

Calculator ban 计算器禁令

Vocabulary: maths 词汇: 数学

The UK government has said that from 2014, it will **ban calculators** in **maths tests** for **primary school** children in England.

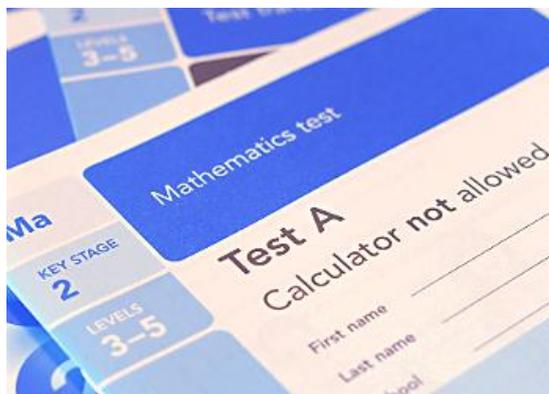
All 11-year-olds **sit** three maths tests. Pupils are allowed to use a calculator in the hardest of these. A sample question is: "Tickets for a school play cost £2.75 each. Dev sold 23 tickets. How much ticket money did Dev collect?"

Education and Childcare Minister Elizabeth Truss says children are **over-reliant on** calculators and that this means they don't have a good **grounding in mental arithmetic** or written arithmetic. She wants all children to be confident with other methods of **addition, subtraction, times tables** and **division** before they start using calculators in **secondary school**.

Research shows that 98% of pupils in England use calculators in primary school classes, compared with an international average of just 46%. At the same time, different research shows that children have become worse at maths in the past 30 years. Ms Truss believes that children are **dependent on** calculators and that's making the problem worse.

Some teaching experts argue there's **a plus side to** using calculators. They say that they are an important **tool** for maths, which children need to learn to use. Christine Blower of the National Union of Teachers, says the ban "will diminish the **skills set** for primary pupils" and cause problems when they need to use calculators in secondary school.

Russell Hobby of the National Association of Head Teachers, says the **advantage** of using calculators is that children can focus on the **maths problem** itself, rather than the individual **calculations** needed to **solve** it.



词汇表请参看答案与词汇部分

Quiz 测验

阅读短文并回答问题。

1. According to the article, who believes children are over-reliant on calculators?
2. Will calculators be banned in primary school or secondary school maths tests?
3. How many of the primary school maths tests allow calculators at the moment?
4. True or false? *More than twice as many English primary school children use calculators than in the rest of the world.*
5. In the article, who disagrees with the calculator ban?

Exercise 练习

请你在不参考课文的情况下完成下列练习。从每个表格中选择一个意思合适的单词填入句子的空格处。

1. In England, all 11-year-old children have to _____ three maths tests.

set	sat	sit	stand
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2. She asks for help all the time, I think she's over-reliant _____ it.

of	in	for	on
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3. Doing maths in your head, without writing it down, is called _____ arithmetic.

mental	written	calculator	addition
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4. Adding numbers together is called addition. Taking numbers away is called _____.

subtraction	times tables	division	plus
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5. No one else likes the idea, but I think there's a plus side _____.

for it	of it	on it	to it
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Answers and Glossary 答案与词汇

Quiz 小测验

1. According to the article, who believes children are over-reliant on calculators? Elizabeth Truss
2. Will calculators be banned in primary school or secondary school maths tests? In primary school tests.
3. How many of the primary school maths tests allow calculators at the moment? One
4. True or false? *More than twice as many English primary school children use calculators than in the rest of the world.* True.
5. In the article, who disagrees with the calculator ban? Christine Blower and Russell Hobby.

Exercise 练习

1. In England, all 11-year-old children have to sit three maths tests.
2. She asks for help all the time, I think she's over-reliant on it.
3. Doing maths in your head, without writing it down, is called mental arithmetic.
4. Adding numbers together is called addition. Taking numbers away is called subtraction.
5. No one else likes the idea, but I think there's a plus side to it.

Glossary 词汇表

ban	禁止
calculators	计算器
maths tests	数学测试
primary school	小学
sit	参加（考试）
over-reliant on	过于依赖（某物/某人）
grounding in	有基础
mental arithmetic	心算
addition	加法
subtraction	减法
times tables	乘法表
division	除法
secondary school.	中学
dependent on	依赖
a plus side to	好的一面
tool	工具
skills set	一套技能
advantage	优势
maths problem	数学问题
calculations	计算