

July 2025

A big hello to all of you

This newsletter will keep you up to date with all the latest news from the past few weeks. You'll be informed about our work related to Bebras, the increasingly popular Children's Camp, and much more.

Enjoy reading!

Yours

21. Bebras Task Workshop in Seoul/Südkorea

The Bebras Task Workshop takes place once a year. Participants from over 80 countries meet somewhere around the world and spend just under a week preparing for the annual Bebras Challenge together. For me, it was the first time attending this workshop and also the first time traveling to Asia!

I had already arranged to meet Adil at the airport in Seoul. He lives in Canada but organizes the Bebras Challenge for his native country, Azerbaijan. He had lived and worked in Seoul for a few years previously, so I was allowed to join him. I withdrew some cash, bought and recharged a transport card, and printed a bus ticket from the machine for the approximately two-hour ride to the university (where the workshop was taking place). Everything was easy so far.

Since the hotel was a bit expensive, I rented an AirBnB for the days and then went shopping. Anyone who knows me knows that I live in a very remote area here in Namibia, and even Namibia as a country only has about three million inhabitants. So, I was in Seoul – a city with about ten million inhabitants!

It was a different kind of experience for me.

I have to say one thing: South Koreans are extremely helpful and very calm people. Sometimes with a little English, and often with gestures, I always found help; it was wonderful.

But the workshop was, of course, the main event of the week. We were divided into different working groups and tirelessly worked through the over 200 submitted tasks to generate high-quality tasks for the annual competition. At the same time, the workshop also serves as a way to build connections, exchange experiences, ideas, and materials, further educate ourselves, and much more...

After a week, I returned to "little" Namibia, but with a lot of new things and even more motivation. For me, it was my first personal interaction with so many Bebras participating countries, and it was a fantastic experience: so many people, all with endless joy and motivation, working toward the same goal. Everyone is happy when others are doing well and is happy to help spread Bebras.

I immediately went to work in my office; there's a lot to do before the next Bebras Task Workshop in Cambridge, England.



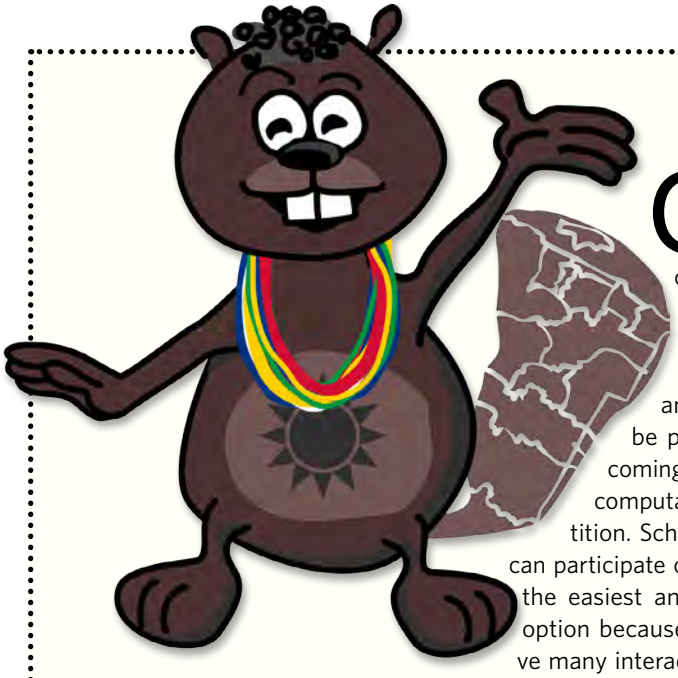


Impressions of Seoul and the workshop









Bebras Challenge 2026

Our next Bebras Challenge will take place both online and offline from March 23 to April 10, 2026. Bebras is also growing in Namibia, and more students will be participating in the upcoming Bebras Challenge, the computational thinking competition. Schools and organizations can participate online; this is obviously the easiest and particularly exciting option because the children can solve many interactive tasks. In practice, however, many schools in Namibia unfortunately do not yet have laptops, and even if there are, there are often not enough for the children, or they do not have internet access. To ensure that everyone who wants to can take part in the competition, we are now also offering an offline version of the challenge. Of course, all of this requires a bit more preparation and also involves costs, because small booklets and answer sheets have to be printed and sent out. If you would like to support us, so that rural schools in particular can also participate, please feel free to help us with the costs. As always, you can find our bank details at the end of this newsletter.

New Bebras partner in Windhoek

We are thrilled to have two new Bebras partners: Windhoek High School, a public school with a fantastic reputation, and the Bernhard Nordkamp Center in Katutura, an afternoon school that offers nearly 200 children a meal and additional high-quality instruction every day.

An important part of our work is to visit the various schools and organizations in the country and introduce them to Bebras and, with it, computational thinking. Whenever time and money allow, we schedule appointments and show teachers and school principals, in particular, what we do and how we can help them somehow incorporate this learning material, which is so important for the children, and participate in the Bebras Challenge. Experience in other countries has shown that where schools are committed to computational thinking, the children achieve better grades in the long term. Let us remember that computational thinking is not about operating a computer but rather logical and analytical thinking, solution-oriented and structured thinking and these things help children in all kinds of subjects and later in life, no matter what career they choose.











Children's camp planned in Rundu

As already reported in the previous newsletter, we are planning to organize a fantastic children's camp in Rundu during the December holidays. We are still looking for volunteers who would like to spend these two weeks with us and the happy, inquisitive, and simply wonderful children in Rundu.

If you are coming to Windhoek, Namibia, at the end of November or beginning of December, we will travel to Rundu together and have grades 4 to 7 from December 8th to 13th and grades 8 to 11 from December 15th to 20th.

Please contact me as soon as possible, either via WhatsApp +264 81 208 95 28 or by email at contact@childrenscampnamibia.com, and we can discuss the details. All you need is a plane ticket (and the now-standard visa); there are no additional costs for you during the camp.





Websites completely renewed

At **www.childrenscampnamibia.com** you can find a lot of information about our organization and how you can support us.

At **www.bebrasnamibia.com** you can see everything about the Bebras Challenge with many test questions (and solutions) as well as background information on computational thinking. Originally, we also had a registration form for schools directly on the site, but after several spam attacks, we have deactivated it for the time being.

Visit our new pages and let us know what you think about them, what ideas you have, how we can make them even better...
feel free to drop an email at **contact@childrenscampnamibia.com.**

New communication platform for even better exchange

We're growing, and it's important that we have a good communication platform so that we can communicate effectively not only internally, but also externally with our partners (schools, organizations, etc.).

With this in mind, we turned to Zulip (www.zulip.com), the provider of a communication platform that offers so much, and guess what? Zulip is sponsoring us with the Zulip Standard Solution!

At the same time, we also have a lot of files that we want to organize, edit, and share in a structured way. We use free systems like VisualSVN and TortoiseSVN for this. But everything has to be available on a server somewhere. Thanks to a generous offer from Dean and his company, Dynamic Internet Consultants (www.dic.net), as well as the spontaneous and generous financial support of our three board members living in Europe: Kirsten Wechslberger, Manuela Knipping, and Sabine Aquilini, we've managed to do that, too, and the server is paid for for a year!!!

A huge thank you to everyone who helped us lay the foundation for this important, future-oriented technology for our platform!!!

Our bank details

New for donations from Germany:
Recipient: DNG (German-Namibian Society)
IBAN: DE48 3008 0000 0211 3508 00
Bank: Commerzbank Düsseldorf
Purpose: Children's Camp Namibia
(important, please specify!)

Our bank details outside Namibia:
Recipient: Childrens Camp Namibia
BIC: POFICHBEXXX
IBAN: CH56 0900 0000 6072 7093 6
Account No: 60-727093-6

Our bank details in Namibia:
Recipient: Childrens Camp Namibia
Bank: Bank Windhoek
Branch: 483 872
Account No: 3001 757 484
Type: Savings

New in Switzerland:
Twint to 079 192 90 20
Subject: Children's Camp Namibia

We are tax-exempt in Switzerland and would be happy to issue you a donation receipt.
Have you ever thought about making a regular donation to us?
Do you perhaps know a company that would like to get involved in social activities?
We would be pleased if you would forward this newsletter to friends, acquaintances, or colleagues.

What do we currently need donations for?

- Online platform for Bebras Challenge. The already significantly reduced fee of 500 EUR per year is currently due.
- Planned computer science camp in Rundu in December, 2 x 1-week sessions with 100 children and 4 students, costs approximately 10,000 EUR.
- Training and integration of students into our program (who will then teach Bebras once a week at schools), approximately 25 EUR per student/day.
- Our ultimate goal: a Toyota Quantum 2.8 LWB Crew Cab so we can drive to the schools with all our equipment and team, costs approximately 35,000 EUR.



Paper Folding

Bebra's task & solution

Starting with this newsletter, we would like to introduce something new. Not only does the newsletter now look different, but from now on we will also be including one or two Bebra tasks each time. Many thanks to the authors for allowing us to use these tasks.

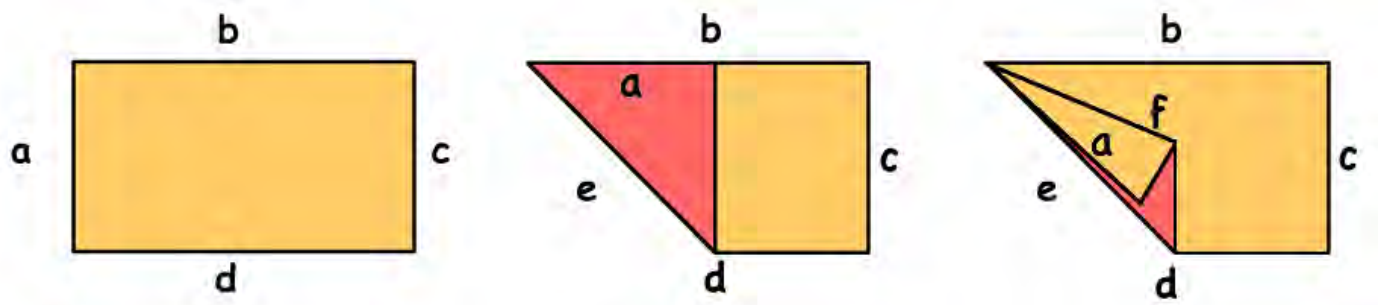
Have fun solving them.

The Beaver has developed a programming language for paper folding. This language can be used to explain how to fold any piece of paper with straight sides. One of the commands in this language is fold.

e = fold(a, b) means:

fold the piece of paper in a way that side a is lying completely on side b.
In that way you create a new side, the fold. This line is called e.

Example:



e = fold (a, b) *f = fold (a, e)*

Please note, that the paper remains on the table during folding, and that the length of side b is twice the length of side a.

How does the paper rectangle (a, b, c, d) look like after the execution of these three commands?

e = fold (c, a) *f = fold (c, d)* *g = fold (a, f)*



A



B



C

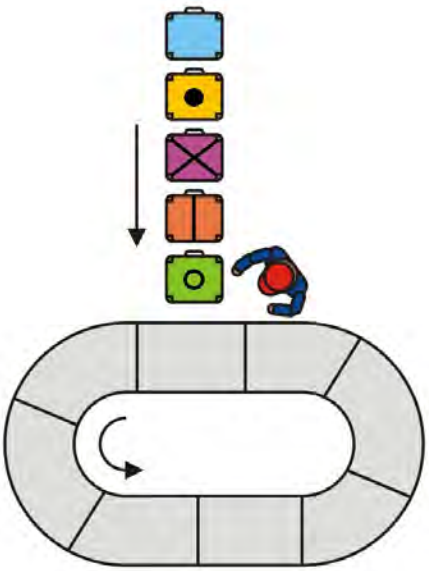


D

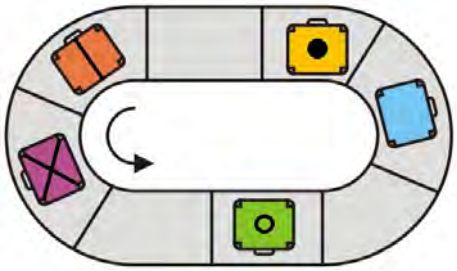
The answer is on page 8

Airport

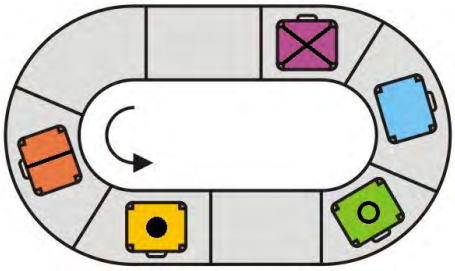
The airport porter is loading the pass bags on the moving luggage belt. He puts the next bag on the third next er place until all five bags are placed on luggage belt.



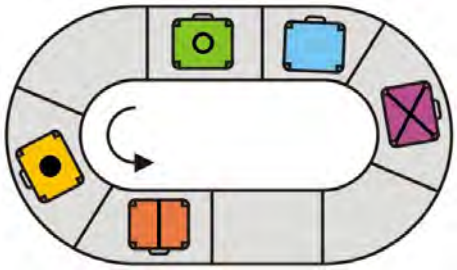
How does the luggage belt appear at the end of his work?



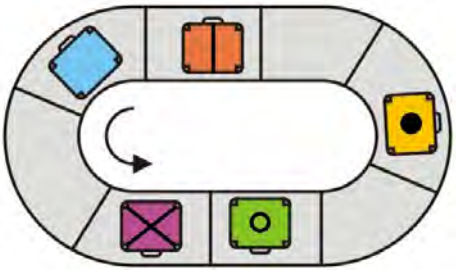
A



B



C

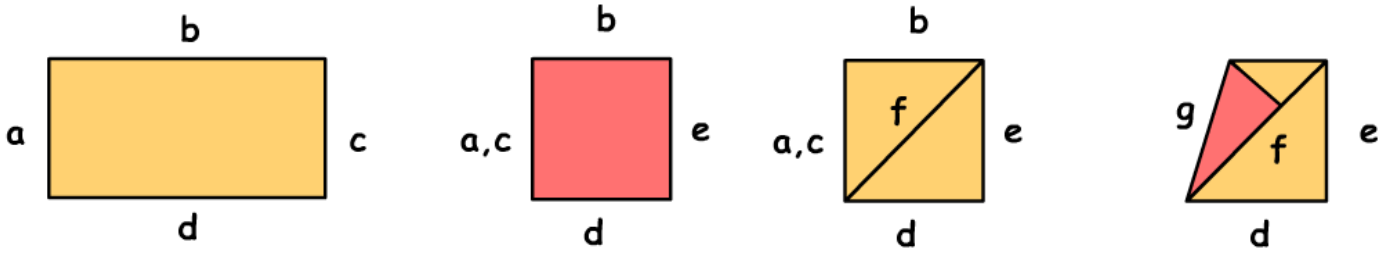


D

The answer is on page 8

The correct answer is A

The following images explain the execution of the fold-operation step by step.



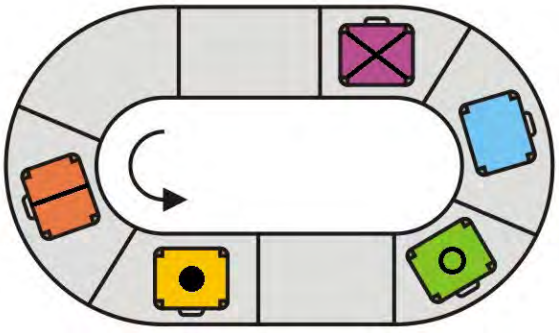
e = fold (c, a) *f = fold (c, d)* *g = fold (a, f)*

It's informatics!

Functions are an important concept in programming. A function call is considered to be the start of some activity. Programmers say: The function accepts some parameters (here: two sides), processes some data and returns an object (here: the fold). This is different from the concept of functions in mathematics.

The correct answer is B

Answer A and D have the bags in the wrong or incorrect order. If the belt rotated in the opposite direction answer C would be correct. B is therefore correct.



It's Informatics!

This is an example for scheduling with given structures and rules. Such situations often occur, e.g. an operating system of a computer must perform a scheduling of tasks, if more than one task or program should be executed. The scheduling mechanism then assigns computing power to each executed task or program.

But one can imagine that such scheduling mechanisms involve much more tasks that are often interdependent and need different and limited resources. So scheduling mechanisms are much more complex as in the given task, where the way how to fill the luggage belt is not the most efficient one.

Quelle: Bundesweite Informatikwettbewerbe, Deutschland