

Thought Experiment

"The Laboratory is in your Head"



Not Enough Time

Larry insists that he does not have enough time to go to school more than 17 days a year. He comes to this conclusion based on the following list that he put together.

Activity	Number of days per year
Sleep (8 hours a day)	122
Meals (2 hours a day)	31
Weekends	104
Summer vacation	60
Recreation (2 hours a day)	31
Total	348

Larry's Categories overlap. For example, he has counted 60 days for vacation, during which time he will both eat and sleep, activities that he has already counted separately. The 60 vacation days also include weekends, another category that he has already counted separately. He should not count the same periods of time more than once.

Inspired by the list, Larry claims year for school. What's wrong with his reasoning.

