

Word Problems with Decimals

Grade 5 Math • Section 7.6

Name: _____

Date: _____

Score: _____ / 10

Quick Review and Helpful Hints

Choose the operation: “Total” or “combined” → add. “Difference” or “how much more” → subtract. “Each group” or “per item” → multiply or divide.

Always estimate the answer first and check at the end.

Watch your decimal placement! Double-check by estimating.

Example: A store sells apples for \$1.25 each. Sarah buys 6 apples and pays with a \$10 bill. How much change does she receive?

Cost: $6 \times 1.25 = 7.50$. Change: $10.00 - 7.50 = 2.50$.

Answer: \$2.50

Practice Problems

Solve each word problem. Show your work.

- A jogger runs 3.75 miles on Monday, 4.2 miles on Wednesday, and 2.85 miles on Friday. How many miles did the jogger run in total?

- A board is 8.5 feet long. Three pieces of 2.15 feet each are cut from it. How much is left?

- A pack of 12 pens costs \$9.96. What is the cost per pen?

- Gas costs \$3.85 per gallon. How much does 6.4 gallons cost?

- A recipe calls for 2.5 cups of flour. If you want to make 1.5 times the recipe, how much flour do you need?

- Sam earns \$11.50 per hour. He works 6.5 hours. How much does he earn?

- A rope is 15.6 meters. It is cut into pieces of 1.2 meters each. How many pieces are there?

- Three items cost \$4.99, \$12.50, and \$7.25. What is the total cost? If paid with \$30, what is the change?

Word Problems

- A car averages 32.5 miles per gallon. How far can it go on 12.4 gallons of gas?

- A family's water bill is charged at \$0.045 per gallon. They use 3,200 gallons in a month. What is the bill?



Answer Keys

- | | |
|--------------|--------------------|
| 1. 10.8 mi | 6. \$74.75 |
| 2. 2.05 ft | 7. 13 |
| 3. \$0.83 | 8. \$24.74; \$5.26 |
| 4. \$24.64 | 9. 403 mi |
| 5. 3.75 cups | 10. \$144 |

Step-by-Step Explanations

1. Start with the main idea. For word problems with decimals, add the distances: $3.75 + 4.2 + 2.85 = 10.8$. Write the given information first, then choose the operation that matches the situation.

2. Keep the work tidy. For word problems with decimals, three pieces total $3 \times 2.15 = 6.45$ ft; $8.5 - 6.45 = 2.05$ ft remains. A quick estimate helps confirm that the final answer is reasonable.

3. Look at what the numbers mean. For word problems with decimals, $9.96 \div 12 = 0.83$ per pen. The explanation should show both the computation and why that computation fits the problem.

4. Use the setup first. For word problems with decimals, $3.85 \times 6.4 = 24.64$. Write the given information first, then choose the operation that matches the situation.

5. Check the size of the answer. For word problems with decimals, $2.5 \times 1.5 = 3.75$ cups. A quick estimate helps confirm that the final answer is reasonable.

6. Match the operation to the words. For word problems with decimals, $11.50 \times 6.5 = 74.75$. The explanation should show both the computation and why that computation fits the problem.

7. Write the important values first. For word problems with decimals, $15.6 \div 1.2 = 13$ pieces. Write the given information first, then choose the operation that matches the situation.

8. Follow the pattern carefully. For word problems with decimals, total: $4.99 + 12.50 + 7.25 = 24.74$; change: $30 - 24.74 = 5.26$. A quick estimate helps confirm that the final answer is reasonable.

9. Start with the main idea. For word problems with decimals, $32.5 \times 12.4 = 403$ miles. The explanation should show both the computation and why that computation fits the problem.

10. Keep the work tidy. For word problems with decimals, $0.045 \times 3,200 = 144$. Write the given information first, then choose the operation that matches the situation.



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Practice with purpose.