

MULTI-STEP WORD PROBLEMS

Using Addition & Subtraction in Multi-Step Word Problems

Some word problems require MORE than one step to solve. These are called multi-step word problems.

When reading a word problem you should:

- Think about what the question is asking.
- Make a plan in your head or on paper for how to solve the problem.



PREVIEW

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First, decide what steps we need to take in order to solve the problem.

Step 1: Decide what the question is asking:
It is asking how much change Frank is going to receive back from the \$10.00 he gave the cashier.

Step 2: Next, find out how much Frank is going to spend when buying the book and the candy bar *together*. So that means you must ADD the costs of the book and the candy bar.

$$\begin{array}{r}
 \$5.25 \text{ (book)} \\
 + \quad \$0.50 \text{ (candy bar)} \\
 \hline
 \$5.75
 \end{array}$$

Step 3: Now we know how much his items cost.
Next, we need to SUBTRACT the cost of \$5.75 from \$10.00 in order to find how much change Frank is going to receive.

$$\begin{array}{r}
 \$10.00 \text{ (what Frank gave the cashier)} \\
 - \$ 5.75 \text{ (how much Frank spent)} \\
 \hline
 \$ 4.25
 \end{array}$$

Frank will receive **\$4.25** change from the cashier.

You Try:

Sara
cool
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Step
Step

PREVIEW

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If y
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Step 1: $7 + 5 + 3 = 15$ cookies were eaten

Step 2: $30 - 15 = 15$ cookies were left