

Larger Maya Numbers

Use this information to help you learn how to read and write larger Maya numbers. Then use your knowledge to help you complete the **0 - 5080 Maya Number System Activity Sheet**.

The Maya used a base system of 20 in contrast to the base 10 system that we use today. This meant that larger numbers were represented in powers of 20.



$$20^1 \text{ or } (20 \times 1) = 20$$

$$20^2 \text{ or } (20 \times 20) = 400$$

$$20^3 \text{ or } (20 \times 20 \times 20) = 8000$$




Examples

Example 1

Number of 20s		$8 \times 20 = 160$	= 167
Number of 1s and 5s		7	



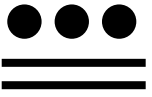
So $167 = (8 \times 20^1) + 7$

Example 2

Number of 400s		$2 \times 400 = 800$	= 937
Number of 20s		$6 \times 20 = 120$	
Number of 1s and 5s		17	

So $937 = (2 \times 20^2) + (6 \times 20^1) + 17$

Example 3

Number of 400s		4000	= 4153
Number of 20s		140	
Number of 1s and 5s		13	

So $4153 = (10 \times 20^2) + (7 \times 20^1) + 13$