

The Lunch Crunch

It's noon, so you go to the school cafeteria to buy lunch. But today, for some reason, all of the prices are written in code, based on the numeric values of the letters in the food names. For example, soda costs 39 cents:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} \text{S} & + & \text{O} & + & \text{D} & + & \text{A} \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ 19\text{¢} & + & 15\text{¢} & + & 4\text{¢} & + & 1\text{¢} & = & 39\text{¢} \end{array}$$

Using the key below, crack the code to find the prices for the items on the menu. Then answer the questions that follow.



Code key

A	= 1 cent
B	= 2 cents
C	= 3 cents
D	= 4 cents
E	= 5 cents
F	= 6 cents
G	= 7 cents
H	= 8 cents
I	= 9 cents
J	= 10 cents
K	= 11 cents
L	= 12 cents
M	= 13 cents
N	= 14 cents
O	= 15 cents
P	= 16 cents
Q	= 17 cents
R	= 18 cents
S	= 19 cents
T	= 20 cents
U	= 21 cents
V	= 22 cents
W	= 23 cents
X	= 24 cents
Y	= 25 cents
Z	= 26 cents



1. Your mom gave you \$2 to buy lunch in the school cafeteria. You want a slice of pizza, a soda and a cookie. Do you have enough money?
2. Your friend, Katie, who also has \$2, wants a burger, chips, milk, and an apple. Can she afford that?
3. Is there a way for you to combine your money so that you both can get what you want?

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Answers

- 1)** Yes. Your lunch totals \$1.75.
- 2)** No. Her lunch comes to \$2.21.
- 3)** Yes, if you give your friend 21 cents from your change