

THE XXI INTERNATIONAL MATHEMATICAL OLYMPIAD
LONDON 1979

PROBLEMS PROPOSED BY ROMANIA

- R1 Consider the sequences $(a_n), (b_n)$ defined by $a_1=3, b_1=100$,
 $a_{n+1}=3^{a_n}, b_{n+1}=100^{b_n}$. Find the smallest integer m for which
 $b_m = a_{100}$.
- R2 Let a, b be mutually prime integers. Show that the equation
 $ax^2+by^2=z^3$ has an infinite set of solutions (x, y, z) with x, y, z
integers and x, y mutually prime (in each solution).
- R3 Show that, for every natural n , $n\sqrt{2} - [n\sqrt{2}] > \frac{1}{2n\sqrt{2}}$
and that for every $\varepsilon > 0$ there exists a natural n with
 $n\sqrt{2} - [n\sqrt{2}] < \frac{1}{2n\sqrt{2}} + \varepsilon$.
- R4 Let M be a set and A, B, C be given subsets of M . Find a necessary
and sufficient condition for the existence of a set $X \subset M$ for
which $(X \cup A) \setminus (X \cap B) = C$. Describe all these sets X .
- R5 Prove that there exists a natural number k_0 such that for every
natural $k > k_0$ we may find a finite number of lines in the plane,
not all parallel to one of them, which divide the plane exactly in
 k regions. Find k_0 .