

THE MONKEY AND THE COCONUTS

Five men and a monkey were shipwrecked on a desert island. They spent the first day gathering coconuts for food. They piled them all up together and then went to sleep for the night.



But when they were all asleep, one man woke up and thinking there might be a fight about dividing the coconuts in the morning, so he decided to take his share. He divided the coconuts into five piles. There was one coconut left over so he gave that coconut to the monkey.

By and by the next man woke up and did the same thing. He also had one left over, which he gave to the monkey.

During the night, each of the five men did exactly the same: they divided the coconuts into five piles and there was one spare coconut, which they gave to the monkey.

In the morning, the men divided the remaining coconuts and there was no remainder. Each man knew there were some coconuts missing but did not say anything.

What is the least number of coconuts that they gathered?