



Problem of the Week

Problem B and Solution

Happy Birthd'eh, Canada



Problem

In July of 2017, Canada turned 150 years old, and is looking pretty good for its age. Even though Canadians think Canada is old, it is actually quite young. How old do you think the oldest civilization is? Let's do some age comparisons with countries older than Canada. Round your final answers to one decimal.

- How many times older than Canada is the United States of America? Spain?
- How many times older than Canada is China? ancient India?
- Find other countries which are older than Canada, and figure out how many times older they are than Canada.

Solution

The answers to parts a), b), c) are given in the table below; **dates may vary**. After the date you will find either CE or BCE. The Common Era, CE, started in the year 0. BCE is the number of years before year 0.

Country	Date	Age (yrs.)	Older by (Age \div 150)
U.S.A.	1776 CE	241	≈ 1.6 x
Spain	1492 CE	525	≈ 3.5 x
China	1500 BCE	3517	≈ 23.4 x
India	3300 BCE	5317	≈ 35.4 x
Argentina	1853 CE	164	≈ 1.1 x
Bolivia	1809 CE	208	≈ 1.4 x
Morocco	1666 CE	351	≈ 2.3 x
Russia	1480 CE	537	≈ 3.6 x
Ethiopia	980 BCE	2997	≈ 20.0 x

Students may have found other countries for part c) than the five shown here.

