

Math Diversion 726

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We won't be bullied into an
answer we don't like.
— John Baez

The problem is found at:

Source: <https://www.basic-mathematics.com/hard-word-problems-in-algebra.html>
Title: 100 hard word problems in algebra: #57
Presenter: Patrick

1 Problem

The amount of water a dripping faucet wastes water varies directly with the amount of time the faucet drips. If the faucet drips 2 cups of water every 6 minutes, find out how long it will take the faucet to drip 10.6465 liters of water.

2 Solution

My plan is to just start somewhere comfortable. So,

$$Q[\text{cups}] = \frac{2[\text{cups}]}{6[\text{min}]} \cdot T[\text{min}]. \quad (1)$$

Obviously, I think it's a great idea to include the units, especially since they be a'changing soon.

At some point we're going to have to convert liters to cups or vice versa.

$$Q[\text{cups}] = Q[\text{L}] \frac{c[\text{cups}]}{\ell[\text{L}]} = Q[\text{L}] \frac{4.23[\text{cups}]}{1[\text{L}]} = (10.6465[\text{L}]) \frac{4.23[\text{cups}]}{1[\text{L}]} = 45.0347[\text{cups}]. \quad (2)$$

Solving (1) for T , we have that

$$T[\text{min}] = Q[\text{cups}] \frac{6[\text{min}]}{2[\text{cups}]} = 45.0347[\text{cups}] \frac{6[\text{min}]}{2[\text{cups}]} \approx 135[\text{min}]. \quad (3)$$

That's about two hours and 15 minutes.