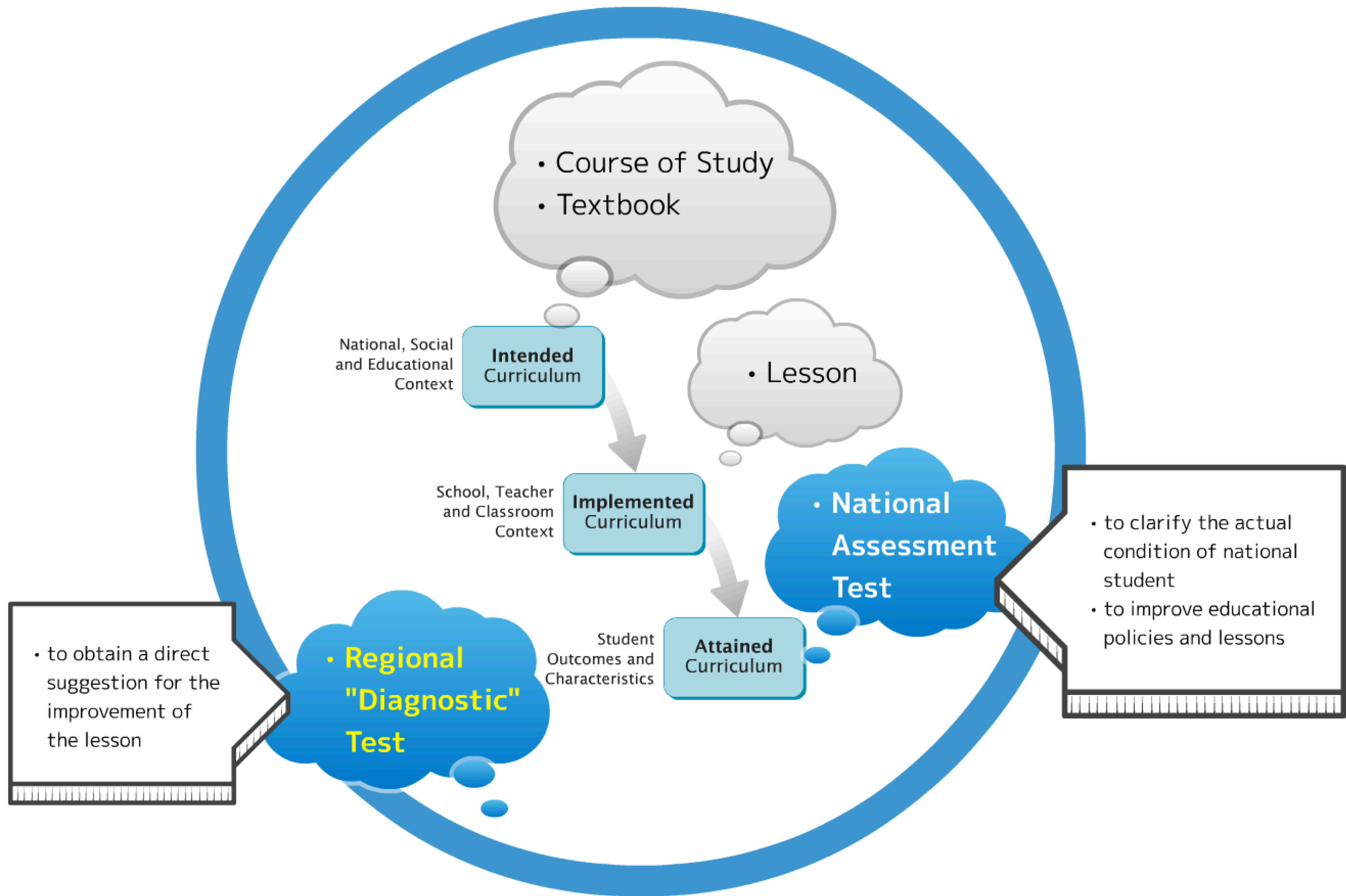
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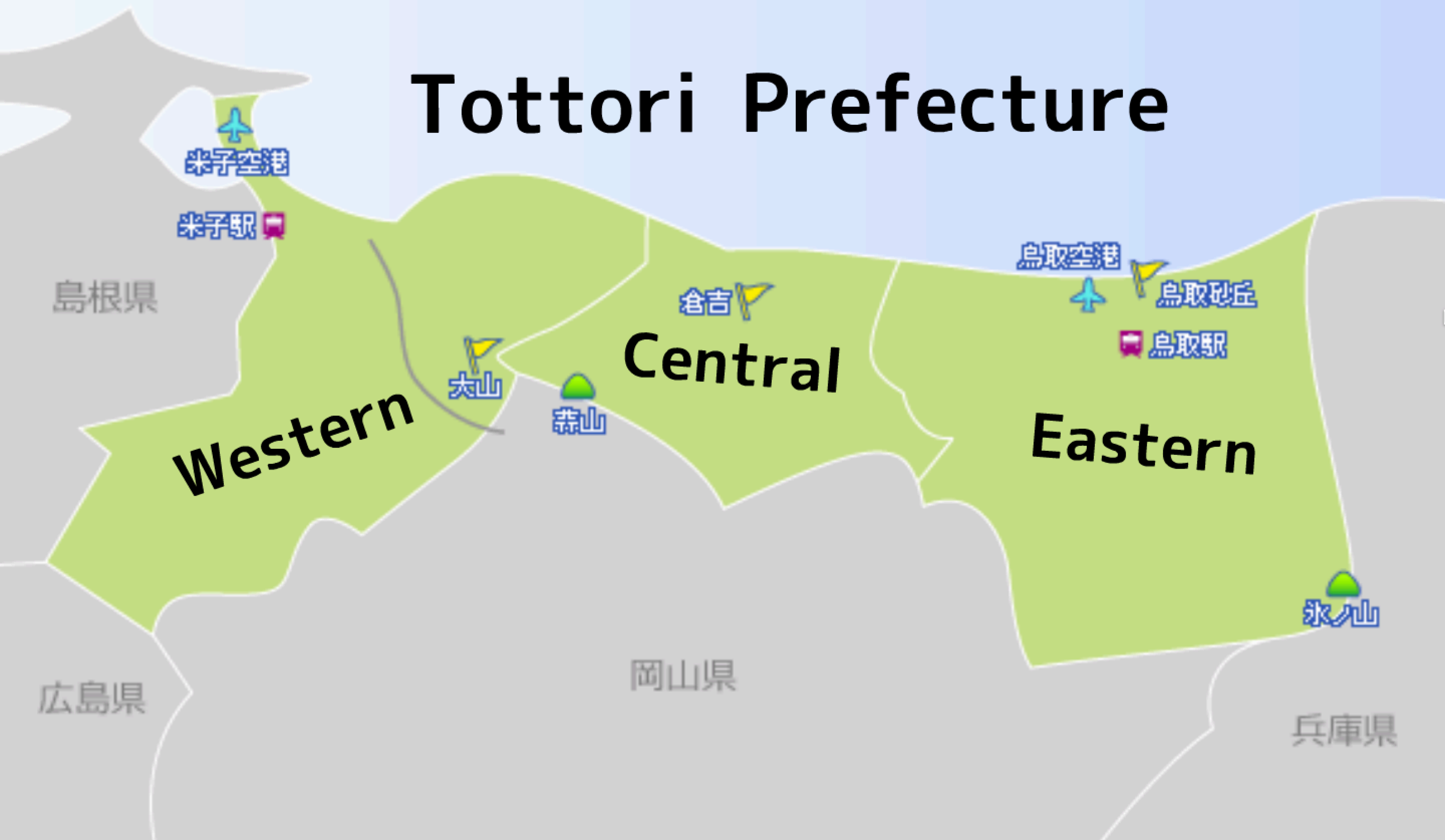


Osaka

Tokyo



Tottori Prefecture



島根県

広島県

岡山県

兵庫県

Western

Central

Eastern

Tottori Elementary Math Diagnostic Test

a suitable opportunity for teachers to study mathematical and pedagogical content knowledge and recognize what are emphasis/important contents through the curriculum:

- What kinds of problems are essential/appropriate to verify students' math performance?
- What kind of performance do students show to such problems?

Procedure

- 1) determination of the Test members in math subcommittee of the district
- 2) determination of the grade staffs to analyze past results and discuss improvements of the year
- 3) improving such problems and develop new problems
- 4) planning the Test (as a whole)
- 5) workshop for the planning tests
- 6) ordering to print the Test booklets
- 7) implementation of the Test
- 8) scoring of the Test (by homeroom teachers of each school)
- 9) each school reports results (scores) of the Test
- 10) staffs aggregate and analyze the results, and make an annual report

Examinee students

Table 1. Number of students by each grade

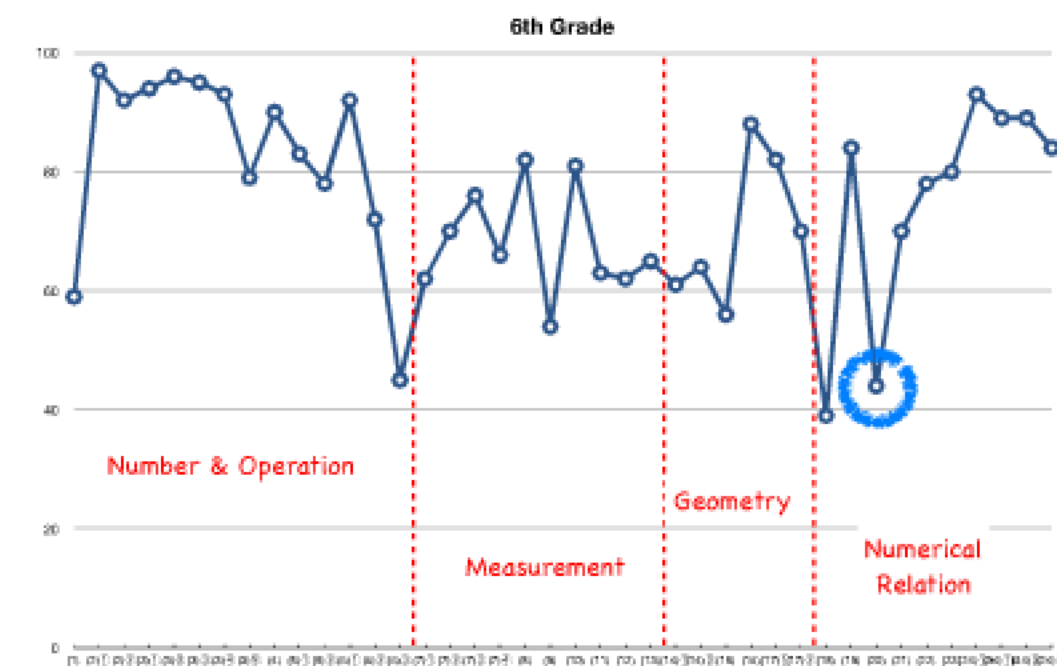
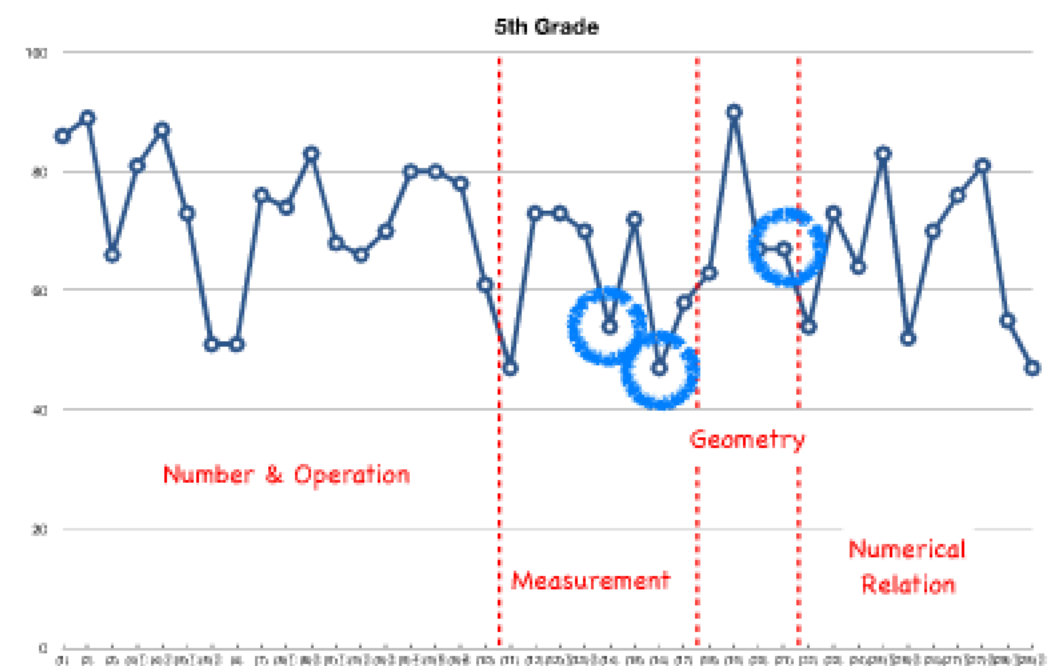
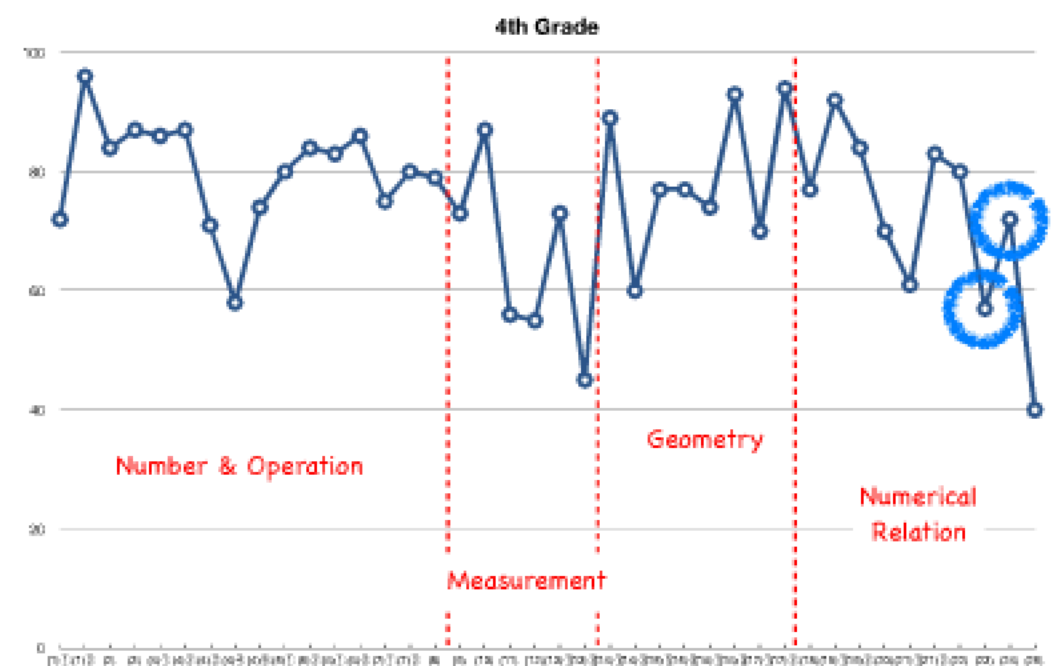
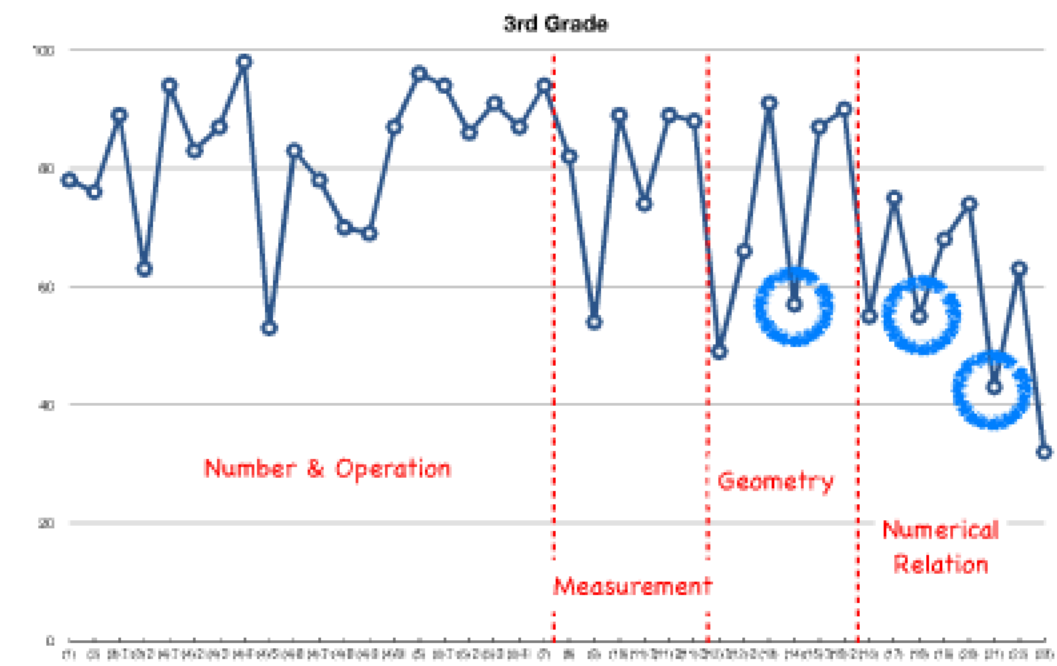
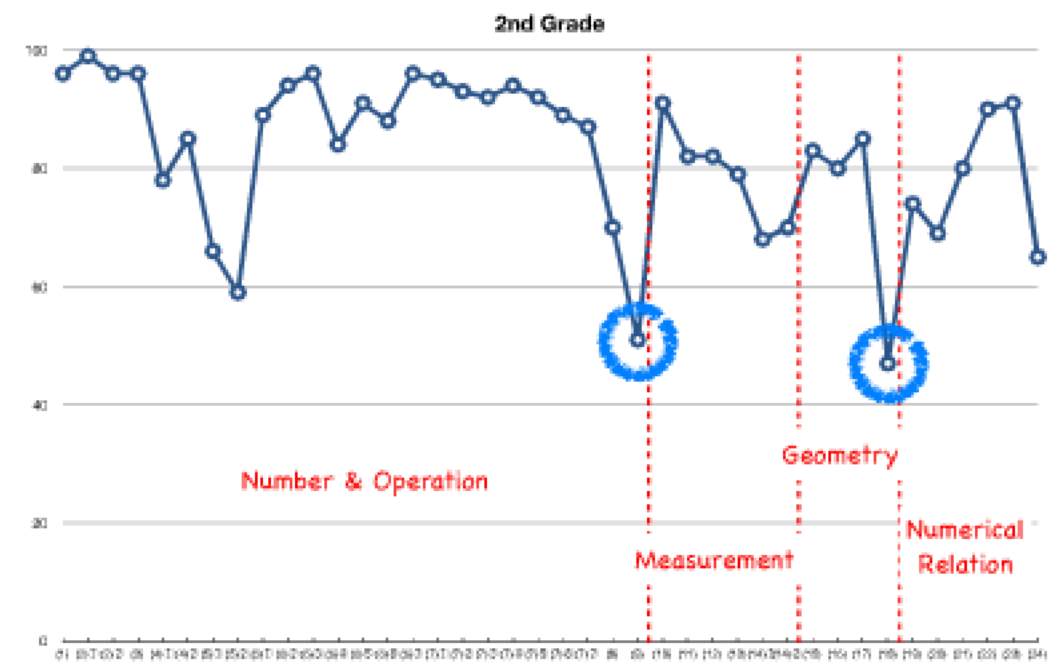
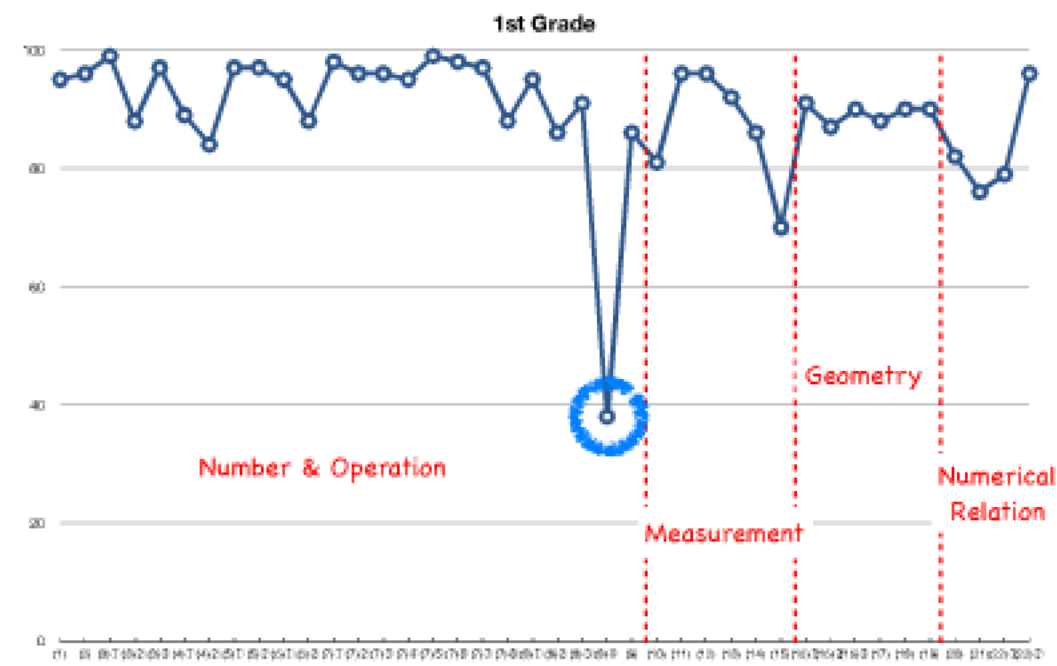
Grade	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th
Number of students	4908	4867	4968	5138	5057	5241

Table 2. National Assessment Test 2013

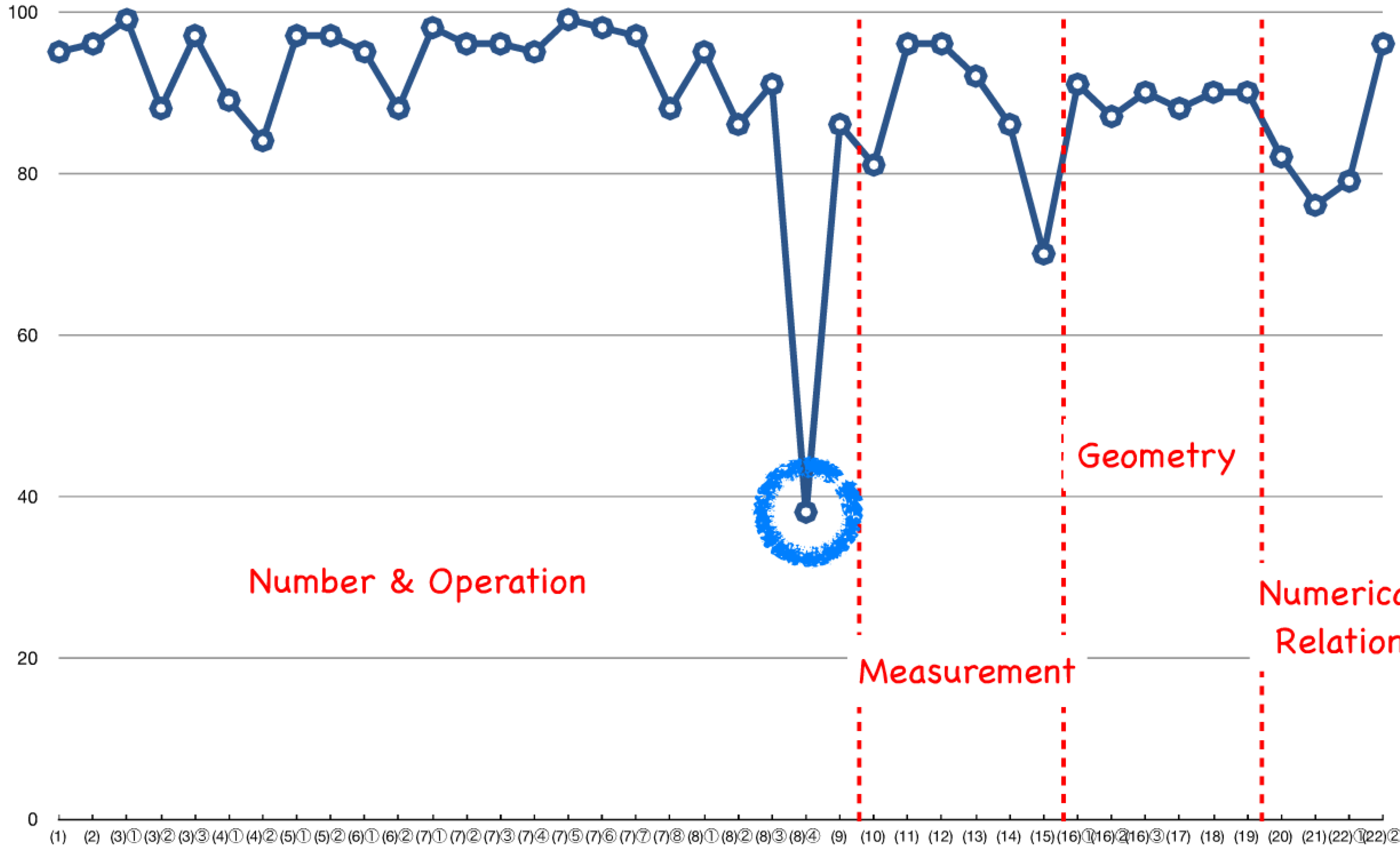
	Tottori Prefecture (%)	National Average(%)
Elementary Math A	78.1	77.3
Elementary Math B	60.2	58.6

Problems for examining the thinking process

Although each Test problem requires only the answer basically, "problems for examining the thinking process" require describing the thinking process by an indication: "Let's leave your writing/trajectory of thought."



1st Grade



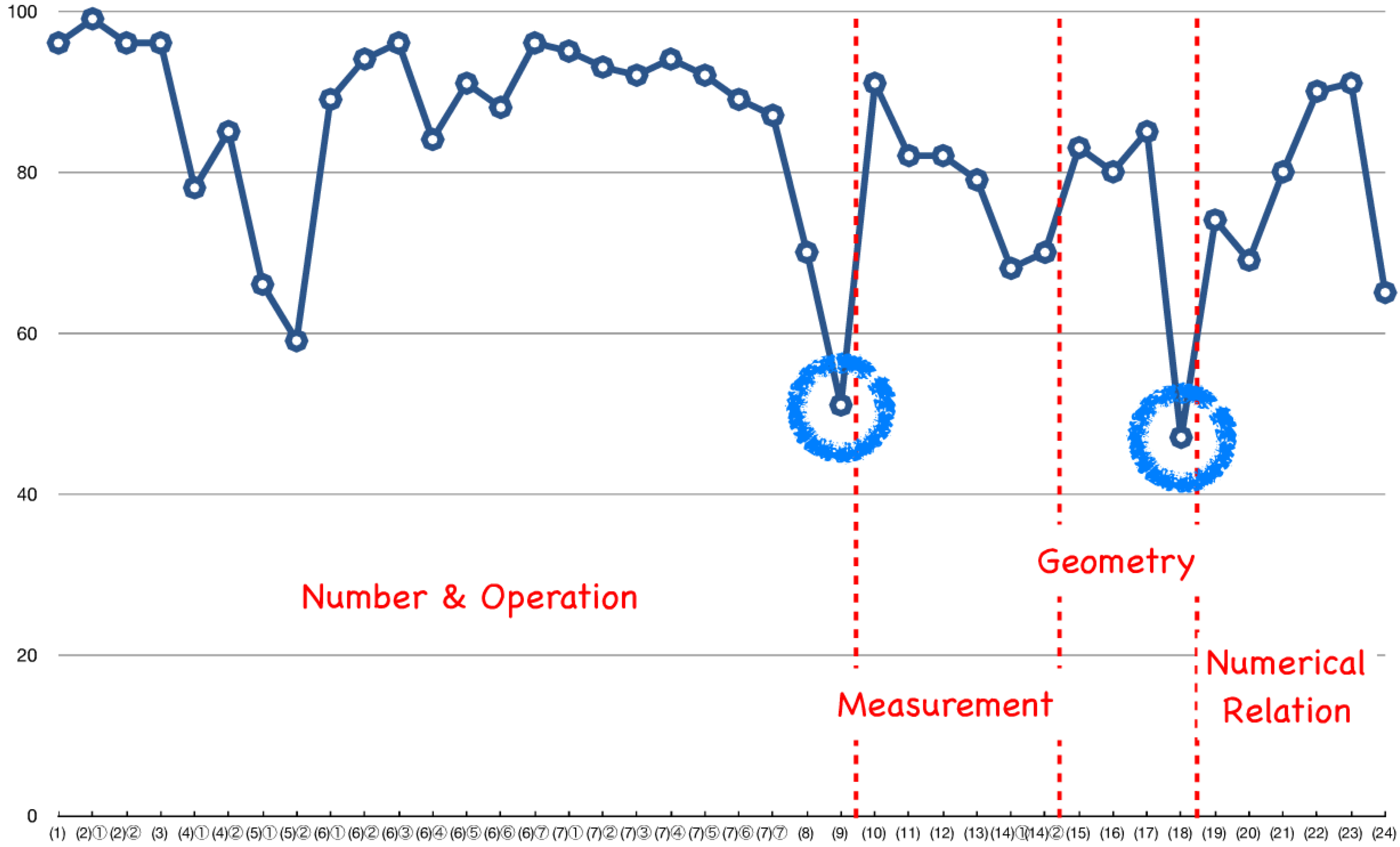
Number & Operation

Geometry

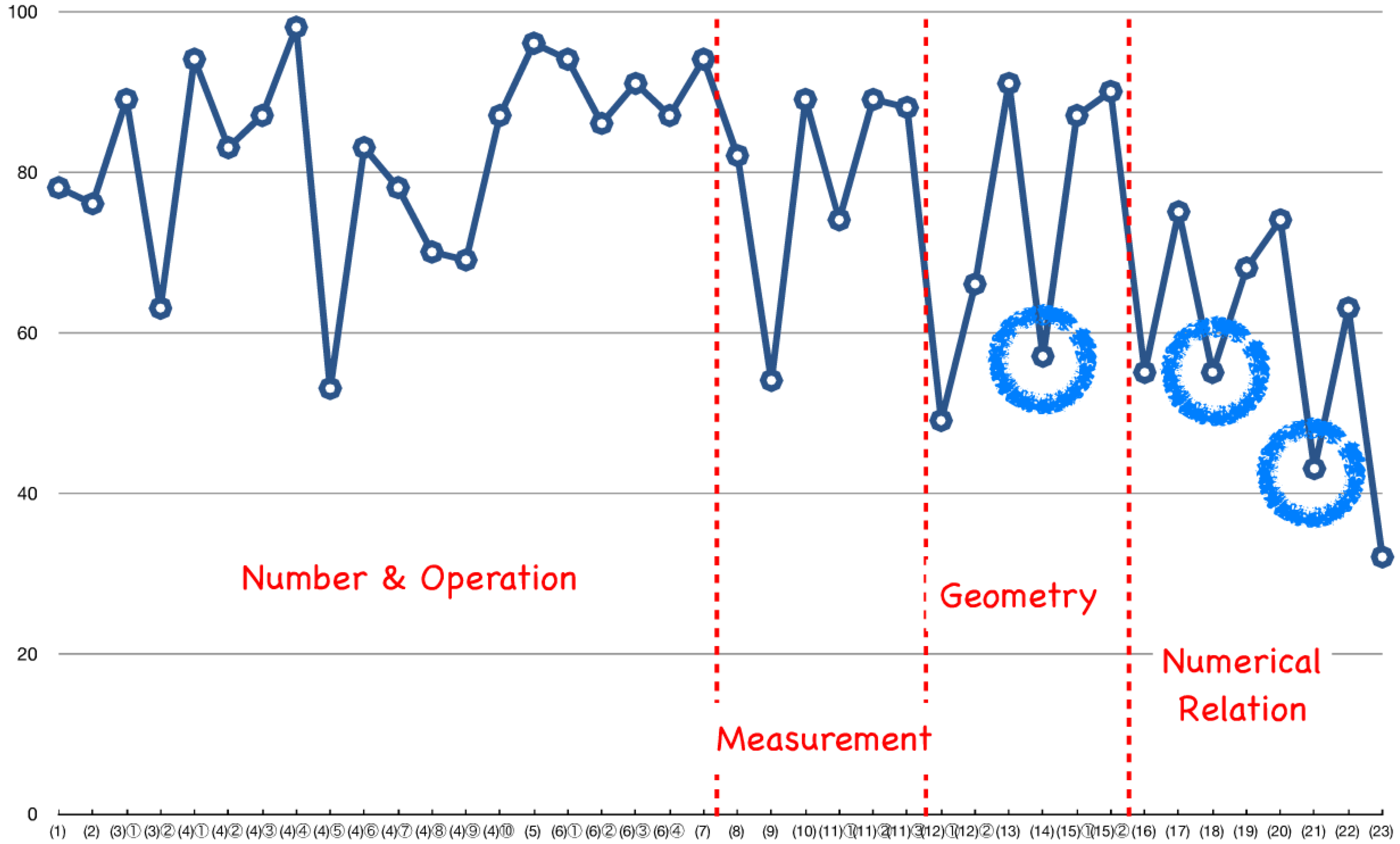
Measurement

Numerical Relation

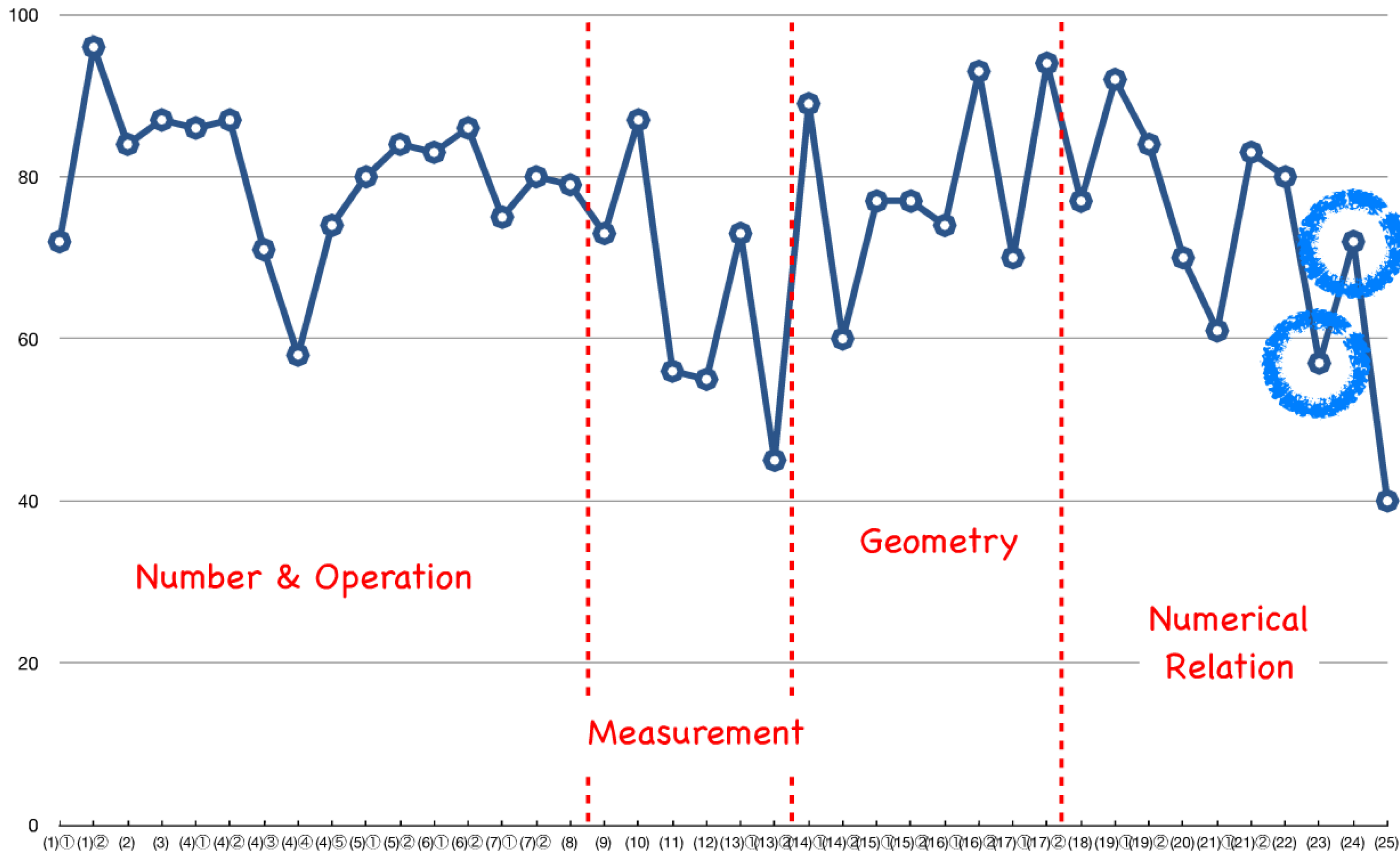
2nd Grade



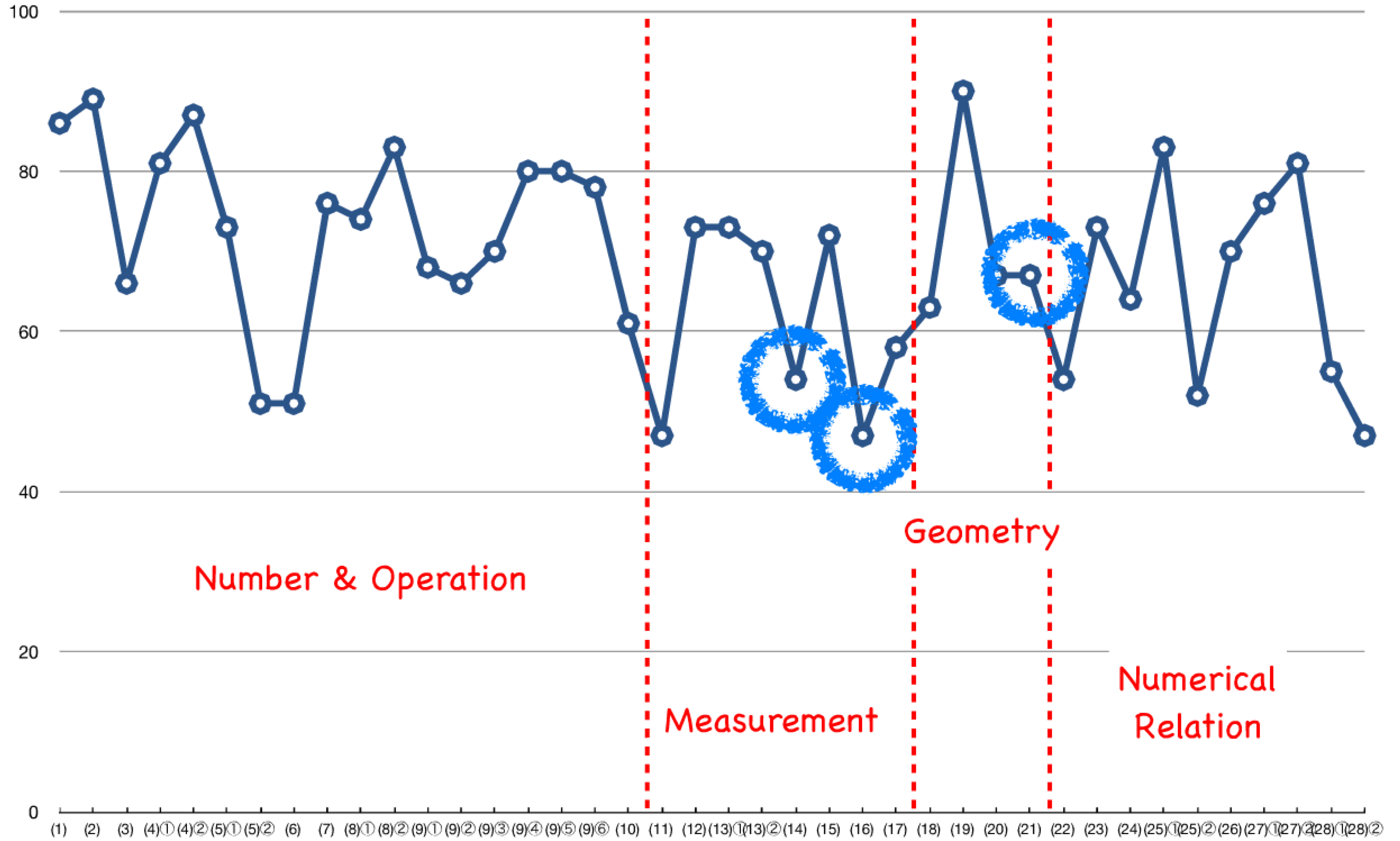
3rd Grade



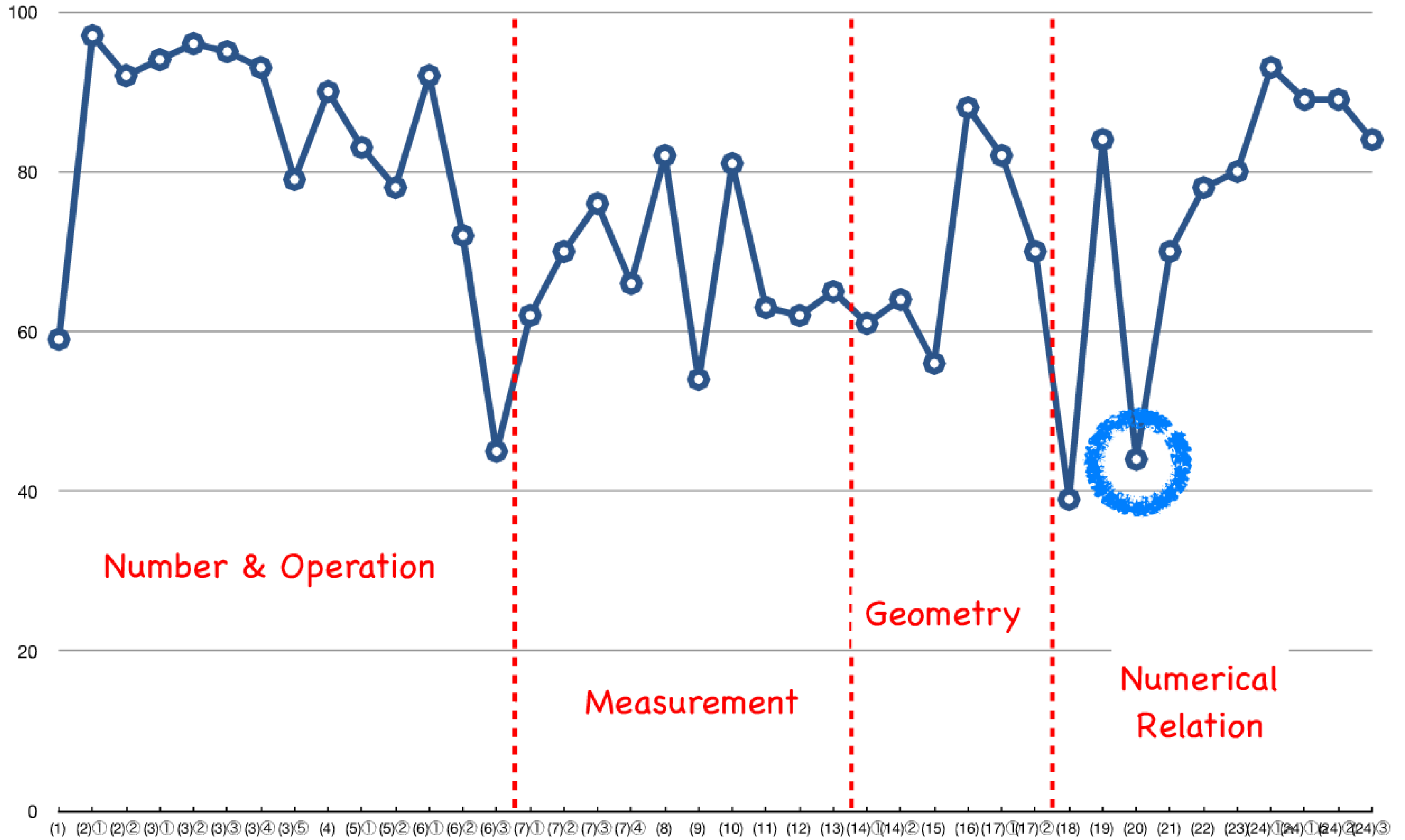
4th Grade



5th Grade



6th Grade



Problem of 1st Grade

Prob. No.	Problem	Ave. of correct answer (%)			Errors (Rate to the whole errors)
		2012	2013	2014	
(8) ④	When distributing 12 pencils by one for one person, 5 pencils are left. When 10 pencils, how many pencils are left?	39	39	38	1. 7 (29%) 2. 5 (29%) 3. 2 (14%) 4. others (14%) 5. no answer (14%)

Intention of the Problem

- To find the unknown number from the given condition;
- To identify the number of pencils and persons;
- To represent a problem situation with a diagram or a picture.

Expected Thinking

- Finding the distributed number of the pencils by subtracting the number of remainders from the number of the beginning. This number is the number of people. Then, subtracting the number of pencils to distribute to seven persons from ten: $12 - 5 = 7$, $10 - 7 = 3$.
- Finding the difference of the number of pencils between the first and the second situation. Since the two small pencil in the second situation, the number of remaining pencils also become two small: $12 - 10 = 2$, $5 - 2 = 3$

Error Analysis

- Some students can't do two-step thinking, they finish problem solving by finding the number of distributed pencils: $12 - 5 = 7$.
- Some students subtract five remainders from ten pencils: $10 - 5 = 5$.
- Some students misread the problem as "how many pencils remain when distributing 10 from 12?": $12 - 10 = 2$.

Problems of 2nd Grade

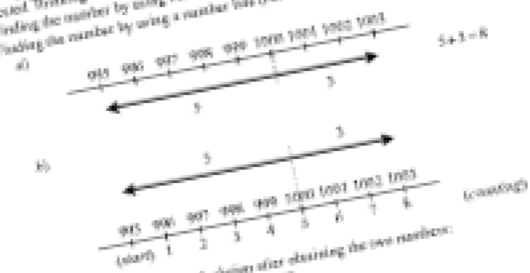
Prob. No.	Problem	Ave. of correct answer (%)			Errors (Rate to the whole error)
		2012	2013	2014	
99	There are two numbers which one is 3 larger than 1000 and another is 5 less than 1000. How many is the difference between two numbers?	47	51	51	1. 2 (19%) 2. 9 (17%) 3. others (47%) 4. no answer (21%)

Intention of the Problem

- Appreciating to be able to find the number by using variables/differences based on the reference number.
- Using a number line.
- Using a number line.

Expected Thinking

- Finding the number by using variables/differences based on the reference number: $3+5=8$.
- Finding the number by using a number line (two cases):



• Finding the number by calculation after obtaining the two numbers:
 $1000+3=1003$, $1000-5=995$

$$\begin{array}{r} 1000 \\ - 995 \\ \hline 5 \end{array}$$

Error Analysis

- Some students use the difference without recognizing number sequence: $5-3=2$.
- Some students include also the reference number in counted number: $3+4+3=9$.

Prob. No.	Problem	Ave. of correct answer (%)			Errors (Rate to the whole error)
		2012	2013	2014	
100	There is a pattern arranged by right triangles as shown in the figure. How many triangles looking and count across the picture?	42	43	47	1. 2 (19%) 2. 2 (19%) 3. others (47%) 4. no answer (19%)

Intention of the Problem

- Recognizing geometric figures by comparing and decomposing.

Expected Thinking



Error Analysis

- Some students count three small triangles only.
- Some students answer that there are two kinds of triangles, big and small.

Prob. No.	Problem	Ave. of correct answer (%)			Errors (Rate to the whole errors)
		2012	2013	2014	
(9)	There are two numbers which one is 3 larger than 1000 and another is 5 less than 1000. How many is the difference between two numbers?	47	51	51	1. 2 (19%) 2. 9 (13%) 3. others (47%) 4. no answer (21%)

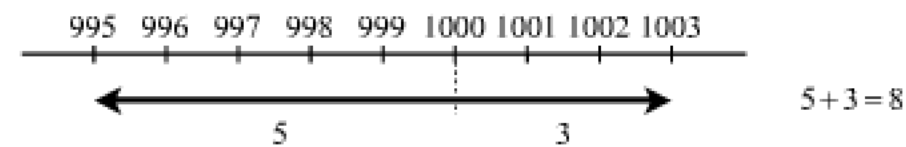
Intention of the Problem

- Appreciating to be able to find the number by using variables/differences based on the reference number.
- Using a number line.

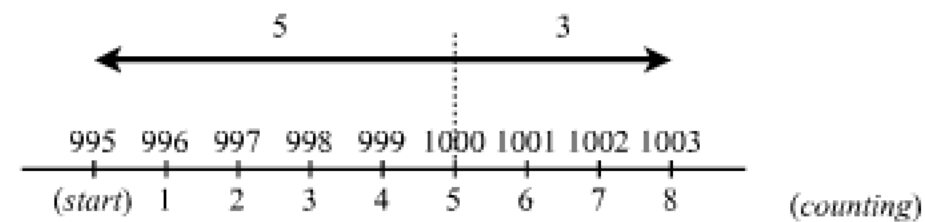
Expected Thinking

- Finding the number by using variables/differences based on the reference number: $3 + 5 = 8$.
- Finding the number by using a number line (two cases):

a)



b)



- Finding the number by calculation after obtaining the two numbers:
 $1000 + 3 = 1003$, $1000 - 5 = 995$,

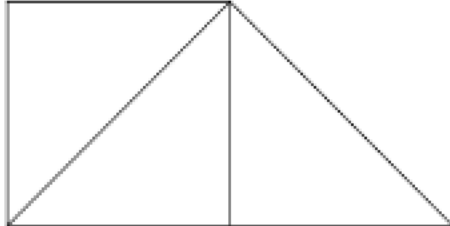
$$\begin{array}{r} 1003 \\ - 995 \\ \hline 8 \end{array}$$

Error Analysis

- Some students use the difference without recognizing number sequence: $5 - 3 = 2$.
- Some students include also the reference number in counted number: $5 + 1 + 3 = 9$.

Prob. No.	Problem	Ave. of correct answer (%)	
		2012	2013
(18)	There is a pattern arranged by right triangles as shown in the figure. How many triangles both large and small are in this pattern?	42	43

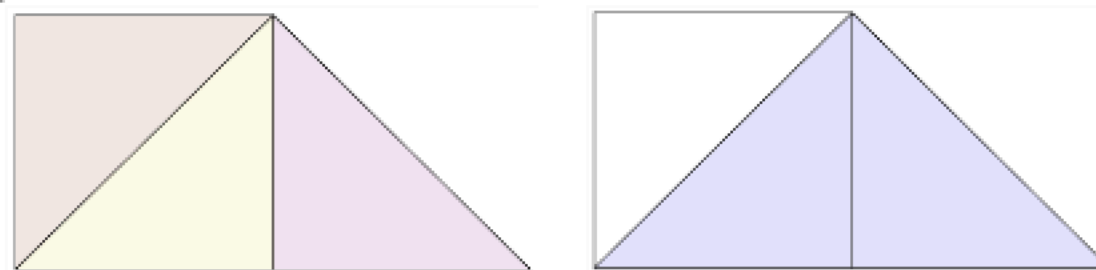


Prob. No.	Problem	Ave. of correct answer (%)			Errors (Rate to the whole errors)
		2012	2013	2014	
(18)	<p>There is a pattern arranged by right triangles as shown in the figure.</p> <p>How many triangles both large and small are in this pattern?</p> 	42	43	47	1. 3 (63%) 2. 2 (10%) 3. others (23%) 4. no answer (4%)

Intention of the Problem

- Recognizing geometric figures by composing and decomposing.

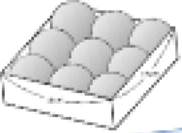
Expected Thinking



Error Analysis

- Some students count three small triangles only.
- Some students answer that there are two kinds of triangles, big and small.

Problems of 3rd Grade

Prob. No.	Problem	Avg. of correct answer (%)			Errors (Rate in the whole class)
		2012	2013	2014	
(14)	Balls are packed in a box accurately as shown in the figure. How long (cm) is the radius of a ball? 	54	54	57	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6 cm (46%) 9 cm (13%) 2 cm (13%) others (23%) no answer (5%)

Intention of the Problem

- Understanding spherical diameter and radius in relation to the length of vertical and horizontal of the box.

Expected Thinking


- Finding the radius after obtaining the diameter: $18 \div 3 = 6$, $6 \div 2 = 3$ cm.
- Find the radius on the basis of the number of radii (per side): $2 \times 3 = 6$, $18 \div 6 = 3$ cm.

Error Analysis

- Some students answer the diameter: $18 \div 3 = 6$, 6 cm.
- Some students recognize incorrectly the length of one side of the box as a diameter: $18 \div 2 = 9$ (cm).
- Some students divide the length of one side of the box by nine halves: $18 \div 9 = 2$ (cm).

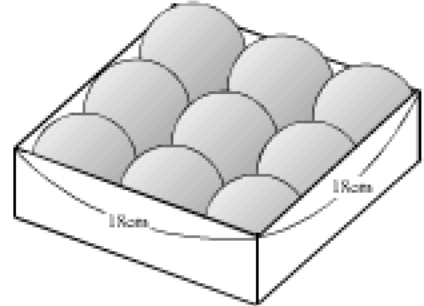
Prob. No.	Problem	Avg. of correct answer (%)			Errors (Rate in the whole class)
		2012	2013	2014	
(15)	There are pencils, pens and paper in a box. A student is going to give 10 pencils to his friend. How many pencils will be left in the box? 	57	57	58	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 10 pencils (10%) 40 pencils (40%) 10 pencils (10%) 40 pencils (40%) others (0%) no answer (0%)

Intention of the Problem
- Understanding the relationship between the number of pencils, pens and paper in a box.
Expected Thinking
- Finding the number of pencils by subtracting 10 from 10.

Prob. No.	Problem	Avg. of correct answer (%)			Errors (Rate in the whole class)
		2012	2013	2014	
(21)	Trees are lined in a row every 2m. There are 14 trees on one side of the road. How many trees are there in all? 	35	39	43	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 7 (10%) 28 (7%) 16 (3%) others (70%)

Intention of the Problem
- Comprehending the problem situation accurately, and coping with it correctly.
Expected Thinking
- Finding that the number of trees is always one greater than the number of interval of trees, sometimes by representing the problem situation like a figure: $14 \div 2 = 7$, $7 + 1 = 8$.

Error Analysis
- Some students are regarded "the number of interval of trees" just as the "number of trees".
- Some students calculate incorrectly using the numerical values in the problem situation: $2 \times 14 = 28$, $2 + 14 = 16$.

Prob. No.	Problem	Ave. of correct answer (%)			Errors (Rate to the whole errors)
		2012	2013	2014	
(14)	<p>Balls are packed in a box accurately as shown in the figure. How long (cm) is the radius of a ball?</p> 	54	54	57	1. 6 cm (46%) 2. 9 cm (13%) 3. 2 cm (13%) 4. others (23%) 5. no answer (5%)

Intention of the Problem

- Understanding spherical diameter and radius in relation to the length of vertical and horizontal of the box.

Expected Thinking

- Finding the radius after obtaining the diameter: $18 \div 3 = 6$, $6 \div 2 = 3$ 3 cm.
- Find the radius on the basis of the number of radii (per side): $2 \times 3 = 6$, $18 \div 6 = 3$ 3 cm.

Error Analysis

- Some students answer the diameter: $18 \div 3 = 6$, 6 cm.
- Some students recognize incorrectly the length of one side of the box as a diameter:
 $18 \div 2 = 9$ (cm).
- Some students divide the length of one side of the box by nine balls: $18 \div 9 = 2$ (cm).

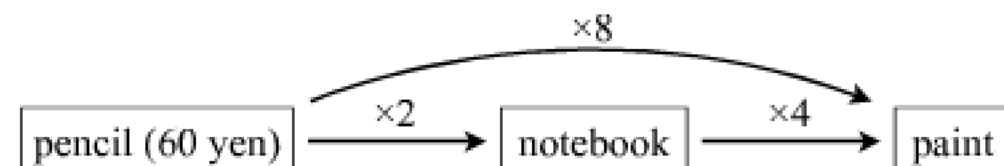
Prob. No.	Problem	Ave. of correct answer (%)			Errors (Rate to the whole errors)
		2012	2013	2014	
(18)	There are pencils, notebooks, and paints. A pencil is 60 yen. A notebook is twice the price of the pencil. A paint is four times the price of the notebook. How many times the paint is the price of the pencil?	57	57	55	1. 6 times (44%) 2. 480 times (10%) 3. 2 times (10%) 4. 4 times (5%) 5. others (26%) 6. no answer (5%)

Intention of the Problem

- Solving a problem by using multiplication operators.

Expected Thinking

- Finding the number by calculating operators: $2 \times 4 = 8$ 8 times.



- Comparing the prices of pencil and paint after finding the prices of notebook and paint in turn: $60 \times 2 = 120$, $120 \times 4 = 480$, $60 \times \square = 480$, 8 is appropriate for \square ; or $480 \div 60 = 8$.

Error Analysis

- Some students add the multiplication operators: $2 + 4 = 6$ (times).
- Some students obtain the price of paint (*their thinking process are correct*).
- Some students answer either of operators.

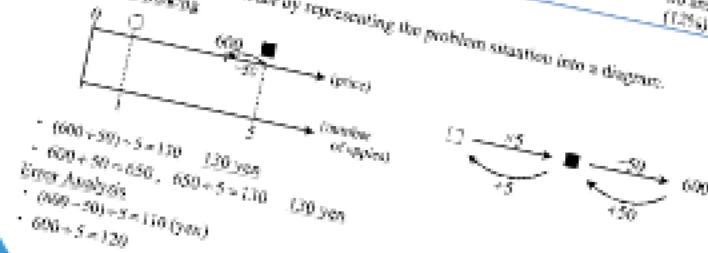
$$10 \div 2 = 5 \text{ (cm)}$$

a side of the box by pine balls: $10 \div 0.2 = 50$ (cm)

Problems of 4th Grade

Prob. No.	Problem	Ave. of correct answer (%)			Errors (base is the whole correct)
		2012	2013	2014	
(23)	I bought five apples. I paid 600 yen because the price was cut by 50 yen. How much was an apple?	55	59	57	1. 110 yen (24%) 2. 120 yen (18%) 3. others (49%) 4. no answer (12%)

Intention of the Problem
 - Thinking back in the order by representing the problem situation into a diagram.
Expected Thinking

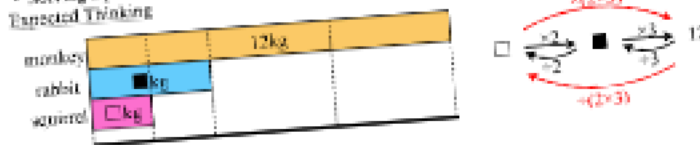


$600 - 50 = 550$ 120 yen
 $600 + 50 = 650$ 650 + 5 = 110 120 yen
 $600 - 50 = 550$ 110 yen
 $600 + 5 = 120$

Error Analysis
 - $600 - 50 = 550$ (yen)
 - $600 + 5 = 120$

Prob. No.	Problem	Ave. of correct answer (%)			Errors (base is the whole correct)
		2012	2013	2014	
(24)	The monkey weighs 12 kg, and is three times the weight of the rabbit. The weight of the rabbit is twice the weight of the squirrel. How many kg does the squirrel weigh?	72	74	72	1. 72 kg (25%) 2. 4 kg (12%) 3. others (38%) 4. no answer (25%)

Intention of the Problem
 - Solving a problem by using operators with drawing diagrams.
Expected Thinking



$12 + 3 = 4$, $4 + 2 = 2$ 2 kg
 $12 \div (2 \times 3) = 2$ 2 kg

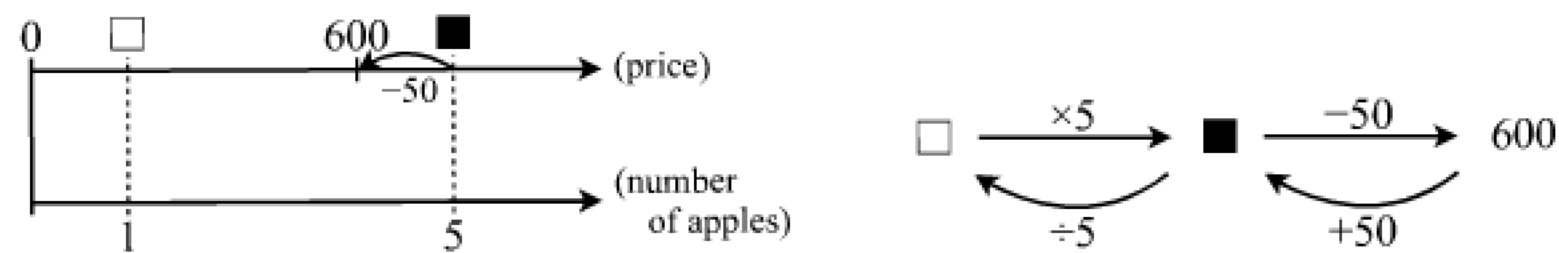
Error Analysis
 - Some students can't represent the problem situation into a diagram or a figure, and consequently they do incorrect calculation variously with using the numerical values of the problem sentence: $12 \times 3 \times 2 = 72$, $12 + 3 = 4$, $12 - 3 - 2 = 7$.

Prob. No.	Problem	Ave. of correct answer (%)			Errors (Rate to the whole errors)
		2012	2013	2014	
(23)	I bought five apples. I paid 600 yen because the price was cut by 50 yen. How much was an apple?	58	59	57	1. 110 yen (24%) 2. 120 yen (15%) 3. others (49%) 4. no answer (12%)

Intention of the Problem

- Thinking back to the order by representing the problem situation into a diagram.

Expected Thinking



- $(600 + 50) \div 5 = 130$ 130 yen
- $600 + 50 = 650$, $650 \div 5 = 130$ 130 yen

Error Analysis

- $(600 - 50) \div 5 = 110$ (yen)
- $600 \div 5 = 120$

Prob. No.	Problem
(24)	The monkey weight is three times the rabbit. The weight is twice the squirrel. How many kilograms weigh?

Intention of the Problem

- Solving a problem by representing the problem situation into a diagram.

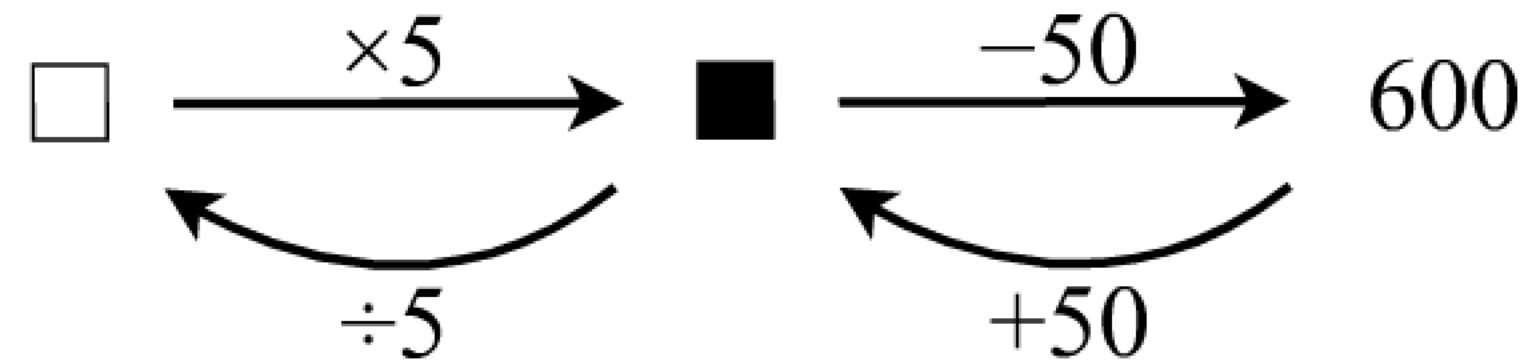
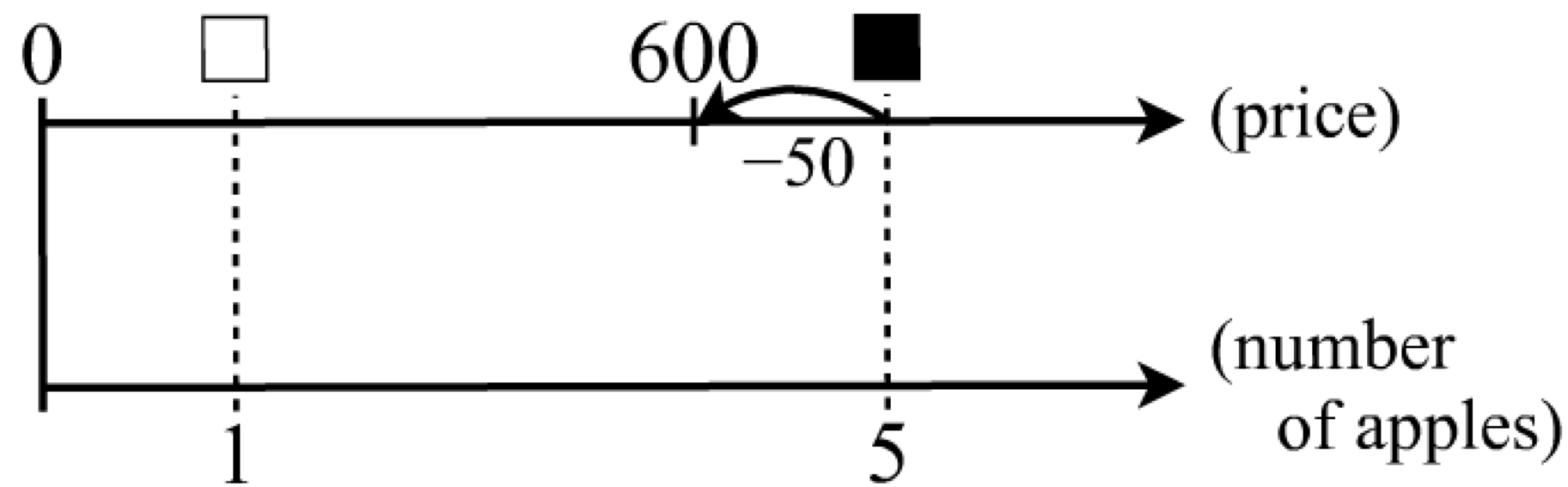


- $12 \div 3 = 4$
- $12 \div 4 = 3$

Intention of the Problem

- Thinking back to the order by representing the problem situation into a diagram.

Expected Thinking



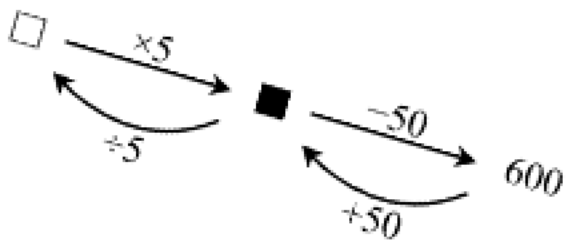
- $(600 + 50) \div 5 = 130$ 130 yen
- $600 + 50 = 650$, $650 \div 5 = 130$ 130 yen

Error Analysis

- $(600 - 50) \div 5 = 110$ (yen)
- $600 \div 5 = 120$

- 57
2. 120 yen (24%)
 3. others (15%)
 4. no answer (49%)
 - (12%)

problem situation into a diagram.

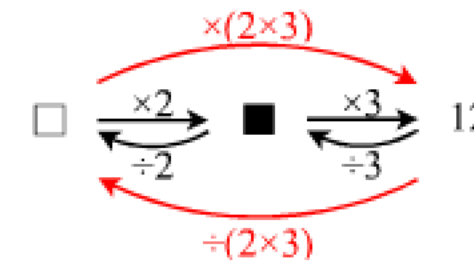
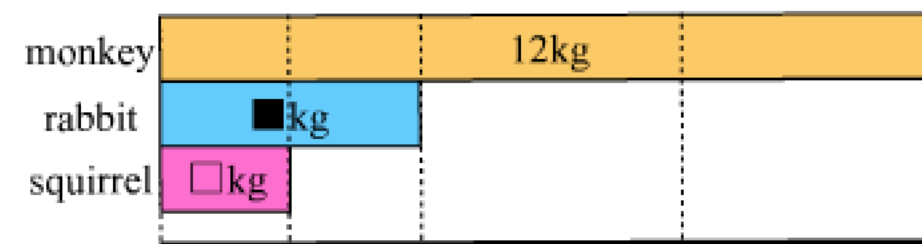


Prob. No.	Problem	Ave. of correct answer (%)			Errors (Rate to the whole errors)
		2012	2013	2014	
(24)	The monkey weighs 12 kg, and is three times the weight of the rabbit. The weight of the rabbit is twice the weight of the squirrel. How many kg does the squirrel weigh?	72	74	72	1. 72 kg (25%) 2. 4 kg (12%) 3. others (38%) 4. no answer (25%)

Intention of the Problem

- Solving a problem by using operators with drawing diagrams.

Expected Thinking



- $12 \div 3 = 4, 4 \div 2 = 2$ 2 kg
- $12 \div (2 \times 3) = 2$ 2 kg

Error Analysis

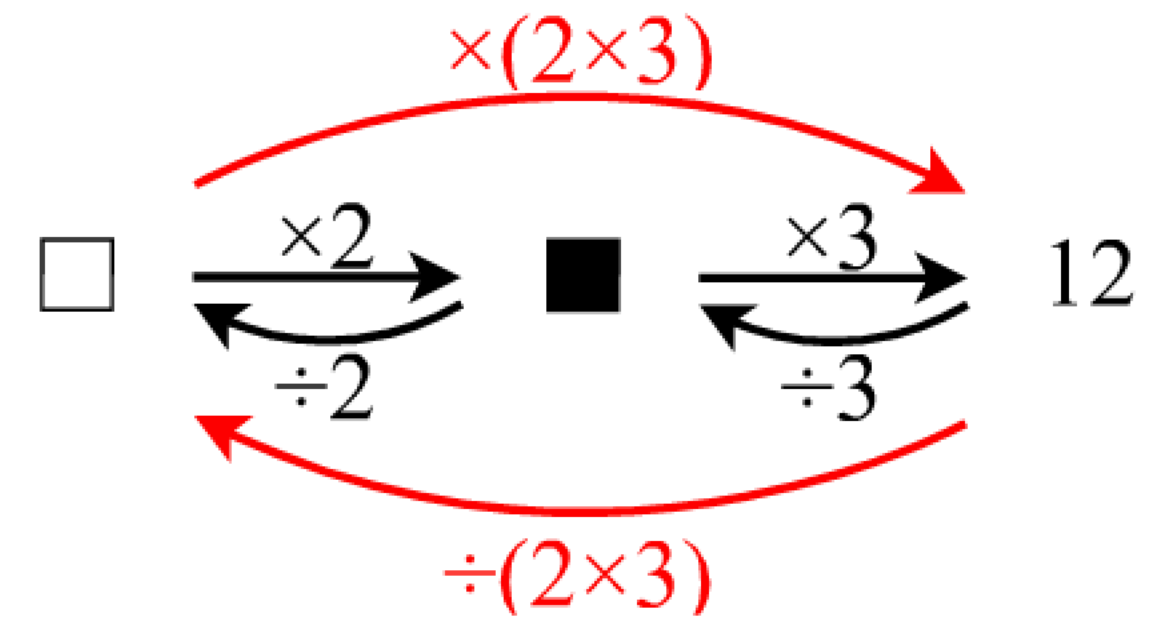
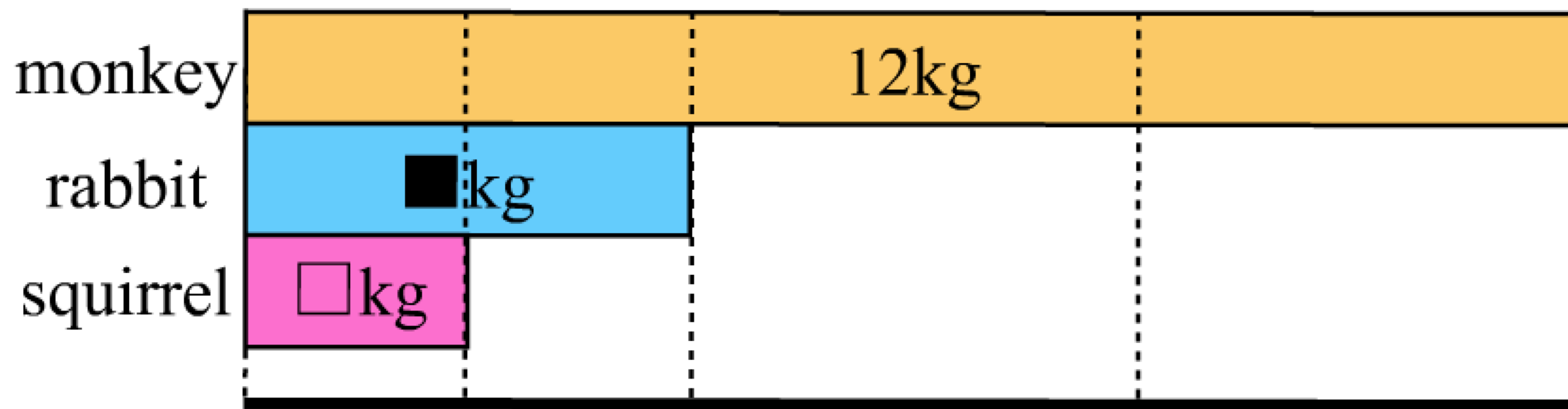
- Some students can't represent the problem situation into a diagram or a figure, and consequently they do incorrect calculation variously with using the numerical values of the problem sentence: $12 \times 3 \times 2 = 72, 12 \div 3 = 4, 12 - 3 - 2 = 7$.

weigh?

Intention of the Problem

- Solving a problem by using operators with drawing diagrams.

Expected Thinking



- $12 \div 3 = 4$, $4 \div 2 = 2$ 2 kg
- $12 \div (2 \times 3) = 2$ 2 kg

Error Analysis

- Some students can't represent the problem situation into a diagram or a figure, and consequently they do incorrect calculation variously with using the numerical values of the problem sentence: $12 \times 3 \times 2 = 72$, $12 \div 3 = 4$, $12 - 3 - 2 = 7$.

Problems of 5th Grade

Prob. No.	Problem	Ave. of correct answer (%)			Errors (Rate in the whole correct)
		2012	2013	2014	
(14)	There is a pentagon-like garden. Find the area of the whole flower beds.	55	58	54	1. 38 m ² (37%) 2. 32 m ² (11%) 3. 40 m ² (3%) 4. others (11%) 5. no answer (18%)



Intention of the Problem
 • Finding a way of obtaining the area of flower beds by using quadrates inside of a pentagon and a temporary, and supplementary considerations.

Expected Thinking
 • Intending the area of passage part from the area of the whole garden:
 $(9+1) \times 4 \div 2 = 20$ m²,
 $(2+1) \times 4 \div 2 = 6$ m²,
 $(2+6) \times 4 \div 2 = 16$ m²,
 $(2+1) \times 4 \div 2 = 6$ m²,
 $(1+5) \times 4 \div 2 = 10$ m².

Error Analysis:
 • Some students calculate the area by using the "symmetry" of a pentagon as the "height": $(5+2) \times 5 = 35$.
 • Some students don't remove the area of passage part: $(9+1) \times 4 = 40$, $10 \times 2 = 20$.
 • Some students consider that there are two same trapezoids: $(2+6) \times 4 \div 2 = 16$, $16 \times 2 = 32$.
 • Some students calculate the area both by using the "symmetry" of a pentagon as the "height" and by considering that there are two same trapezoids: $(9+1) \times 5 = 40$.

Prob. No.	Problem	Ave. of correct answer (%)			Errors (Rate in the whole correct)
		2012	2013	2014	
(16)	Taro has taken five examinations. The average of exam up to fourth was 88. The fifth score was 98. Find the average of all five exam.	40	42	47	1. 93 (34%) 2. 37.2 (6%) 3. 138 (6%) 4. others (33%) 5. no answer (21%)

Intention of the Problem
 • Finding overall average by using the temporary average.

Expected Thinking
 • Finding overall average by calculating the total from temporary average to the fourth and adding the fifth score:
 $88 \times 4 = 352$, $352 + 98 = 450$, $450 \div 5 = 90$; or $(88 \times 4 + 98) \div 5 = 90$.

• Finding overall average by dividing the difference between the temporary average to the fourth and the fifth score into five equal parts:
 $98 - 88 = 10$, $10 \div 5 = 2$, $88 + 2 = 90$; or $(98 - 88) \div 5 = 2$, $88 + 2 = 90$.

Error Analysis
 • $(88 + 98) \div 2 = 93$.
 • $(88 + 98) \div 5 = 37.2$.
 • $(88 + 98) \div 5 = 37.2$.
 • Some students consider the total of five times to be five times of 98 (average):
 $88 \times 4 = 352$, $98 \times 5 = 490$, $490 - 352 = 138$.

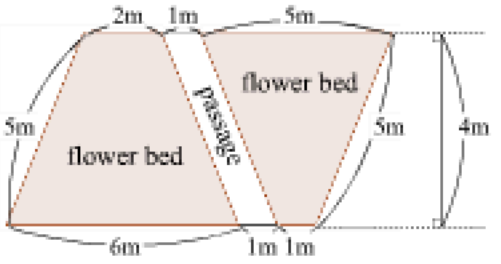
Prob. No.	Problem	Ave. of correct answer (%)			Errors (Rate in the whole correct)
		2012	2013	2014	
(15)	A figure as showed with five straight lines is called a pentagon. How many degrees is the sum of interior angles of the following pentagon ABCDE?	40	47	40	1. 100 (100%) 2. 170 (17%) 3. 50 (5%) 4. others (27%) 5. no answer (11%)



Intention of the Problem
 • Finding the sum of a polygon's interior angles based on "the sum of a straight line".

Expected Thinking
 • $180 \times 5 = 900$
 $900 - 180 = 720$
 $180 \times 4 = 720$

Error Analysis
 • Some students calculate the sum of interior angles of the polygon: $180 \times 5 = 900$, $900 - 180 = 720$.
 • $180 \times 5 = 900$.
 • $180 \times 5 = 900$, $900 - 180 = 720$.

Prob. No.	Problem	Ave. of correct answer (%)			Errors (Rate to the whole errors)
		2012	2013	2014	
(14)	There is a parallelogram-like garden. Find the area of the whole flower beds.				1. 35 m ² (37%) 2. 32 m ² (11%) 3. 40 m ² (3%) 4. others (31%) 5. no answer (18%)
		55	58	54	

Intention of the Problem

- Finding a way of obtaining the area of flower beds by using quadrature formulas of a parallelogram and a trapezoid, and equivalency transformation.

Expected Thinking

- Subtracting the area of passage part from the area of the whole garden:
 $(6+1+1) \times 4 - 1 \times 4 = 28 \quad 28 \text{ m}^2$,
 $(2+1+5) \times 4 - 1 \times 4 = 28 \quad 28 \text{ m}^2$.
- Considering flower bed parts to be two trapezoids: $(2+6) \times 4 \div 2 + (5+1) \times 4 \div 2 = 28 \text{ (m}^2\text{)}$.
- Finding the area as a parallelogram by moving a part of the flower bed:
 $(6+1) \times 4 = 28 \text{ (m}^2\text{)}$, $(2+5) \times 4 = 28 \text{ (m}^2\text{)}$.

Error Analysis

- Some students calculate the area by using the "hypotenuse" of a parallelogram as the "height": $(5+2) \times 5 = 35$.
- Some students don't remove the area of passage part: $(6+1+1) \times 4 = 32$.
- Some students consider that there are two same trapezoids: $(2+6) \times 4 \div 2 = 16$, $16 \times 2 = 32$.
- Some students calculate the area both by using the "hypotenuse" of a parallelogram as the "height" and by considering that there are two same trapezoids: $(6+1+1) \times 5 = 40$.

Prob. No. (16)

Intention of the Problem

- Finding overall average
 - Finding overall average by adding the fifth number
 - Finding overall average by adding the fourth and the fifth number
- 88 × 4 = 352
 98 - 88 = 10
 352 + 10 = 362
 362 ÷ 5 = 72.4
- #### Error Analysis
- $(88+98) \div 2 = 93$.
 - $(88+98) \div 5 = 37.2$
 - Some students consider...

Errors
(Rate to the whole errors)

1. 35 m² (37%)
2. 32 m² (11%)
3. 40 m² (3%)
4. others (31%)
5. no answer (18%)

quadrature formulas of a

Prob. No.	Problem	Ave. of correct answer (%)			Errors (Rate to the whole errors)
		2012	2013	2014	
(16)	Taro has taken five examinations. The average of exam up to fourth was 88. The fifth score was 98. Find the average of all five exam.	40	42	47	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 93 (34%) 2. 37.2 (6%) 3. 138 (6%) 4. others (33%) 5. no answer (21%)

Intention of the Problem

- Finding overall average by using the temporary average.

Expected Thinking

- Finding overall average by calculating the total from temporary average to the fourth and

the fifth score:
 $88 \times 4 = 352$, $352 + 98 = 450$, $450 \div 5 = 90$; or $(88 \times 4 + 98) \div 5 = 90$.

overall average by dividing the difference between the temporary average to the fifth score into five equal parts:

$98 - 88 = 10$, $10 \div 5 = 2$, $88 + 2 = 90$; or $(98 - 88) \div 5 = 2$, $88 + 2 = 90$.

is
 $88 - 2 = 93$.

$88 - 5 = 37.2$

Some students consider the total of five times to be five times of 98 (average):
 $88 \times 4 = 352$, $98 \times 5 = 490$, $490 - 352 = 138$.

garden:
 $(4 + 2 + (5 + 1)) \times 4 + 2 = 28$ (m²).
 flower bed:
 28 (m²).
 "hypotenuse" of a parallelogram as the
 $(6 + 1 + 1) \times 4 = 32$.
 trapezoids: $(2 + 6) \times 4 + 2 = 16$, $16 \times 2 = 32$.
 "hypotenuse" of a parallelogram as the
 trapezoids: $(6 + 1 + 1) \times 5 = 40$.

adding the

- Finding overall average by using the temporary average.
- Finding overall average by calculating the total from temporary average to the fourth and

Error Analysis

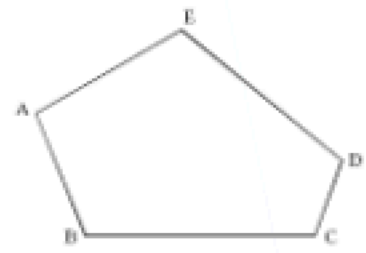
- $(88 + 98) \div 5 = 90$
- $(88 + 98) \div 5 = 90$
- Some students

Errors
(Rate to the whole errors)

1. 900° (18%)
2. 720° (7%)
3. 520° (7%)
4. others (27%)
5. no answer (41%)

Prob. No.	Problem	Ave. of correct answer (%)		
		2012	2013	2014
	square surrounded with five			
	called a			

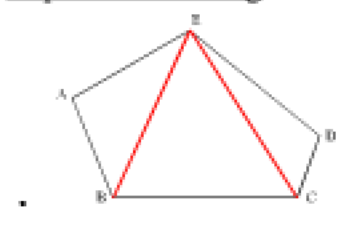
... consider the total
 $88 \times 4 = 352$

Prob. No.	Problem	Ave. of correct answer (%)			Errors (Rate to the whole errors)
		2012	2013	2014	
(21)	<p>A figure surrounded with five straight lines is called a pentagon.</p> <p>How many degrees is the sum of interior angles of the following pentagon ABCDE?</p> 	62	67	67	1. 900° (18%) 2. 720° (7%) 3. 520° (7%) 4. others (27%) 5. no answer (41%)

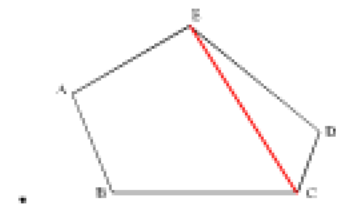
Intention of the Problem

- Finding the sum of a polygonal interior angles based on "the sum of a triangle's interior angles is 180° ."

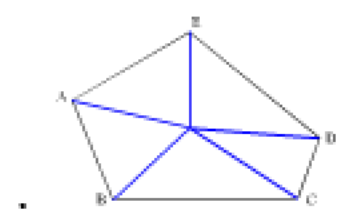
Expected Thinking



$180 \times 3 = 540$



$360 + 180 = 540$



$180 \times 5 - 360 = 540$

- Sum of interior angles of the n-gon is $180 \times (n - 2)$ in general.
 So, if $n = 5$, $180 \times (5 - 2) = 540$.

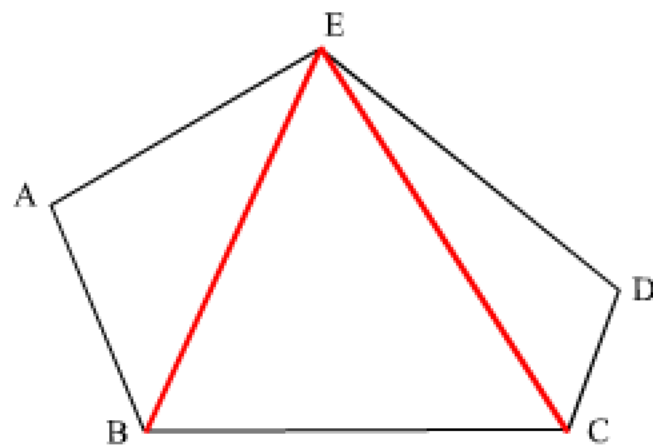
Error Analysis

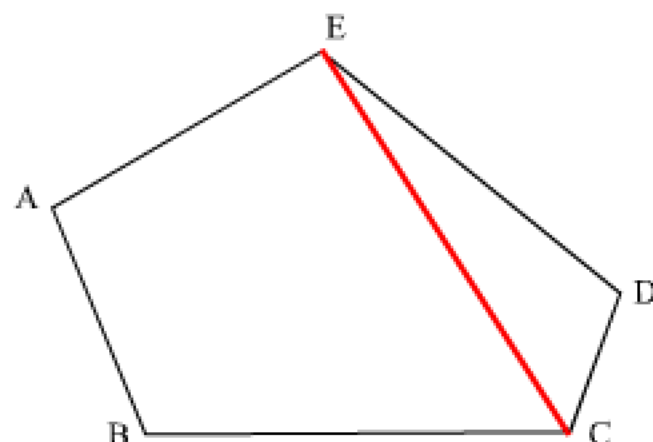
- $180 \times 5 = 900$.
- $180 + 540 = 720$, or $180 + 540 = 520$ (miscalculation).

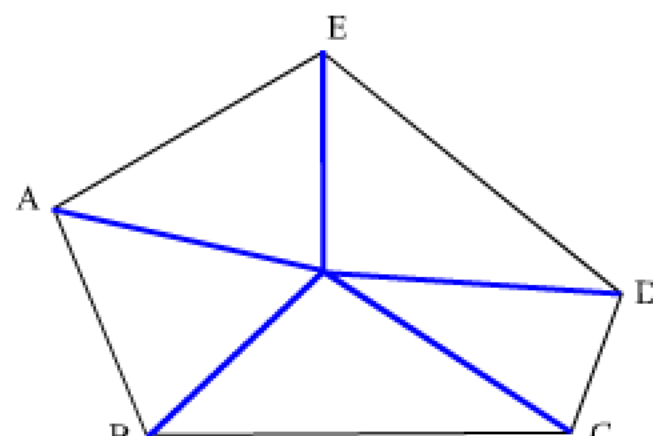
Intention of the Problem

- Finding the sum of a polygonal interior angles based on “the sum of a triangle's interior angles is 180° .”

Expected Thinking

-  $180 \times 3 = 540$

-  $360 + 180 = 540$

-  $180 \times 5 - 360 = 540$

- Sum of interior angles of the n-gon is $180 \times (n - 2)$ in general.
So, if $n = 5$, $180 \times (5 - 2) = 540$.

Error Analysis

- $180 \times 5 = 900$.
- $180 + 540 = 720$, or $180 + 540 = 520$ (miscalculation).

Problem of 6th Grade

Prob. No.	Problem	Ave. of correct answer (%)			Errors (Rate to the whole errors)
		2012	2013	2014	
(20)	T-shirt of 1200 yen has become to 960 yen at the bargain sale. What percent discounts?	40	45	44	1. 80 % (50%) 2. 1.25% (9%) 3. 125% (7%) 4. 5% (5%) 5. others (28%) 6. no answer (18%)

Intention of the Problem

- Understanding the proportion.

Expected Thinking

- $1280 - 960 = 240$, $240 \div 1200 = 0.2$, $0.2 \times 100 = \underline{20}$ (%) .
- $960 \div 1200 = 0.8$, $1 - 0.8 = 0.2$, $0.2 \times 100 = \underline{20}$ (%) .

Error Analysis

- $960 \div 1200 = 0.8$, $0.8 \times 100 = 80$.
- $1200 \div 960 = 1.25$; $1.25 \times 100 = 125$.
- $1200 - 960 = 240$, $1200 \div 240 = 5$.

Grade

Prob. No.	Ave. of correct answer (%)			Errors (Rate to the whole errors)
	2012	2013	2014	
40	42	47	47	1. 90 (40%) 2. 37.2 (9%) 3. 138 (9%) 4. others (28%) 5. no answer (18%)

temperature average in the fourth and
 $(100 \times 4 + 90) \div 5 = 90$.
 in the temperature average in the
 $= 2$, $10 \times 2 = 20$.

- The efforts of preparing, implementing, and analyzing the regional assessment test by teachers groups contribute to their professional development, especially in terms of mathematical content knowledge study “kyozai-kenkyu.”
 - Furthermore, such a test is also effective for improvement of teaching in the classroom.
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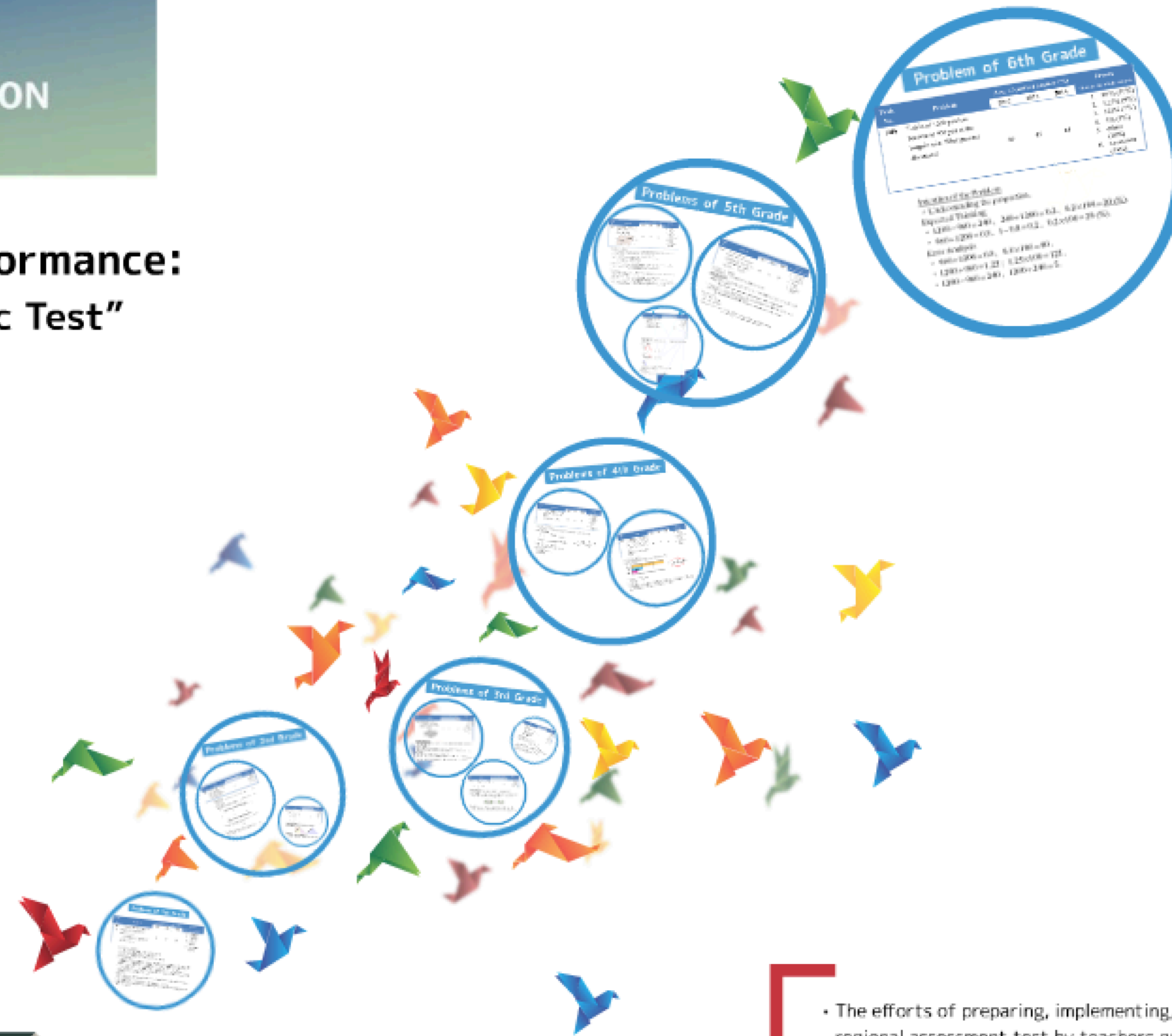
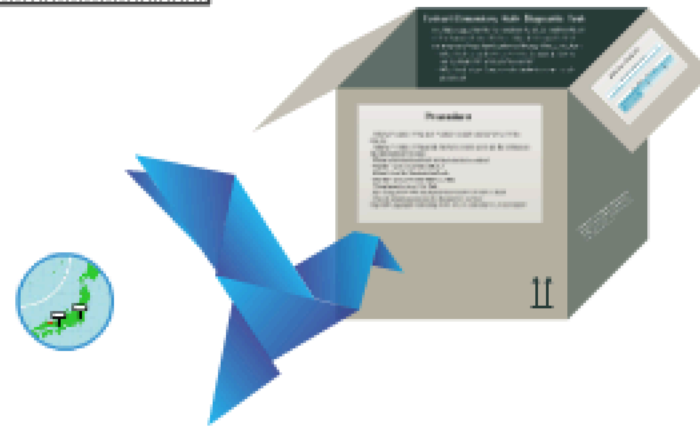
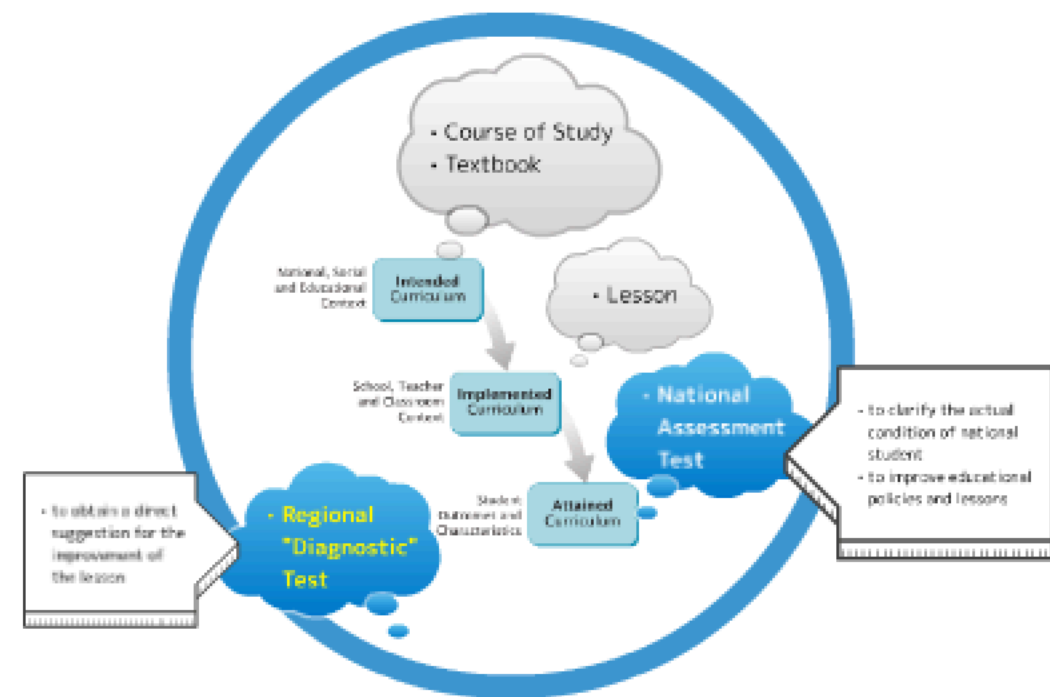
- The teachers groups have difficulty for "the development of new problems."
- If an international database of math problems is developed, it is hoped that it helps the solution to such difficulties.



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Japanese Elementary School Students Math Performance: A Case of Tottori Prefecture regional “Math Diagnostic Test”

Tatsuya Mizoguchi Tottori University, Japan
 Yusuke Shinno Osaka Kyoiku University, Japan



- The efforts of preparing, implementing, and analyzing the regional assessment test by teachers groups contribute to their professional development, especially in terms of mathematical content knowledge study “kyozai-kenkyu.”
 - Furthermore, such a test is also effective for improvement of teaching in the classroom.
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- The teachers groups have difficulty for “the development of new problems.”
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