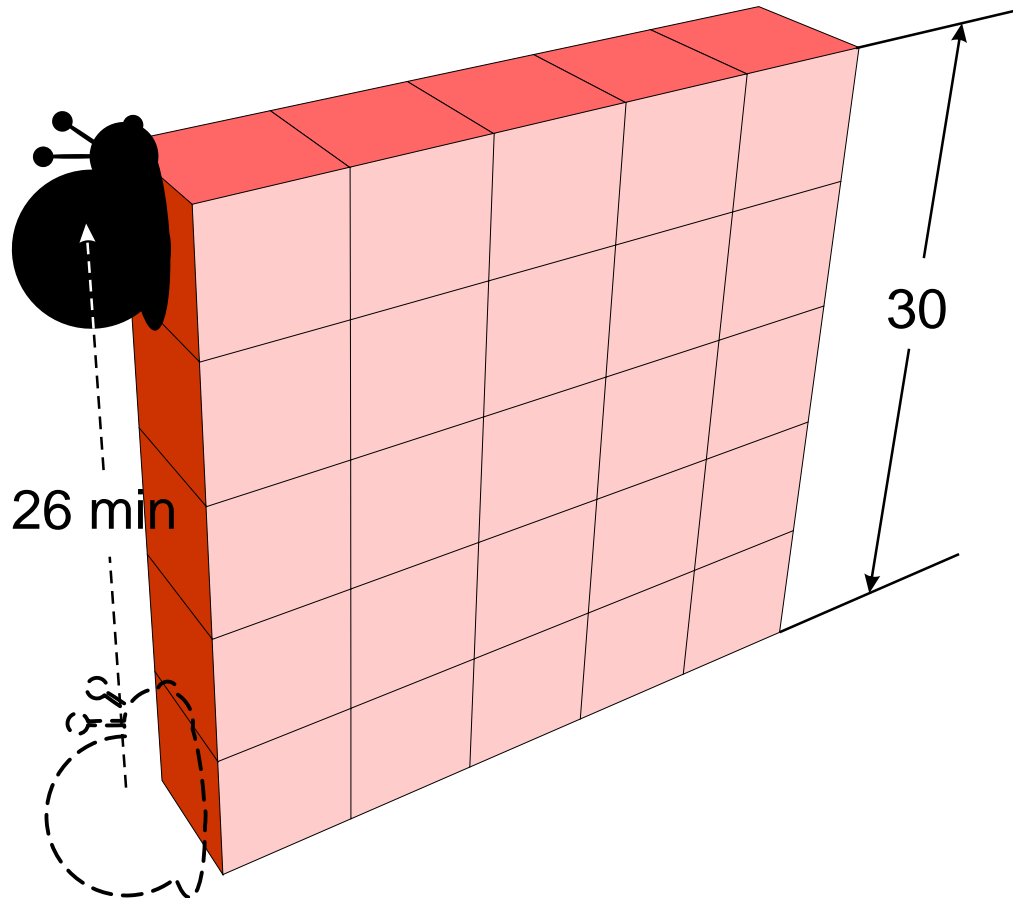


Suppose a snail is climbing up a slippery 30 cm wall. Each minute it climbs 5 cm, but slides back 4 cm. How many minutes will it take the snail to reach the top of the wall?



26 minutes. After 25 minutes it is 25 cm up the wall. During the 26th minute it climbs over the top (5 cm) and doesn't slide back.