

The Devil and Daniel Webster

NAME _____

The devil made a proposition to Daniel Webster. The devil proposed paying Daniel in the following way:

On the first day, I will pay you \$1000 early in the morning. At the end of the first day, you must pay me a commission of \$100; so, your net salary that day is \$900. At the start of the second day, I will double your amount left at the end of the previous day. So, at the beginning of the second day, I will pay you \$1800; but at the end of the second day, you must double the amount that you pay me to \$200. Will you work for me for a month?

1. After reading the salary proposal, would you work for the devil for a month? _____
2. Complete the following chart:

DAY	SALARY FOR DANIEL WEBSTER	DEVIL'S COMMISSION	MONEY AT THE END OF THE DAY
1	\$1000	\$100	\$900
2	\$1800		
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			
11			
12			
⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮
30			

3. Now looking at the table, would you stand by your decision to work for the devil for a month? Explain.

4. If given the choice, how many days would you work for the devil? Explain your answer.

5. What type of curve would expect the salary data to generate?

6. What type of curve would you expect the commission data to generate?

7. Is the salary scheme realistic? Explain.