Adding Different Numbers

Math Domain		
✓ Number/Quantity	Shape/Space	Function/Pattern
Chance/Data	Arrangement	
Math Actions (possible weights: 0 thr	ough 4)	
0 Modeling/Formulating	2 Manipulating/Transforming	
2 Inferring/Drawing Conclusions	2 Communicating	
Math Big Ideas		
Scale	Reference Frame	Representation
Continuity	Boundedness	Invariance/Symmetry
Equivalence	General/Particular	Contradiction
Use of Limits	Approximation	Other

The student's answer to each problem must be arithmetically correct and also meet the requirement that the three numbers be different.

- 1. One possible answer: 2 + 3 + 5 = 10.
- 2. One possible answer: 6 + 7 + 8 = 21.
- 3. One possible answer: 20 + 30 + 14 = 64.
- 4. Either kind of answer might be correct, depending on how the student interprets the word "number."

If a student understands "number" as meaning only the whole numbers greater than zero, then there are no possible answers. Here is one possible explanation of why the question cannot be answered with just those numbers: "The three smallest numbers are 1, 2, and 3. These numbers add up to 6, which is more than 5, so it is impossible for the sum to be as small as 5."

However, if a student's interpretation of "number" includes zero, then it is possible to produce three numbers whose sum is 5. One possible answer: 0 + 2 + 3 = 5.

	partial level (1 or 2)	full level (3)
Modeling/ Formulating (weight: 0)		
Transforming/ Manipulating (weight: 2)	The student's responses contain some arithmetic errors.	All of the student's responses are arithmetically correct.
Inferring/ Drawing Conclusions (weight: 2)	The student's work does not always follow the requirement that the numbers in each triplet be different.	In all problems, the student's work follows the requirement that the numbers in each triplet be different. The student gives a valid response to problem 4 (which could be either positive or negative, as explained in the preceding solution).
Communicating (weight: 2)	Some of the student's answers are not communicated clearly.	For any problem where the student gives a numerical answer, the numbers are clearly written. For any problem where the student opts to "Tell why it can't be done," the explanation is well-written.