LCM and GCF word problems

Read each problem. Decide if you need the least common multiple or the greatest common factor.

Name: _____

Score: _____ / 6

1. A red light flashes every 7 seconds and a green light every 9 seconds. They flash together now. How many seconds until they flash together again? _____

2. Hot dogs come in packs of 10 and buns in packs of 7. What is the smallest number of hot dogs you can buy to have the same number of buns? _____

3. Hot dogs come in packs of 9 and buns in packs of 4. What is the smallest number of hot dogs you can buy to have the same number of buns? _____

4. A red light flashes every 6 seconds and a green light every 5 seconds. They flash together now. How many seconds until they flash together again? _____

5. You have 42 red and 35 blue marbles. You share them into bags, all the same, with none left over. What is the greatest number of bags? _____

6. A red light flashes every 6 seconds and a green light every 8 seconds. They flash together now. How many seconds until they flash together again? _____

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Answer key: LCM and GCF word problems

1. 63 seconds (the least common multiple of 7 and 9)
2. 70 hot dogs (7 packs of hot dogs and 10 packs of buns)
3. 36 hot dogs (4 packs of hot dogs and 9 packs of buns)
4. 30 seconds (the least common multiple of 6 and 5)
5. 7 bags (the greatest common factor of 42 and 35), each with 6 red and 5 blue
6. 24 seconds (the least common multiple of 6 and 8)