1995 OM CHARTERED ASSOCIATION COMPETITION

Spontaneous Problem: Getting Heavy

A.  When the team members enter the room, tell them, "This is a verbal problem. You have one minute to select the five team members who will compete. The others may leave or stay to watch but may not assist and must sit in these seats (indicate seats)."

B.  JUDGE READS TO TEAMS: (Do not read material in parentheses.)

(1)  You will have 1 minute to think and 2 minutes to respond. You may ask questions, but time will continue.

(2)  You will receive 1 point for each common response and 3 points for each humorous or creative response. This will be a subjective opinion of the judges, and the judges' decision is final.

(3)  Your team is to take turns in sequence. You may not skip your turn or repeat a response. If a member of the team is stuck, the team is stuck.

(4)  Once the time begins, it will not be stopped. Speak loudly and clearly.

(5)  Your team's problem is to say something that is heavier than the previous response. You will begin with a brick. The first person must name something heavier than a brick. The next person will then say something heavier than the previous response, and so on.

(6)  Each response must be something that has weight. For example, you could say, "A book" because it has weight, but you could not say, "Summer."

(7)  If you can't think of something heavier, you may use your turn to begin a new series of responses. You must say, "New start" and then give a response. You will not receive score for any response that begins a new series.

(8)  I repeat, your problem is to say something that is heavier than the previous response.
C. FOR JUDGES ONLY:

1. Judges should discuss and practice solving the problem before the first team competes. You may make decisions that are uniform to each team.

2. In B.7 the word *series* does not mean one response per team member. For lack of a more appropriate word, it means a new sequence of responses that may continue until time ends, or a team member is stuck and starts another series.

3. Place the team's copy of the problem in view of the team members while you read the problem. They may use it as a reference during the competition.

4. Be sure to give exactly 2 minutes for team members to respond. Timing is critical. Students responding at the buzzer can finish and be scored.

5. Score: 1 point for each common response, 3 points for each creative response, and 0 points for each response that starts a new series.

6. For judgments on weight, give the team the benefit of the doubt. Assume common items have consistent weights. If someone says, "A woman" and the next response is "A man," this is acceptable because men are generally heavier than women.

7. Examples of Common Responses:

   Performing math on items (allow two and then say that it is a duplicate): one brick, two bricks; one brick, ten bricks; a 100-lb. man, a 101-lb. man, a 102-lb. man, etc.

   Assigning weight to items (allow two and then say that it is a duplicate): a 2-pound weight, a 5-pound weight.

   Commonly recognized sequence of size: a cat, a dog, a cow, a horse, etc.: a tennis ball, a baseball, a football, a bowling ball, etc.

   Commonly attached attributes: a dog, a fat dog.

8. Examples of Creative Responses:

   Placing a qualifier on an object: a mouse, a mouse after a buffet; air, colder air.

   Giving an easy option for the next response: an elephant on the moon, an elephant; a hair, a dry feather (a wet feather would then be easy).

   Natural additions that slightly increase weight: a book, a book with a bookmark inside; a baseball, a baseball with an autograph on it.

   Changing parameters: Things on the sun or on Jupiter are heavier; Wet things are heavier than dry things, etc.
I repeat, your problem is to say something that is heavier than the previous response.

Any response that begins a new series, you must say, "New start." Then give a response. You will not receive score for responses. You must say, "New start," and then give a response. You may use your turn to begin a new series of responses. You can't think of something heavier, you may use your turn to begin a new series of responses.

If you can't think of something heavier, you could say, "A book.

Because it has weight, but you could not say, "Summer.

Each response must be something that has weight. For example, you could say, "A book.

Your team's problem is to say something that is heavier than the previous response, and so on.

Once the time begins, it will not be stopped. Speak loudly and clearly.

Member of the team is stuck, the team is stuck.

Your team's decision is final. This will be a subjective opinion of the judges, and the judges' decision is final.

You will receive 1 point for each common response and 3 points for each humorous or creative response. You will receive 1 point for each common response and 3 points for each humorous or creative response.

You will have 1 minute to think, and 2 minutes to respond. You may ask questions, but time will continue.
ODYSSEY OF THE MIND  REGIONAL COMPETITION
VERBAL SPONTANEOUS SCORESHEET

GETTING HEAVY

Long-Term Problem ___________________________________ Division __________

INDIVIDUAL JUDGE’S SCORESHEET

Membership Name __________________________ Membership Number __________
City, State/Prov. ______________________________________________________
Judge ______________________________________________________________

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Total Common Responses _________ Total Creative Responses _________

A. Total Common Responses _________ x 1 = ____________

B. Total Creative Responses _________ x ____________ = ____________

C. Total Score (Add A + B) _________________________________