The Fantastic Formula

- 1. Determine, by any convenient method, the value of each of the twenty-five variables below.
- 2. Substitute the value for each variable into the right-hand side of the equation and perform all indicated arithmetic operations. Use the correct order of operations!

$$Z = \frac{\sqrt{\frac{fs}{\left(\frac{j}{p+m}\right)} + (a-g)(r-l) + i \bullet o + w}}{t - \frac{y}{\left(\frac{n}{q}\right)} - \left(h - \frac{d-e}{f} + \frac{k-c}{u-v-x-x-t} - (x-b)^i\right)}$$

a = normal body temperature in Celsius

b =the length of a side of a cube whose volume is 125 cm³

c =the value of 1F (base sixteen) in base ten

d = the base ten value of 5736 in base eight

e = the number of piano keys

f =the senses + the Great Lakes

g = (books in a trilogy) x (points in the Star of David)

h = fourscore x starting members of a basketball team

i = degrees in a circle + degrees in a right angle

 $j = Snow White's dwarfs + ____ Days in May (book title)$

 $k = floor left out in most hotels x ____ seas$

l = alphabet's letters x dots in a colon

```
m = "A stitch in time saves _____"

n = freezing point of water (in Fahrenheit)

o = notes in an octave + known planets (including Pluto)

p = musketeers x baker's dozen

q = books of the Bible - golden anniversary

r = blackbirds baked in a pie + golf course holes + two decades

s = bits in a half dollar x days in a week

t = field goal - safety (in football)

u = human adult's teeth + lucky number + original colonies + Wilson's points

v = Gospels + the Commandments + The Disciples

w = the R's + legs of a bovine

x = wisdom teeth x each state's senators to the U.S. Congress

y = checkerboard squares - Presidents on Mount Rushmore
```

Answers:

a = 37

b = 5

c = 31

d = 3038

e = 88

f = 10

g = 18

h = 400

i = 4

j = 14

k = 91

1 = 52

m = 9

n = 32

o = 17

p = 39

q = 16

r = 62

s = 28

t = 1

u = 66

v = 26

w = 7

x = 8

y = 60

z = 7

The Fantastic Formula by David Pleacher *The V* 2 *CTM Reflection* October 1981