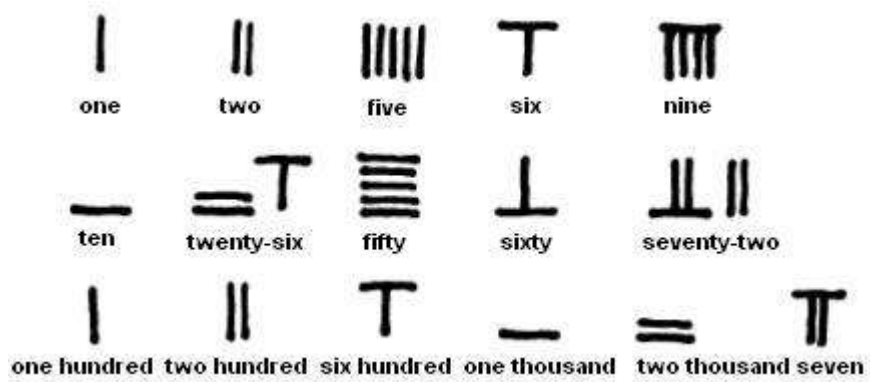The rod numbers were developed from counting boards, which came into use in the fourth century BC. A counting board had squares with rows and columns. Numbers were represented by little rods made from bamboo or ivory.

A number was formed in a row with the units in the right-hand column, the tens in the next column, the hundreds in the next and so on. Rather than putting as many as nine rods in one square, one rod placed at right angles represented five.

One	Two	Three	Four	Five	Six	Seven	Eight	Nine

One problem with this system was that the rods in one square could get muddled up with the next square. So the system puts the rods representing tens a different way up.

Ten	Twenty	Thirty	Forty	Fifty	Sixty	Seventy	Eighty	Ninety

When we get to the hundreds, they return to the same way as the units. The thousands are the same way up as the tens, and they carry on alternating…

1. Write down the list of the hundreds written with the rod numbers.

2. Write down the list of the thousands written with the rod numbers.

3. Write down the following numbers written with the rod numbers in English :

4. Write down the following numbers with the rod numbers :

   - **Thirty six,**
   - **One thousand, one hundred and eleven,**
   - **Nine thousand, six hundred and forty one,**
   - **One hundred and thirty four thousand, five hundred and seventy four.**

5. Write down the following numbers with the rod numbers : **Two thousand and twelve /Two thousand and two**. Could you make a comment ?