Answers

Problem 1:

(a) There are C(36,3) ways to choose the three cards. They could all be black in C(18,3) ways or they could all be red in C(18,3) ways. The probability that all three are the same color is $\frac{C(18,3)+C(18,3)}{C(36,3)}$ which works out to about 0.2286.

(b) There are several ways to do this. One can think of a tree for this stochastic process (but not draw it all, as it is large!) or one can compute using the formula for conditional probability. But the easiest is this: After the first card has been dealt, and it is an eight, there are 35 cards left and 4 of them are nines. So the probability is just $\frac{4}{35}$.

(c) The combinations which add up to give 8 are 2 and 6 (in either order), 3 and 5 (in either order), and 4 and 4. If we think of dealing one card and then the other, to get a 2 and a 6 in that order we have four ways of getting the 2 on the first card and four ways of getting the 6 on the second card: Thus there are 16 ways to get the 2 on the first card and the 6 on the second. The same reasoning applies to getting the (ordered) combinations 3 and 5, 5 and 3, and 6 and 2, for a total of 16 + 16 + 16 + 16 = 64 ways to get all of those combinations. The combination 4 and 4 is different, though: If we get a 4 on the first card, there are only three 4's left. So there are only 12 ways to get the combination 4 and 4. Hence there are 64 + 12 = 76 ways to get a combination whose sum is 8. Now how many ways are there to deal the two cards? We can use the formula P(36, 2) or just think it out: There are 36 choices for the first card, and 35 for the second, so there are $36 \times 35 = 1260$ ways to choose the two cards. Now we can compute the probability, $\frac{76}{1260} \approx 0.0603$.

(There were many, very different, answers to this problem. One way to check: Apply the same logic to all the other possible sums, from 2 + 2 = 4 to 10 + 10 = 20, and add the results. Using this model the sum is 1.)

Problem 2:



(b) $Pr[\text{second is green} \cap \text{first is red}] = Pr[\{RG\}] = \frac{2}{30}$. $Pr[\text{first is red}] = \frac{3}{30} + \frac{2}{30} = \frac{5}{30}$. Thus $Pr[\text{second is green}|\text{first is red}] = \frac{2/30}{5/30} = \frac{2}{5}$.

(c) We can use the same numerator as in (b) but need to divide by Pr[second is green] rather than Pr[first is red]. $Pr[\text{second is green}] = \frac{6+2+2}{30} = \frac{10}{30}$, so the answer is $\frac{2/30}{10/30} = \frac{2}{10}$.

Problem 3:

This is a pretty direct application of Bayes' Formula. If we let A be the event that an item was produced on assembly line A, and similarly for the other lines, and X be the event that it is defective, we are given: Pr[A] = .40, and Pr[X|A] = .05; Pr[B] = .20, and Pr[X|B] = .10; Pr[C] = .30, and Pr[X|C] = .15; and finally Pr[D] = .10, and Pr[X|D] = .25. What we are asked for is Pr[C|X], which we can calculate as

$$Pr[C|X] = \frac{.15 \times .30}{.05 \times .40 + .10 \times .20 + .15 \times .30 + .25 \times .10} = \frac{9}{22}.$$

Problem 4:

(a) If we let x be the probability for the outcome 1, then the probability of 2 is 2x, the probability of 3 is 3x, and so on through the probability of 10 which is 10x. Their sum must be 1, so we have the equation $x + 2x + 3x + \ldots + 9x + 10x = 1$ which simplifies to 55x = 1. Thus $x = \frac{1}{55}$. Now we can write the probabilities for each of the outcomes: I'll simplify to "1" for the event " $\{1\}$ ", etc.: $Pr[1] = \frac{1}{55}, Pr[2] = \frac{2}{55}, Pr[3] = \frac{3}{55}, Pr[4] = \frac{4}{55}, Pr[5] = \frac{5}{55}, Pr[6] = \frac{6}{55}, Pr[7] = \frac{7}{55}, Pr[8] = \frac{8}{55}, Pr[9] = \frac{9}{55}$, and $Pr[10] = \frac{10}{55}$.

(You should be careful what you write! A lot of students wrote things like $3 = \frac{3}{55}$, which is clearly false...)

(b) The probability that the number is even is just the sum of the probabilities above going with the even outcomes: $\frac{2+4+6+8+10}{55} = \frac{30}{55} = \frac{6}{11}$.

Problem 5:

(a) I think it would be hard to be sure just where sequences of calls come to a stop without a drawing. Here is one version:



We can count 11 "endings" in the diagram.

- (b) Looking at those 11 we find that 7 of them include two or more sales.
- (c) Only two of the paths stop after exactly three calls.

Problem 6:

We are asked whether A and C are independent. The natural way to check that is to compute $Pr[A \cap C]$ and compare it to $Pr[A] \times Pr[C]$: If they are equal, the events are independent, and if they are not equal, the events are not independent. We draw and label a Venn diagram:



The probability we need to find, $Pr[A \cap C]$, corresponds to d+g in the picture. Now we can use the facts given in the problem to write equations a+e+d+g = .45, b+e+g+f = .50, c+d+g+f = .30, e+g = .15, f+g = .10, and g = .05. From the last three equations we get f = .05 and e = .10, which we can use to simplify the first three to a+d = .30, b = .30, and c+d = .20. The last of the facts in the problem tells us a+b+c+d+e+f+g = .90. Putting in the other numbers we have so far, that simplifies to a+c+d = .90 - .30 - .10 - .05 - .05 = .40. If we add the equations a+d = .30 and c+d = .20 we get a+c+2d = .50, and if we subtract the previous result we get d = .10. That makes d+g = .10 + .05 = .15, so $Pr[A \cap C] = .15$. But $Pr[A] \times Pr[C] = .45 \times .30 = .135$ which is not the same as .15, so we conclude the events are <u>not</u> independent.

(Here is a different way to do Problem 6: If we assume that A and C <u>are</u> independent, we get $Pr[A \cap C] = .135$. Using that we can fill in the picture above, starting in the center and working out. We get g = .05, f = .05, e = .10, d = .0835 (from the fact that d + g = .135), etc. When you get through, if you add a + b + c + ... + g, you don't get .90. So the assumption is incompatible with the given data.)