

The Right to Accessibility for Children with Special Needs

In Israel, in 1997, there were **40,000 children** with physical disabilities (handicap), or sensory disabilities¹ out of a population of **2 million children**².



1. (i) Calculate and complete the sentence: **On average, one out of _____** children has physical or sensory disabilities.

(ii) What is the **probability** that a child, who is chosen randomly from the entire population, has physical or sensory disabilities?

(iii) Do you know personally, a child who has physical or sensory disabilities? Or, do you know personally, a child who has a different disability than yours?

(iv) Think about the possibility of you meeting a child with physical or sensory disabilities different to yours (at school, on the bus, in the shopping mall, etc)? Is the probability **greater than, lesser than or equal to** the probability you calculated in number 2? Why?

(v) Explain the word “**accessibility**”. How does it relate to your previous answer?

(vi) Name **3 changes** which should be done in your school in order to enable children with physical or sensory disabilities to study in?

¹ Sensory disability is a vision and/or a hearing impairment that significantly affects the child daily.

² <http://brookdale-en1.pionet.com/default.asp?catid={07ED26C4-4184-4F00-8846-DA63AF510B19}>

Physical accessibility is not the only barrier for children with special needs to participate in our society. Maybe the most significant factor is barriers caused by **people's prejudices**.

2. (i) Dina and Ruth met each other at a Scuba diving course. They always dived together as a pair. Once, they descended to a **depth of 20 meters**. According to the diving rules, they had to decide together when to ascend, and to make a safety stop at a depth of **5 meters**. **How many meters** did they ascend until they reached their safety stop?

(ii) **How** do you think Dina and Ruth communicate with each other underwater?

(iii) Dina is a deaf child. Her friend Ruth wants to communicate with her underwater and out of the water, by using a sign language. In order to enable basic communication in Israeli Sign Language, one should be familiar with around **600** words. Dina teaches Ruth **5** new words everyday. After **how many days** can they basically communicate with each other?

(iv) Would you like to learn a Sign Language?

3. (i) Gil and Dan are skiing together as a pair, by holding together a ski rod. Their skiing **speed** is **30 km/h**. It takes them **20 minutes** to cover a ski track. What is the **length** of the ski track?

(ii) The other day, while skiing, there was some fog. Dan slowed down his speed. Gil, who is blind, didn't understand why. He asked Dan for the reason, and Dan replied that he doesn't feel safe because of the bad vision. Their **speed** in the fog was **20 km/h**. How much **time** it will take them to finish a ski track of **12 km**?