

Worksheet: Solving word problems using systems of equations (part 2). Identify your variables, set up a system of equations, and solve for your variables.

1. The cost of 5 squash and 2 zucchini is \$1.32. Three squash and 1 zucchini cost \$0.75. Find the cost of each vegetable.

S = SQUASH
Z = ZUCCHINI

$$\begin{aligned} 5S + 2Z &= 1.32 \\ 3S + Z &= .75 \Rightarrow -2(3S + Z = .75) \Rightarrow -6S - 2Z = -1.50 \end{aligned}$$

NEW EQUATION

ELIMINATION

$$\begin{aligned} 5S + 2Z &= 1.32 \\ + -6S - 2Z &= -1.50 \\ \hline -S &= -.18 \\ S &= .18 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} 3S + Z &= .75 \\ 3(18) + Z &= .75 \\ .54 + Z &= .75 \\ Z &= .21 \end{aligned}$$

2. Judy worked 8 hours and Ben worked 10 hours. Their combined pay was \$80. When Judy worked 9 hours and Ben worked 5 hours, their combined pay was \$65. Find the hourly rate of pay for each person.

J = JUDY'S PAY
B = BEN'S PAY

$$\begin{aligned} 8J + 10B &= 80 \\ 9J + 5B &= 65 \Rightarrow -2(9J + 5B = 65) \Rightarrow -18J - 10B = -130 \end{aligned}$$

NEW EQUATION

ELIMINATION

$$\begin{aligned} 8J + 10B &= 80 \\ + -18J - 10B &= -130 \\ \hline -10J &= -50 \\ J &= 5 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} 8J + 10B &= 80 \\ 8(5) + 10B &= 80 \\ 40 + 10B &= 80 \\ 10B &= 40 \\ B &= 4 \end{aligned}$$

3. Four baseball cards of Babe Ruth and 3 cards of Satchel Paige sold for \$105 at a baseball card convention. Later that weekend, two Babe Ruth cards sold and 3 Satchel Paige cards sold for \$63. Find the value of each card.

B = COST OF BABE RUTH CARD
S = COST OF SATCHEL PAIGE CARD

$$\begin{aligned} 4B + 3S &= 105 \Rightarrow -1(4B + 3S = 105) \Rightarrow -4B - 3S = -105 \\ 2B + 3S &= 63 \end{aligned}$$

NEW EQUATION

ELIMINATION

$$\begin{aligned} -4B - 3S &= -105 \\ + 2B + 3S &= 63 \\ \hline -2B &= -42 \\ B &= 21 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} 4B + 3S &= 105 \\ 4(21) + 3S &= 105 \\ 84 + 3S &= 105 \\ 3S &= 21 \\ S &= 7 \end{aligned}$$

4. Students in a theatre class sold 160 adult and 340 student tickets for a play worth \$1,480. If 80 adult tickets and 400 student tickets totaled \$1200, how much did each ticket cost?

A = PRICE OF ADULT TICKET
S = PRICE OF STUDENT TICKET

$$\begin{aligned} 160A + 340S &= 1480 \\ 80A + 400S &= 1200 \end{aligned}$$

ELIMINATION

OMIT

5. The talent show committee sold a total of 530 tickets in advance. Student tickets cost \$3 each and the adult tickets cost \$4 each. If the total receipts were \$1740, how many of each type of ticket were sold?

S = NUMBER OF STUDENT TICKETS SOLD
A = NUMBER OF ADULT TICKETS SOLD

$$\begin{aligned} S + A &= 530 \Rightarrow -3(S + A = 530) \\ 3S + 4A &= 1740 \\ -3S + -3A &= -1590 \end{aligned}$$

NEW EQUATION

ELIMINATION

$$\begin{aligned} 3S + 4A &= 1740 \\ -3S + -3A &= -1590 \\ \hline A &= 150 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} S + A &= 530 \\ S + 150 &= 530 \\ -150 &= -150 \\ S &= 380 \end{aligned}$$

PERIMETER FORMULA

$$P = 2L + 2W$$

6. The length of a rectangle is 4cm longer than the width. The perimeter is 80 cm. Find the length and the width.

L = LENGTH $L = 4 + W$

W = WIDTH $80 = 2L + 2W$

SUBSTITUTION

$$80 = 2(4 + W) + 2W$$

$$80 = 8 + 2W + 2W \quad L = 4 + W$$

$$80 = 8 + 4W$$

$$\begin{array}{r} -8 \\ 72 = 4W \end{array}$$

$$\frac{72}{4} = \frac{4W}{4} \quad \boxed{W = 18}$$

SUBSTITUTE $L = 4 + (18)$
 $L = 22$

7. A collection of nickels and quarters is worth \$2.85. There are 3 more nickels than quarters. How many nickels and quarters are there?

N = NUMBER OF NICKELS

Q = NUMBER OF QUARTERS

SUBSTITUTION

$$.05N + .25Q = 2.85$$

$$N = 3 + Q$$

$$.05(3 + Q) + .25Q = 2.85$$

$$.15 + .05Q + .25Q = 2.85$$

$$.15 + .30Q = 2.85$$

$$\begin{array}{r} -.15 \\ .30Q = 2.70 \end{array}$$

$.30Q = 2.70$
 $\frac{.30Q}{.30} = \frac{2.70}{.30}$
 $\boxed{Q = 9}$

$N = 3 + Q$
 $N = 3 + (9)$
 $\boxed{N = 12}$

8. Ann and Betty together have \$60. Ann has \$9 more than twice Betty's amount. How much money does each have?

A = ANN'S MONEY

B = BETTY'S MONEY

SUBSTITUTION

$$A + B = 60$$

$$A = 9 + 2B$$

$$(9 + 2B) + B = 60$$

$$9 + 3B = 60$$

$$\begin{array}{r} -9 \\ 3B = 51 \end{array}$$

$$\frac{3B = 51}{3} = \frac{51}{3}$$

$$\boxed{B = 17}$$

$$A = 9 + 2B$$

$$A = 9 + 2(17)$$

$$A = 9 + 34$$

$$\boxed{A = 43}$$

9. A bowl contained 13 red and brown M&M's. There was one more red M&M's than brown M&M's. How many of each color are in the bowl?

R = RED M&M'S

B = BROWN M&M'S

SUBSTITUTION

$$R + B = 13$$

$$R = 1 + B$$

$$(1 + B) + B = 13$$

$$1 + 2B = 13$$

$$1 + 2B = 13$$

$$\begin{array}{r} -1 \\ 2B = 12 \end{array}$$

$$\frac{2B = 12}{2} = \frac{12}{2}$$

$$\boxed{B = 6}$$

$$R = 1 + B$$

$$R = 1 + (6)$$

$$\boxed{R = 7}$$

10. A movie theater charges \$5 for an adult's ticket and \$2 for a child's ticket. One Saturday, the theater sold 785 tickets for \$3280. How many of each type of ticket were sold?

A = # OF ADULT TICKETS

C = # OF CHILD TICKETS

ELIMINATION

$$5A + 2C = 3280$$

$$A + C = 785 \Rightarrow -5(A + C = 785)$$

$$-5A - 5C = -3925 \text{ NEW EQUATION}$$

$$+ 5A + 2C = 3280$$

$$\begin{array}{r} -3C = 645 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} -3C = 645 \\ -3 \quad -3 \\ \hline C = 215 \end{array}$$

$$\boxed{C = 215}$$

$$A + C = 785$$

$$A + 215 = 785$$

$$\begin{array}{r} -215 \quad -215 \\ \hline A = 570 \end{array}$$

$$\boxed{A = 570}$$

11. Jason bought a total of 7 postcards for \$1.80. If the small postcards cost \$0.20 and the larger ones cost \$0.30 each, how many postcards of each size did he buy?

$$\begin{aligned} L &= \# \text{ OF LARGE POSTCARDS} & L + S &= 7 \\ S &= \# \text{ OF SMALL POSTCARDS} & .20S + .30L &= 1.80 \end{aligned}$$

ELIMINATION

12. Victor earns \$4.25 an hour working after school and \$5 an hour working on Saturdays. Last week he earned \$67.50, working a total of 15 hours. How many hours did he work on Saturday?

$$\begin{aligned} A &= \text{AFTER SCHOOL HOURS} & A + S &= 15 \\ S &= \text{SATURDAY HOURS} & 4.25A + 5S &= 67.50 \end{aligned}$$

ELIMINATION

13. The length of a rectangle is 5 cm less than three times its width. If the perimeter is 70 cm, find the dimensions.

$$\begin{aligned} L &= \text{LENGTH} & L &= 3W - 5 & P &= 2L + 2W \\ W &= \text{WIDTH} & 70 &= 2L + 2W \end{aligned}$$

SUBSTITUTION

14. Thirty students bought pennants for the football game. Plain pennants cost \$4 each and fancy ones cost \$8 each. If the total sales were \$168, how many students bought fancy pennants?

$$\begin{aligned} P &= \text{PLAIN PENNANTS BOUGHT} & P + F &= 30 \\ F &= \text{FANCY PENNANTS BOUGHT} & 4P + 8F &= 168 \end{aligned}$$

ELIMINATION

15. A pear has 15 more calories than a grapefruit. Twenty pears and ten grapefruits have a total of 1800 calories. How many calories are in each type of fruit?

$$\begin{aligned} P &= \text{CALORIES IN A PEAR} & P &= 15 + G \\ G &= \text{CALORIES IN A GF} & 20P + 10G &= 1800 \end{aligned}$$

SUBSTITUTION