UNISON Member Learning Workshop

Fun with numbers taster session (1 – 1.5 hours)

Please pass workshop and attendees’ details to your regional AMT administrator so they can be recorded under AMT Code 261 / LLSL. You may also want to keep your own records and follow up with attendees after the workshop.

What are the aims of this taster workshop?

This short workshop can be used informally with members or potential members as a taster session to member development training.

- To explore ways that numbers can be fun
- To have a go at quizzes and puzzles involving numbers
- To develop confidence in use of numbers and numeracy
**Who is it aimed at?**
Any groups of members or potential members. It can be used as part of a workplace meeting or as a separate taster session. It was written to deliver during Learning at Work Week to promote UNISON and learning.

**Who can run it?**
Ideally a ULR, branch officer, workplace rep or organiser who has completed discussion leaders or lay tutor training.

**What resources do you need?**
- Flip chart paper and pens
- Calculator (for adding up scores)
- Celebrity birth dates quiz
- Soduko and Fork in the road handout
- Computer/laptop and projector screen (plus tablets if available) for Who wants to be a mathonaire? (link [http://www.counton.org/games/mathonaire/](http://www.counton.org/games/mathonaire/))
- Optional mini prizes for activity/overall winners

**Note to tutors**
All timings in this workshop are approximate. You can adapt activities according to the time you have available and the number of participants in the group.

With large groups you may want to limit the number of questions asked so there is more time for feedback and discussion.

1. **Welcome and introduction (5 mins)**
UNISON is putting on this free workshop as part of Learning at Work Week. The workshop aims to be interesting and supportive so no-one should feel put on the spot, in any way lacking, or made to participate in a way they don't want to.

UNISON, through our network of ULRs, runs training for members such as mindfulness, building confidence, coping with change, yoga, skills for life, CPD, plus training and development for our activists.

This is a taster session – if you like it, join UNISON and access more!
2. **Fun with numbers? (10-15 mins)**

Ask participants to work in small groups of 3-5 people and come up with as many sports or games they can think of in three minutes that involve maths.

*The list could be huge as all sports and games involve scoring but answers may include: snooker (angles, addition and subtraction); darts (multiplication, angles, subtraction); football (angles, distance, force and impact) poker; Sudoku; cricket; rugby; skiing; dominoes; tennis; basketball ....*

After three minutes, ask groups for examples. Groups should then count how many sports and games they listed. Highlight that numbers (and maths) can be fun!

3. **Celebrity birthdays quiz (15-25 mins)**

Ask participants to work in the same groups and think up a team name. Handout the Celebrity Birth Quiz sheets. Depending on time available, give groups about 5-10 minutes to complete the quiz. If time is short you could limit the number of questions. Ask groups to feedback answers (names and ages). Ask groups to add up their score.

If you have time, discuss the methods people used to work out ages from the dates.

4. **Who wants to be a mathonaire? (20-30 mins)**

Open ‘Who wants to be a mathonaire?’ on a projector screen from a computer/laptop [http://www.counton.org/games/mathonaire/](http://www.counton.org/games/mathonaire/)

Ask the whole group which level they want to try (possibly good to start with level 1) and go through a few questions all together so people can see how it works.

Then ask each team to try out the game. This can be done with a tablet per group (if available) or from the projector screen, with the other teams watching. Teams should select a level. Their final score is the number of points achieved multiplied by the level.

If you want to increase the competitive element of the taster workshop, ask each team to add up the scores from their ‘sports and games’ list; ‘celebrity birth’ quiz; and ‘Who wants to be a mathonaire?’ game. (PRIZES OPTIONAL)

5. **Sudoku / Fork in the road (5-10 minutes)**

Ask if people have tried brain games such as Sudoku. Handout the Sudoku / Fork in the Road sheet and ask participants to have a go – individually or in pairs. If there’s time, feedback on how people got on and strategies used to complete the puzzles.

(The Fork in the road answer is 30)

6. **Round up and close (5 mins)**

Ask participants if they have found any of the activities in the workshop fun. Hopefully they will have! Thank everyone for participating and reiterate that this is a taster and as a UNISON member they can access more training courses and workshops.
Celebrity Birth Quiz

Team Name: ___________________

Use the date of birth to work out the age of the celebrity as of today. Gain an extra point for knowing the name!

Name: ________________
Date of birth: May 1\textsuperscript{st} 1946
Age: _____

Name: ________________
Date of birth: 27/03/73
Age: _____

Name: ________________
Date of birth: 4\textsuperscript{th} September 1981
Age: _____

Name: ________________
Date of birth: 28.12.34
Age: _____
Name: ____________________
Date of birth: 2/3/1980
Age: _____

Name: ____________________
Date of birth: 7/11/78
Age: _____

Name: ____________________
Date of birth: 26th September 1981
Age: _____

Name: ____________________
Date of birth: February 7, 1962
Age: _____
Sudoku

The aim is to fill each 9x9 grid so every column, row and 3x3 section contain the numbers 1 – 9.

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  8  5  |   |   |  1  
  9    |  4 |  8  
  6    |  2 |  8 |  7  
  2    |   |  9 |  3 |  6  
  4    |  7 |  5 |  8 |  1  
  5    |  1 |  8 |  7  
  2    |  6 |  9 |  8  
  8    |  4 |  9 |  2  
  5    |   |  1 |  3  
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The fork in the road

Start at the centre number and collect another four numbers by following the paths shown (and not going backwards).

Add the five numbers together. What is the lowest number you can score?
Answers

Celebrity birth quiz – names (ages depend when the quiz takes place)

Page 1  Joanna Lumley       Ade Adepitan
         Beyoncé Knowles       Maggie Smith

Page 2  Rebel Wilson        Rio Ferdinand
         Serena Williams      Eddie Izzard

Sudoku

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The Fork in the road

30 (7+6+7+6+4)