

## A Friendly Race

Eight friends (Arthur, Bill, Carlos, Diego, Evan, George, Jaden, and Mason) spent the day at Great Games to celebrate Diego's birthday! After playing video games and air hockey, they decided to have a go-cart race before going home. Can you use the clues to determine where each friend finished in the race?

- \* Arthur finished sometime before Carlos, Jaden, and Evan.
- \* George finished immediately after Mason and immediately before Jaden.
- \* Bill, who was not first, finished before Mason and George.
- \* Arthur finished directly behind Bill.
- \* Evan was the last to finish.
- \* Carlos finished sometime before Mason and sometime after Bill.

1<sup>st</sup> \_\_\_\_\_

5<sup>th</sup> \_\_\_\_\_

2<sup>nd</sup> \_\_\_\_\_

6<sup>th</sup> \_\_\_\_\_

3<sup>rd</sup> \_\_\_\_\_

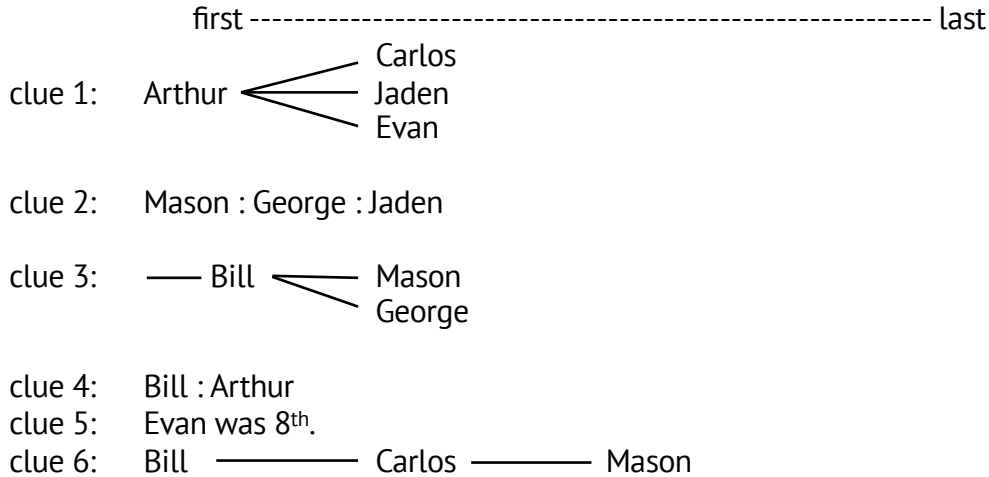
7<sup>th</sup> \_\_\_\_\_

4<sup>th</sup> \_\_\_\_\_

8<sup>th</sup> \_\_\_\_\_

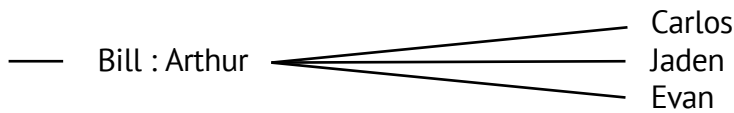
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One way to solve this problem is visually. When names are listed vertically, their order is unknown. a colon between names indicates those two people finished directly before or after each other. A dash indicates that there may or may not be space between those two people as they finished.



Combine these clues.

From clues 1 and 4:



Include information from clues 2 and 5:



Diego is the only name not included, and Bill is not first (clue 3), so Diego is first.

Carlos is somewhere between Bill and Mason, so he is between Arthur and Mason.

In conclusion, they finished in this order, from first to last:  
Diego, Bill, Arthur, Carlos, Mason, George, Jaden, Evan