BRAIN TEASERS #1

Five girls participated in a race. Maria finished before Sarah, but behind Ella. Marianne finished before Julia, but behind Sarah. In what order did the girls finish the race?

1. Ella
2. Maria
3. Sarah
4. Marianne
5. Julia

Margaret’s Marvelous Magical Milieu is a very popular store in Super City’s main shopping mall. However, Margaret is having a lot of troubling managing her employees because the employees are available to work only at certain times. Can you help design a schedule that works for everyone?

The store is open from 9:00 A.M. until 9:00 P.M. At least one person must be working at all times. The busiest times in the store are Fridays through Sundays between 2:00 P.M. and 9:00 P.M. Each employee’s shift (the time spent at work on a given day) typically lasts four hours. The employees are all high school or college students and cannot work more than 15 hours per week. There are ten employees: Agnes, Arturo, Cassandra, Edward, Hannah, Luther, Marcus, Megan, Olivia, and Tyrone.

There are several ways of scheduling these employees. The most obvious choice is to divide each day into three four-hour shifts (9-1, 1-5, 5-9), creating 21 shifts for the week. Divide these shifts among the employees and staff more than one person on weekends. Remember that you need “at least one person,” but there is nothing saying you can’t have more. This puzzle will get kids creating table charts!