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803 804 805

```
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763
         You are an AI assistant designed to judge whether two answers to a math problem are
764
         conceptually the same or different. You will be shown a K-12 math problem and two
765
         answers to the problem. Please output 'Same' if the two answers are conceptually
766
         equivalent and just formatted differently. Please output 'Different' if the two
         answers are conceptually different. If one of the answers is the empty string and the
767
         other is not, you should output 'Different'. Please do not actually solve the problem.
768
         You should only judge whether the two answers are the same or different. Your output
769
         should be formatted as follows:
770
         Judgment: [Same/Different]
771
772
         Here are several examples to guide your answer:
773
         Math Problem: '''Subject: Fractions of an Amount Question: How do you say this fraction?
774
775
776
         Answer 1: 3/5
         Answer 2: Three fives
777
         Judgment: Same
778
779
         Math Problem:'''Subject: Multiplying and Dividing with Decimals Question: 50.09 \div 0.1 = \hbox{'''}
780
781
         Answer 1: 500.09
782
         Answer 2: 500.9
         Judgment: Different
783
784
         Math Problem: "'Subject: Properties of Polygons
785
         Question: Tom and Katie are arguing about parallelograms. Tom says this shape is a
         parallelogram ![A four sided shape. All sides are equal, opposite angles are equal.
786
         There are no right angles.]() Katie says this shape is a parallelogram ![A four sided
787
         shape. Opposite sides are equal, all angles are right angles.]() Who is correct?'''
788
         Answer 1: Katie
         Answer 2: Only Katie
789
790
         Judgment: Same
791
         Math Problem: '''Subject: Percentages of an Amount Question: What is 120\% of 50 ?'''
792
         Answer 1: 10
793
         Answer 2: 60
794
         Judgment: Different
         Math Problem: "'Subject: Converting between Fractions and Percentages
796
         Question: Convert this fraction to a percentage \frac{4}{5}"
797
798
         Answer 1: 45\%
         Answer 2: 45
799
         Judgment: Same
800
```

Table 2: Prompt to the GPT-4o-mini model for judging answer equivalence for the distractor generation evaluations.

861

```
811
812
         System
                   You are an AI assistant designed to infer incorrect answers that students might
813
                   give in solving K-12 math problems so that they can be used as distracter
814
                   choices for multiple choice problems. You will be shown a math problem. Please
                   output 3 incorrect answers. Your output should start with 'Incorrect Student
815
                   Answers:' followed by a list of 3 incorrect answers that a student might give
816
                   in solving the problem and that could be used as distracter choices for the
817
                   question. Each item should have the same formatting as the correct answer,
818
                   but make sure none of the incorrect answers you output are the exact same as
819
                   the correct answer. Make sure to output exactly 3 incorrect answers. Do not
                   output any other information.
820
                   Here are several examples of math problems and misconceptions for student
822
                   answers. Please use these examples to guide your future responses.
823
                   Math Problem: "Subject: Adding and Subtracting Negative Numbers
824
                   Question: 6 - (-8) =
825
                   Correct Answer: 14
                   Incorrect Student Answers:
                   -14
                   - 2
828
829
                   Math Problem: '''Subject: Multiplying and Dividing Negative Numbers
830
                   Question: -4 + (-5) \times 3 = ''' Correct Answer: 27
831
                   Incorrect Student Answers:
832
                   - 27
- -27
833
834
                   -11
835
836
                   Math Problem: '''Subject: Fractions of an Amount
837
                   Question: Here is a number card \frac{1}{3} of A is 12 What is \frac{1}{2} of A?
838
                   Correct Answer: 2
839
840
                   Incorrect Student Answers:
841
                   - 8
                   - 36
843
                   Math Problem: ''Subject: Expanding Single Brackets
                   Question: The area of these shapes are equal. Which of these is correct? ![An]
845
                   image of two rectangles. The top one is blue and has the dimensions - side
846
                   length: 4 and base 3x - 2. The bottom one is yellow and has the dimensions -
                   side length: 2 and base 5x + 2.]()''
847
                   Correct Answer: 12x - 8 = 10x + 4
848
849
                   Incorrect Student Answers:
                    -12x - 2 = 10x + 2
850
                   -8+6x-4=4+10x+4
851
                    -4+3x-2=2+5x+2
852
         User
                   Math Problem: "Subject: Adding and Subtracting Fractions
853
                   Question: Work out: \frac{4}{11} + \frac{7}{11}. Write your answer in its simplest form.'''
854
                   Correct Answer: 1
855
         Assistant Incorrect Student Answers:
856
                      \frac{11}{22}
                      \frac{11}{4}
858
859
```

Table 3: Example prompt/output for sampling incorrect answers with Sample\_Answers. Bolded indicates variables that change.

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choose A.

Incorrect Student Answer: A

You are an AI assistant designed to simulate student misconceptions in solving K-12 math problems. You will be shown a problem and a misconception a student has in solving the problem. You should simulate what answer a student with that misconception would give. Your output should be the answer that the student would give. Please do NOT generate the correct answer. Instead, solve the problem as if you had the misconception that the student has. Please start your output by thinking step-by-step to reason through what answer a student with the misconception that you were shown would give. The step-by-step reasoning should start with "Reasoning:". Then, on a new line, output 'Incorrect Student Answer:' and generate the answer that the student would give. When outputting 'Incorrect Student Answer', please only output the letter of the multiple choice answer that the student would give and nothing else. Even if none of the multiple choice answers seem to be the right choice, output the letter of the closest answer. Here are several examples of math problems, misconceptions, and reasoning paths for student answers. Please use these examples to guide your future responses. Math Problem: '''Subject: Range and Interquartile Range from a List of Data Question: What is the range of the following numbers? [0.2, 0.22, 0.212] Answer Choices: A) 0.02 B) 0.012 0.21D) 0.2''' Student Misconception: When calculating the range does not reorder the data to find the largest number minus the smallest number Reasoning: Based on the student's misconception, we will assume they will not reorder the data and instead treat the first and last numbers in the list as the smallest and largest numbers. Then in order to calculate the range, they will subtract the smallest number from the largest number, i.e. 0.212-0.2=0.012. Thus, the student will choose answer choice B. Incorrect Student Answer: B Math Problem: '''Subject: Gradient as change in y over change in xQuestion: What is the gradient of this line? ![A set of axes with a graph drawn on. The graph passes through the following points: (-3,-3) (-2,-2) (-1,-1) (0,0) (1,1)(2,2) and (3,3).]()Answer Choices: A) 0B) 2 C) xD) 1''' Student Misconception: Believes the gradient of a line is given by an intercept Reasoning: If the student thinks the gradient of the line is given by the intercept, they will think 0 is the gradient because the intercept is 0. Therefore, they will

Table 4: Prompt used for the Simulate\_Student module and student simulation evaluation experiments.

```
918
         You are an AI assistant designed to infer misconceptions that students might have in
919
         solving K-12 math problems. You will be shown a math problem, along with an incorrect
920
         answer given by a student. Please output a 1-sentence description of the misconception
         that a student who gave that incorrect answer might have. Make sure the misconception
921
         is specific enough that it could be used to infer the incorrect answer given by the
922
         student but general enough that it could apply to other similar problems.
923
924
         Your output should be formatted as follows:
         Reasoning: [reasoning for the misconception]
925
         Misconception: [1-sentence description of the misconception]
926
         Do not output any other information.
927
         Here are several examples of math problems and misconceptions for student answers.
928
         Please use these examples to guide your future responses.
929
         Math Problem: '''Subject: Range and Interquartile Range from a List of Data
930
         Question: What is the range of the following numbers? [0.2,
931
932
         Answer Choices:
933
         A) 0.02
         B) 0.012
934
         C) 0.21
935
         D) 0.2'''
         Incorrect Student Answer: B
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937
         Reasoning: The student's answer, B, or 0.012, corresponds to the difference 0.212
938
         - 0.2. This is the difference between the first and last numbers. Therefore, the
939
         student's misconception appears to be that they are not reordering the data to calculate
940
         the range.
941
         Misconception: When calculating the range does not reorder the data to find the largest
942
         number minus the smallest number
943
         Math Problem: '''Subject: Gradient as change in y over change in x
944
         Question: What is the gradient of this line? ![A set of axes with a graph drawn on.
945
         The graph passes through the following points: (-3,-3) (-2,-2) (-1,-1) (0,0) (1,1)
946
         (2,2) and (3,3).]()
         Answer Choices:
947
         A) 0
948
         B) 2
949
         C) x
         D) 1'''
         Incorrect Student Answer: A
951
         Reasoning: The student answers A, or 0, and the x and y intercepts of the given line
952
         are also both 0. Therefore, the student's misconception may be about confusing the
953
         gradient of the line with one of the intercepts.
954
955
         Misconception: Believes the gradient of a line is given by an intercept
956
         Math Problem: '''Subject: Length Units
957
         Question: 450 cm=\square m
958
         Answer Choices:
959
         A) 4.5
960
         B) 45
961
         c) 5
         D) 45000'''
962
         Incorrect Student Answer: C
963
         Reasoning: To find the value of the square, the correct approach would be to convert
964
         |450cm| to meters. There are 100 centimeters in a meter, and so the correct calculation
965
         is [450 \div 100 = 4.5m]. However, the student answers C, or 5, which suggests that they
966
         may be rounding up to the nearest whole number to give their answer.
967
         Misconception: Gives a rounded whole number instead of a decimal
968
```

Table 5: Prompt used for the Infer\_Misconception module and for the misconception inference experiments.

969 970

Variant	Values of $\alpha$ whe cycle consistent $(s = a)$	
MISTAKE-CYCLE+CORRECT	2	0
MISTAKE-CORRECT	1	0
NO-CYCLE	1	1

Table 6: Variants of MISTAKE and the values of  $\alpha$  that they use, where  $\alpha$  the weight given to each example.  $\alpha = 1$  is the default value.

```
998
         Model outputs for student simulation (validation dataset, round 4).
999
         Math Problem: '''Subject: Volume and Capacity Units
1000
         Question: 3 litres = ★ millilitres
1001
         Answer Choices: A) 0.3 B) 30 C) 300
                                                     D) 3000'''
1002
         Student Misconception: Thinks there are 100 ml in a litre
1003
1004
         Model Output: Reasoning: Assumes 100 ml per litre, so 3 \times 100 = 300. Chooses C.
1005
         Incorrect Student Answer: C
1006
1007
         Actual Output: C
1008
1009
         Math Problem: '''Subject: Multiples and Lowest Common Multiple
         Question: Which of the following numbers is a common multiple of 4,6, and 12? Answer Choices: A) 2 B) 12 C) 18 D) 20'''
1010
1011
1012
         Student Misconception: Identifies a multiple of a number but not a common multiple of
1013
         a group
1014
         Model Output: Reasoning: Thinks 12 is a multiple of 4, 6, and 12. Chooses B.
1015
         Incorrect Student Answer: B
1016
1017
         Actual Output: D
1018
1019
```

Table 7: Example model outputs for student simulation from the validation dataset in round 4.

```
1027
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1037
1038
1039
1040
1041
         Model outputs for misconception inference (validation dataset, round 4).
1042
1043
         Math Problem: ''Subject: Expanding Double Brackets
1044
         Question: What should replace the circle when these two brackets are expanded and
1045
         (p-3)(p+1) \equiv p^2 \triangle p \bigcirc Answer Choices: A) \bigcirc = -3 B) \bigcirc = +3 C) \bigcirc = -4 D) \bigcirc = -2'''
1046
1047
1048
         Incorrect Student Answer: B (+3)
1049
         Model Inferred Misconception: Neglects to distribute the negative sign when expanding
1050
         brackets
1051
         Actual Misconception: Believes multiplying a positive by a negative gives a positive
1052
1053
1054
         Math Problem:''Subject: Adding and Subtracting with Decimals
1055
         Question: 50.09 - 0.1 =
1056
         Answer Choices: A) 49.99
                                      B) 50.99
                                                  C) 50.08
                                                             D) 38.98'''
1057
         Incorrect Student Answer: B (50.99)
1058
         Model Inferred Misconception: Thinks subtraction is performed as addition
1059
1060
         Actual Misconception: When borrowing in subtraction, does not subtract one from the
1061
         preceding digit
1062
1063
```

Table 8: Example model outputs for misconception inference from the validation dataset in round 4.