

**Math Grades 6 – 9**  
**Percents**  
**Reading Level: 7**

MA.6.A.6.1  
MA.8.A.6.4  
MA .912.A.1.1  
MA.912.A.5.7

***The Complete Stories and Poems of Edgar Allan Poe***

“Von Kempelen and His Discovery”

Edgar Allan Poe

**Activity:**

1. If the price of gold tripled and the price of silver increased by 300%, which one increased the greatest percentage?
2. In the reading we are told, “In Europe, as yet, the most noticeable results have been a rise of two hundred percent in the price of lead, and nearly twenty-five percent that of silver.” If lead was originally priced at the equivalent of \$.50 per pound in US dollars and silver was \$128 per pound, what are the prices after the increase?
3. How many pounds of a 75% silver alloy must be mixed with 10 pounds of pure silver to produce a 90% silver alloy? Complete the table below to solve the problem.

	<b>Pounds</b>	<b>% Silver</b>	<b>Total Pounds Silver</b>
<b>75% Silver Alloy</b>	x	.75	
<b>100% Silver</b>	10	1.00	
<b>90% Silver Alloy Mixture</b>		.90	