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Aleut Numbers

In *Island of the Blue Dolphins*, Russian hunters reach the island in their red-sailed ships for the purpose of hunting the abundant sea otter. These people are continually referred to in the book as Aleuts. The Aleut people are related to the Eskimo people both racially and through their language. They live along the south and west coasts of Alaska. Aleut means “brother of the sea otter.” They were once a numerous people but today there are only about 8,000 Aleuts left in Alaska.

Use your knowledge of math to find the Aleut words below for the numbers one through ten. Use the clues to write the Aleut word beside the number at the bottom of the page. Look in the parentheses after the word to find out how to pronounce the number in Aleut.

Clues

- **CANG** (*chang*) is an odd number between 3 and 7.
- $2 \times \text{CANG} = \text{ATIQ}$ (*at eek*)
- $3 \times (438 - 437) = \text{QANKUDIDIM}$ (*kan koo dee deem*)
- $14 - 5 = \text{SICING}$ (*see ching*)
- ATUNG (*at oong*) \times $\text{ATUNG} = 36$
- ALAK (*ah lock*) \div $\text{ALAK} = 4$
- $2 \times \text{ALAK} = \text{SICIN}$ (*see cheen*)
- $(\text{CANG} + \text{SICING}) \div \text{ALAK} = \text{ULLUNG}$ (*oo! long*)
- $72 \div 9 = \text{QAMCING}$ (*kam sing*)
- AGACA (*ah gaw cha*) $+ 9 = \text{ATIQ}$

Answers

| | |
|----------|-----------|
| 1. _____ | 6. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 7. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 8. _____ |
| 4. _____ | 9. _____ |
| 5. _____ | 10. _____ |

Working in a cooperative group, create your own math problems using the clues along with the matching Aleut words and numbers from the box above. Provide an answer key. Exchange math problems with other groups and solve.

Karana's Journal

Often when people go through an experience which tests their courage and will, they are asked (or personally feel the need) to write about it.

For this activity, you will imagine that you are Karana. Relate to Father Gonzales of the Santa Barbara Mission the highlights of your 18 year stay, alone on the Island of the Blue Dolphins. In the journal below, list in chronological order and in journal form the significant memories of your ordeal.

My Journal 1835-1853
