

# Problem of the Block - Block 2



## Polynomial Wants a Cracker

Suppose that  $P(x)$  is a polynomial of degree 8 with real coefficients and that  $P(k) = \frac{1}{k}$  for  $k = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9$ . Determine the value of  $P(10)$ .

Turn in solutions to Dr. Bean in Law 206E or by email at [sbean@cornellcollege.edu](mailto:sbean@cornellcollege.edu) by Wednesday, October 17th. You may ask any Mathematics and Statistics faculty member about the questions, but Dr. Bean wrote them (and therefore at one time at least knew the answer to them) so that might be your best bet.

Partial solutions will receive credit (and are encouraged!). Submitting solutions for the Problem of the Block can earn culture points toward the major in mathematics.

For more information about the Problem of the Block, including the current leader board for the yearly competition, and to print off your own copy visit <http://www.cornellcollege.edu/mathematics/problem-of-the-block/index.shtml>.