Three minions worked all day to gather a pile of bananas and then went off to bed.

During the night, one of the minions decided to take one third of the bananas and hide them in a safe place. The minion



had to eat one banana before he could take exactly one third of them. He then went back to bed.

As the night progressed, the other two minions did the same as the first, eating one banana and then hiding away exactly one third. In the morning they were able to share the remaining bananas equally between each other.

How many bananas were in the original pile?