



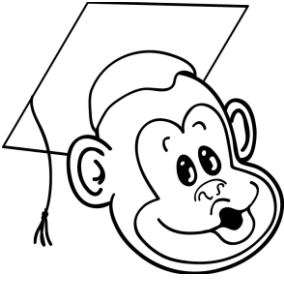
This brainteaser was written by Patrick Vennebush.

There are 29 students in Miss Spelling’s class. As a special holiday gift, she bought each of them chocolate letters with which they can spell their names. Unfortunately, some letters cost more than others — for instance, the letter A, which is in high demand, is rather pricey; whereas the letter Q, which almost no one wants, is relatively inexpensive.

The price of the chocolate letters for each student in her class is shown in the table below.

AIDEN – 386	ARI – 209	ARIEL – 376	BLAIRE – 390	CHARLES – 457
CLARE – 334	DEAN – 317	EARL – 307	FRIDA – 273	GABRIEL – 410
IVY – 97	KOLE – 249	LEIA – 317	LEO – 242	MAVIS – 246
NADINE – 453	NED – 236	PAUL – 167	QASIM – 238	RACHEL – 394
RAFI – 231	SAM – 168	TIRA – 299	ULA – 148	VERA – 276
VIJAY – 179	WOLKE – 272	XAVIER – 346	ZERACH – 355	

How much would it cost to buy the letters in **your** name?



Solution: Answers will vary.

Students can check their answers at <http://illuminations.nctm.org/nameletters>.