

Blooming Beauties . . . . .4

Spotting a Good Problem . . . . .19

# TOMT

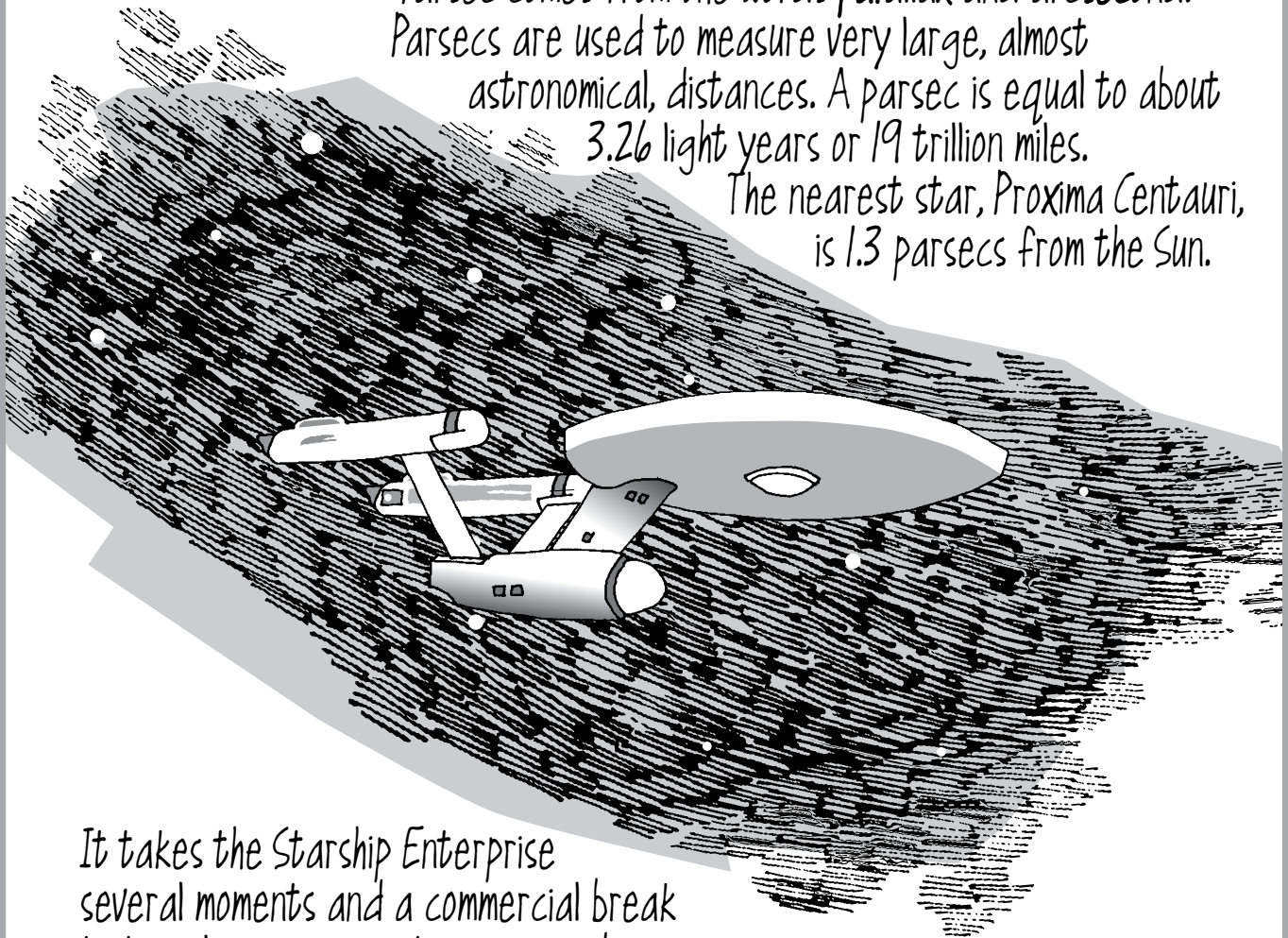
The Oregon Mathematics Teacher

## Measurements

### Parsec

"Parsec" comes from the words *parallax* and *arcsecond*. Parsecs are used to measure very large, almost astronomical, distances. A parsec is equal to about 3.26 light years or 19 trillion miles.

The nearest star, Proxima Centauri, is 1.3 parsecs from the Sun.



It takes the Starship Enterprise several moments and a commercial break to travel one parsec at warp speed.