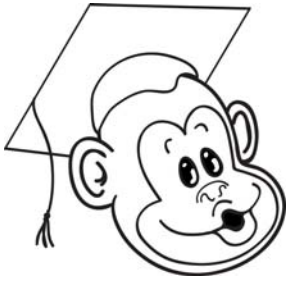




This brainteaser was written by Derrick Niederman.

In 2008, September and December both began on a Monday. But every year, there are two months that do not begin on the same day of the week as any other month. What are those two months?

December						
Su	M	T	W	Th	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			



Solution: May and June.

To see how this works, all you need to know is that months with 30 days push the first of the month ahead two days of the week, whereas months with 31 days push ahead three days. For example, March has 31 days, so if March 1 is a Tuesday, then April 1 is a Friday (move ahead three days of the week). Similarly, April has 30 days, so May 1 will be a Sunday (move ahead just two days of the week).

The table below summarizes what will happen in leap and non-leap years. August does not share the same day with any other month in a non-leap year, and October does not share the same day with any other month in a leap year — but only May and June never share the same day of the week with any other months, whether it's a leap year or not.

Month	Months with Same First Day in a Non-Leap Year	Months with Same First Day in a Leap Year
<i>January</i>	October	April, July
<i>February</i>	March, November	August
<i>March</i>	February, November	November
<i>April</i>	July	January, July
<i>May</i>	None	None
<i>June</i>	None	None
<i>July</i>	April	January, April
<i>August</i>	None	February
<i>September</i>	December	December
<i>October</i>	January	None
<i>November</i>	February, March	March
<i>December</i>	September	September