

Mathematics 1101Y – Calculus I: functions and calculus of one variable

TRENT UNIVERSITY, 2010–2011

Assignment #2π

Equation Limericks

Due on Friday, 14 January, 2011.

A limerick is a poem with five lines. The first, second, and fifth lines should have nine syllables each and rhyme with each other, and the third and fourth should have six syllables each and rhyme with each other. It is common to mangle spelling, pronunciation, and grammar when composing limericks in English. A well-known example of a limerick, relating to physics, is the following:

There was a young lady named Bright,
Who traveled much faster than light.
She started one day
In the relative way,
And returned on the previous night.

By Hellen Barton Tuttle, or A.H. Reginald Buller, F.R.S., or Anonymous . . .

An obscure subtype of the limerick is the equation limerick, which states an equation. Here are some examples:

$$(12 + 144 + 20 + 3 \cdot \sqrt{4}) / 7 + 5 \cdot 11 = 9^2$$

a dozen, a gross, plus a score
plus three times the square root of four
divided by seven
plus five times eleven
is nine squared (and not a bit more)

Posted to sci.math by Rajeev Krishnamoorthy in 1992.

$$\int_1^{3^{1/3}} t^2 dt \cdot \cos\left(\frac{3\pi}{9}\right) = \log(\sqrt[3]{e})$$

The integral tee squared dee tee
From one to the cube root of three
Times the cosine
Of three pi over nine
Is the log of the cube root of e.

Posted to sci.math by Gerald A. Edgar in 1992. (Slightly edited.)

$$\ln(e^4) (\sqrt{1024}) + 6(12) - 8(23) = 16$$

The lon of e to the four
Times the square root of ten twenty-four
Adding six dozen please
Minus eight twenty-three's
Is sixteen, case is closed, shut the door.

This is one of the winning entries from the 2002-2003 edition of MATH 110 (now MATH 1100Y), by Chris Cole.

1. Write an *original* equation limerick. The equation must be correct! [10]

The most interesting entries may be posted to the MATH 1101Y web pages, unless their authors indicate they'd rather not have them so displayed.