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Word problems often trip up even the best math students. Many get stumped trying to figure out what they are looking to solve. Without knowing what is being asked, students may have trouble making sense of all the important information in the question. Word problems take math understanding to the next level. They require children to use their reading comprehension skills while also applying everything they have learned in math class. Most multiplication word problems are usually pretty straightforward. There are a few curve balls, but on average most third, fourth, and fifth graders should be able to solve multiplication word problems. Word problems were devised as a way to get students understanding how math has a practical, real-life value. By being able to multiply, you are able to figure out some really helpful information. Word problems can sometimes be confusing. Unlike simple equations, word problems contain extra words, numbers, and descriptions that have seemingly no relevance to the question. This is another skill your students are honing. Deductive reasoning and a process of elimination of extraneous information. Take a look at the following real-world example of a multiplication word problem: Grandma has baked four dozen cookies. You are having a party with 24 children. Can each child get two cookies?The total cookies that you have are 48, since 4 x 12 = 48. To find out if each child can have two cookies, 24 x 2 = 48. So yes, Grandma came through like a champ. Each child can have exactly two cookies. None are left over. These worksheets contain simple multiplication word problems. The student should read the word problem and derive a multiplication equation from it. He or she can then solve the problem by mental multiplication and express the answer in the appropriate units. Students should have a concrete understanding of the meaning of multiplication before attempting these worksheets. You can choose between three worksheets with one- or two-digit multipliers. Each worksheet progresses in difficulty. Worksheet 1 has the simplest problems. For example: For your birthday, 7 friends will get a surprise bag. Each surprise bag will have 4 prizes in it. How many prizes will you need to buy to fill the surprise bags? Here's an example of a word problem using a one-digit multiplier from Worksheet 2: "In nine weeks, I'm going to the circus. How many days before I go to the circus?" Here's a sample of a two-digit word problem from Worksheet 3: Each individual popcorn bag has 76 kernels in it and they are in a case that holds 16 bags. How many kernels does each case have? There are two worksheets with word problems that are using two- to three-digit multipliers. Review this word problem using a three-digit multiplier from Worksheet 1: Each bushel of apples has 287 apples in it. How many apples are in 37 bushels? Here's an example of an actual word problem using a two-digit multiplier from Worksheet 2: If you typed 85 words per minute, how many words would you be able to type in 14 minutes? A proportion is a set of 2 fractions that equal each other. This article focuses on how to use proportions to solve real life problems. Modifying a budget for a restaurant chain that is expanding from 3 locations to 20 locations Creating a skyscraper from blueprints Calculating tips, commissions, and sales tax On Monday, you are cooking enough white rice to serve exactly 3 people. The recipe calls for 2 cups of water and 1 cup of dry rice. On Sunday, you are going to serve rice to 12 people. How would the recipe change? If you've ever made rice, you know that this ratio—1 part dry rice and 2 parts water—is important. Mess it up, and you'll be scooping a gummy mess on top of your guests' crawfish étouffée. Because you are quadrupling your guest list (3 people \* 4 = 12 people), you must quadruple your recipe. Cook 8 cups of water and 4 cups of dry rice. These shifts in a recipe demonstrate the heart of proportions: using a ratio to accommodate life's greater and smaller changes. Sure, with the right numbers, you can forgo setting up an algebraic equation to determine the amounts of dry rice and water. What happens when the numbers are not so friendly, however? On Thanksgiving, you'll be serving rice to 25 people. How much water do you need? Because the ratio of 2 parts water and 1 part dry rice applies to cooking 25 servings of rice, use a proportion to determine the quantity of ingredients. Note: Translating a word problem into an equation is super important. Yes, you can solve an incorrectly set up equation and find an answer. You can also mix rice and water together to create "food" to serve at Thanksgiving. Whether the answer or food is palatable depends on the equation. Think about what you know: 3 servings of cooked rice = 2 cups of water; 1 cup of dry rice25 servings of cooked rice = ? cups of water; ? cup of dry rice3 servings of cooked rice/25 servings of cooked rice = 2 cups of water/x cups of water3/25 = 2/x Cross multiply. Hint: Write these fractions vertically to get the full understanding of cross multiplying. To cross multiply, take the first fraction's numerator and multiply it by the second fraction's denominator. Then take the second fraction's numerator and multiply it by the first fraction's denominator. 3 \* x = 2 \* 253x = 50Divide both sides of the equation by 3 to solve for x.3x/3 = 50/3x = 16.6667 cups of waterFreeze- verify that the answer is correct.Is 3/25 = 2/16.6667?3/25 = .122/16.6667= .12Whoo hoo! The answer 16.6667 cups of water is correct. Damian is making brownies to serve at the family picnic. If the recipe calls for 2 ½ cups of cocoa to serve 4 people, how many cups will he need if there will be 60 people at the picnic? 37.5 cups What do you know?2 ½ cups = 4 people? cups = 60 people2 ½ cups/x cups = 4 people/60 people2 ½/x = 4/60Cross Multiply.2 ½ \* 60 = 4 \* x150 = 4xDivide both sides by 4 to solve for x.150/4 = 4x/437.5 = x37.5 cups Use common sense to verify that the answer is correct.The initial recipe serves 4 people and is modified to serve 60 people. Of course, the new recipe has to serve 15 times more people. Therefore, the amount of cocoa has to be multiplied by 15. Is 2 ½ \* 15 = 37.5? Yes. A piglet can gain 3 pounds in 36 hours. If this rate continues, the pig will reach 18 pounds in 216 hours. What do you know?3 pounds = 36 hours18 pounds = ? hours3 pounds/18 pounds = ? hours3 pounds/18 pounds = 36 hours/? hours3/18 = 36/x Cross Multiply.3 \* x = 36 \* 183x = 648 Divide both sides by 3 to solve for x.3x/3 = 648/3x = 216216 hours Use common sense to verify that the answer is correct.A piglet can gain 3 pounds in 36 hours, which is a rate of 1 pound for every 12 hours. That means that for every pound a piglet gains, 12 hours will pass. Therefore 18 \*12, or 216 pounds, is the correct answer. Denise's rabbit can eat 70 pounds of food in 80 days. How long will it take the rabbit to eat 87.5 pounds? 100 days What do you know? 70 pounds = 80 days87.5 pounds = ? days70 pounds/87.5 pounds = 80 days/x days70/87.5 = 80/x Cross Multiply.70 \* x = 80 \* 87.570x = 7000 Divide both sides by 70 to solve for x.70x/70 = 7000/70x = 100 Use Algebra to verify the answer.Is 70/87.5 = 80/100?70/87.5 = .880/100 = .8 Jessica drives 130 miles every two hours. If this rate continues, how long will it take her to drive 1,000 miles? 15.38 hours What do you know?130 miles = 2 hours1,000 miles = ? hours130 miles/1,000 miles = 2 hours/? hours130/1000 = 2/x Cross Multiply.130 \* x = 2 \* 1000130x = 2000 Divide both sides of the equation by 130 to solve for x.130x/130 = 2000/130x = 15.38 hours Use Algebra to verify the answer.Does 130/1000 = 2/15.38?130/1000 = .132/15.38 is approximately .13 Parkinson's disease is caused when the brain cells responsible for producing dopamine, the chemical messenger that coordinates the body's muscle movements and emotional responses, stop working or die. It typically leads to motor symptoms such as tremor, stiffness, and slowness of movement (known as bradykinesia). It can also lead to other symptoms such as anxiety and depression. But despite understanding a lot about the symptoms of this disease, one big question still remains: What causes Parkinson's disease? Unfortunately, there's not a simple answer for that. "We don't have one cause," Lynda Nwabuobi, MD, assistant professor of clinical neurology at Weill Cornell Parkinson's Disease and Movement Disorders Institute, tells Health. "But based on what we have studied and learned, we know Parkinson's disease happens due to an interaction between the aging brain, your genetics, and your environment." Here, with the help of doctors, we take a closer look at some of the things that may cause Parkinson's, or increase your risk for the neurodegenerative disorder. Age doesn't directly cause Parkinson's disease, but "being an older person" is the greatest risk factor for the neurological disorder, says Dr. Nwabuobi. Why? One explanation is that brain cells are more prone to injury over time, just like the rest of the human body. Another is that gene expression—essentially the way a person's genes operate—can morph over time, triggering changes in cellular activity that ultimately lead to Parkinson's. Usually, people with Parkinson's are diagnosed in their 60s and the likelihood increases with age. But there's always the possibility that someone develops early-onset Parkinson's, or Parkinson's that occurs before the age of 50. In those cases, which represent an estimated 4% of the diagnosed population, the disease is more likely to be linked to genetics. According to the Parkinson's Foundation, genetics cause Parkinson's in about 10% to 15% of cases. But genetic research is still in its infancy, so experts don't have a full picture of the role genes play just yet. "Many gene mutations have been found, but we know that we're just touching the surface," Dr. Nwabuobi says. Researchers at the National Institutes of Health made the first connection between genetics and Parkinson's in 1997, finding that mutations in the SNCAgene (PARK 1), which makes the protein alpha-synuclein, were linked to the disease. Specifically, they found that in brain cells of people with Parkinson's, alpha-synuclein gathers in clumps called Lewy bodies. (These clumps are also associated with Lewy body dementia, the disease Robin Williams was diagnosed with after his death in 2014.) Then there's the GBA1 mutation, which has recently emerged as the most common genetic abnormality linked to PD. Normally, the GBA1 gene produces GCase, a protein that essentially clears out unwanted cells (think of it as a garbage disposal). But when GBA1 is out of whack, it allows for a buildup of alpha-synuclein, which may potentially be a clue for the cause of Parkinson's disease. Another mutation associated with Parkinson's can occur in the LRRK2 gene. In fact, there are at least 20 known LRRK2 mutations, according to the Parkinson's Foundation, and they can be found in up to 2% of all people with Parkinson's. Individuals who are of Ashkenazi Jewish and North African Berber descent are particularly prone to this gene mutation. Does that mean that someone whose parent has Parkinson's is definitely going to develop the disease? No. "Even when someone has a gene mutation associated with Parkinson's, the likelihood of developing the disease is low," according to the Parkinson's Foundation. But the presence of a gene mutation could play a considerable role in the cause of Parkinson's—and there's an enormous push to advance research on genetics in order to better understand the disease, improve treatment and, hopefully, discover a cure. "What we don't know is much more than what we do know," Dr. Nwabuobi says. "I encourage everyone to get genetic testing, especially patients who have a family history. The more people we test, the more we discover." The environment in which you live your life can also potentially cause Parkinson's, or increase your risk for it. What is your occupation? Where do you live? Have you been exposed to any toxins? Although experts haven't pinned down the exact link between such environmental factors and the cause of Parkinson's disease, evidence suggests they may play a role in the development of the disease. "There are certain toxins that have been shown to increase risk of Parkinson's," Dr. Nwabuobi says. "For example, Agent Orange, which many veterans were exposed to in Vietnam." Likewise, certain metals, herbicides, or fungicides could also increase your risk of Parkinson's. According to the Parkinson's Foundation, the herbicide paraquat is of particular concern—and despite being banned in 32 countries, including the European Union and China, it's still widely used in the United States. Researchers have also been exploring whether traumatic brain injuries or concussions can cause Parkinson's disease. Research shows that having just a single concussion can increase the risk of Parkinson's disease by 57%. "If you're a football player or a boxer and you've had multiple concussions," Dr. Nwabuobi says, "that increases your risk." Taking certain medications—specifically ones that block the action of dopamine—could cause Parkinson's disease symptoms. It's a condition called drug-induced parkinsonism, and while it isn't Parkinson's disease itself, it can look and feel a lot like it. Here are some of the drugs that can cause Parkinson's disease symptoms: Antipsychotics (like fluphenazine, pimozide, haloperidol, and perphenazine)Anti-nausea medications (including chlorpromazine, droperidol, and promethazine)Drugs that treat hyperkinetic movement disorders (such as tetraabenazine, deutetrabenazine, and valbenazine) Keep in mind that even though these medications (and others) could cause symptoms similar to Parkinson's, they don't cause the disease itself. And most of the time, the symptoms go away within hours or days once you stop taking that drug, per the Parkinson's Disease Society. In some cases, the Parkinson's symptoms don't go away after a person stops taking the medication that led to them, and they're eventually diagnosed with Parkinson's disease. Researchers don't think that the medication was the cause of Parkinson's in those cases, but that those individuals' dopamine levels were already depleted, and the side effects of the drugs revealed their underlying Parkinson's disease. Put another way, the medication was the "straw that broke the camel's back," according to the American Parkinson Disease Association. Research on what causes Parkinson's disease continues to grow. If you experience symptoms of Parkinson's, such as a hand tremor, slowed movement, balance problems, or changes in your speech or writing, connect with a doctor to diagnose the condition. Thanks for your feedback!



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