MatheMagic

Winter 2019

MAT187 Calculus 2

The volunteer selects any 5 cards from the whole deck.

Example.





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Which suit does the assistant pick for the hidden card?

What was your reasoning? Can you always pick a suit using that reasoning, independently of which 5 cards are chosen by the volunteer?

Pigeonhole Principle

If we have p pigeons and h holes with p > h, then there is (at least) one hole with (at least) two pigeons.

Can you use the Pigeonhole Principle to show that there is always (at least) one suit that will work?









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- The key card is an Ace (1) and the hidden card is a 3. How can the assistant use the other three cards to tell the magician that the hidden card is 2 numbers higher than the key card?

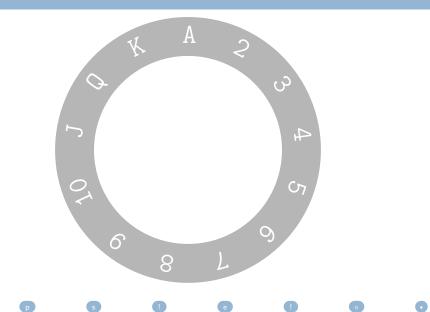


- 8 Order the remaining three cards: Low, Middle, High.
- Incode the numbers 1–6 using different combinations.
- How would the assistant order the cards to show the magician?



Now the hidden card (9) is 8 numbers away from the key card (1).

B How would the assistant order the cards to show the magician?





- What is the hidden card?
- What is the key card?
- In what order does the assistant show the four cards to the magician?