

Teens

Story By: Andrew Frinkle

Jose was having trouble learning his numbers.

He knew from 1 to 10.

Those were easy: one, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine, and ten.

He knew them by heart.

He even knew most of his 20's.

They were almost the same: twenty-one, twenty-two, twenty-three...

They were just like 1 to 10, but with the word twenty in front.

That wasn't so bad.

The teens were giving him fits though!

Why were they so weird?

They didn't follow the pattern.

They had no rule!

Where did eleven come from?

Why wasn't it ten-one or tenty-one or something like that?

Even one-teen would have made sense, but no.

It was eleven.

Then there was twelve.

It was another strange name for a number.

It should have been two-teen or ten-two.

Twelve was strange.

At least the others made sense.

They were: thirteen, fourteen, fifteen, sixteen, seventeen, eighteen, and nineteen.

The only really strange thing about those ones was fifteen.

It really should have been five-teen, but at least it was close.

Jose was struggling with his numbers, but he'd get them!



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Use the information in the story to answer the questions below.

1. What is Jose learning?
 - A. colors
 - B. shapes
 - C. numbers
 - D. alphabet

2. YES OR NO: Does Jose know his numbers from 1 to 10?
 - A. Yes
 - B. No

3. What numbers does Jose have the most trouble with?
 - A. 20's
 - B. 30's
 - C. 0-10
 - D. 11-19

4. Which two numbers are hardest for Jose?
 - A. eleven and twelve
 - B. eleven and nineteen
 - C. twelve and thirteen
 - D. eleven and thirteen

5. YES OR NO: Is Jose going to give up before he learns his numbers?
 - A. Yes
 - B. No

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