Commentary
Venus, XXIII

1. **(mitten is 3, 1; chair is 4, 3; key is 1, 2; moon is 5,4)** This problem is an intuitive introduction to the Cartesian Coordinate system. The horizontal distance is always given first, followed by the vertical distance. Even though this is merely a convention, it is a standard one and students might profit from learning it at an early age.

2. **(6)** This problem is multi-step, but students can act it out or draw a diagram to find the answer easily. Some students will forget to count the mother cat and hamster, along with the babies.

3. **($, ¢, ¢)** Students should use their common sense to judge which amount of money would be likely in each situation. A new shirt wouldn't cost 10¢, for example, but $10 is likely.

4. **(1 is Rule B; 2 is Rule C; 3 is Rule A)** Students should match the verbal clues with the three sets of geometric shapes. Some clues apply to individual objects in two sets, but not to *all* the objects in that set. The key for students is that the rule must apply to all objects in the set.

5. **(The answers are shown below.)** It is hoped that students will use this problem to begin looking for patterns in the typical charts they see in school, the hundreds chart being a prime example. They might notice that the numbers directly above or below each other differ by 10, for example. The numbers beside each other differ by 1, and the numbers diagonally connected differ by 11.