

Problem-Solving Strategies

PRACTICE 1: SAMPLE

HINT: Read each problem carefully.

Directions

Choose the best answer to each question.

- A** Tickets to the school play cost \$6 each. Which number sentence should be used to find how much 3 tickets will cost?

- (A) $\$6 + 3 = \square$
- (B) $\$6 - 3 = \square$
- (C) $\$6 \times 3 = \square$
- (D) $\$6 \div 3 = \square$



- B** A total of 204 students go to Park Elementary School. On Monday, 37 students were absent. Which numbers give the best estimate of how many students were in school on Monday?

- (F) $200 - 30$
- (G) $200 - 40$
- (H) $210 - 30$
- (J) $210 - 40$

- C** Cynthia went for a hike with her family. She hiked an average of 2 miles every hour. What else do you need to know to find out how many miles Cynthia hiked in all?

- (A) how many people in her family
- (B) how many hours she hiked
- (C) how fast she hiked the first mile
- (D) how much she weighs

HINT: Look for key words to solve each problem.

Finding the Answers to Practice 1: Sample

To answer question **A**, you need to decide whether you should add, subtract, multiply, or divide. Since one ticket costs \$6, you could add $\$6 + \$6 + \$6$ to figure out how much 3 tickets will cost. But $\$6 + \$6 + \$6$ is not one of the answers given. Instead, you could multiply the cost of one ticket (\$6) by the number of tickets you want to buy (3) to find the total cost. Answer **C**, $\$6 \times 3 = \square$, is correct.

Question **B** involves estimating. To find the best estimate of how many students went to school on Monday, you need to round each number to the nearest ten. So if you round 204 to 200 and round 37 to 40, then the best estimate is $200 - 40$. Answer **G** is correct.

To answer question **C**, you need to decide what information you will need to figure out how many miles Cynthia hiked in all. First, you can eliminate any answers that you know are wrong. Knowing how many people there are in Cynthia's family (answer **A**) will not help, and knowing how much Cynthia weighs (answer **D**) will not help. That leaves two possible answers. The problem says Cynthia hiked an average of 2 miles every hour, so you really don't need to know how fast she hiked the first mile (answer **C**). To find how many miles she hiked, you will need to know how many hours she hiked. Answer **B** is correct.

REMINDERS: As you take the Practice Test, remember these hints.

- ✓ Read each problem carefully to make sure you know what it is asking for.
- ✓ Look for key words and numbers to help you solve the problem.
- ✓ In question A, for example, the key words and numbers are *\$6 each*, *3 tickets*, *how much*.
- ✓ Eliminate any answers that you know are wrong.
- ✓ To estimate, round each number to the nearest 10 or 100.
- ✓ Check your answer to be sure it makes sense.


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A Tickets to the school play cost \$6 each. Which number sentence should be used to find how much 3 tickets will cost?

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- Ⓑ $\$6 - 3 = \square$
- Ⓒ $\$6 \times 3 = \square$
- Ⓓ $\$6 \div 3 = \square$



PARK
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL


B A total of 204 students go to Park Elementary School. On Monday, 37 students were absent. Which numbers give the best estimate of how many students were in school on Monday?

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- Ⓑ 200 - 40
- Ⓒ 210 - 30
- Ⓓ 210 - 40

C Cynthia went for a hike with her family. She hiked an average of 2 miles every hour. What else do you need to know to find out how many miles Cynthia hiked in all?

- Ⓐ how many people in her family
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HINT: Read each problem carefully.



HINT: Look for key words to solve each problem.

Standardized Test Skill Builders for Math, Grades 3-4
Scholastic Professional Books

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Problem-Solving Strategies

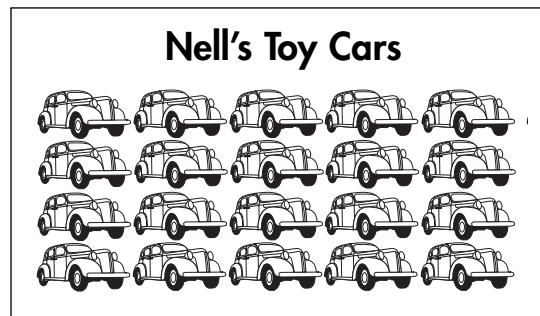
PRACTICE 1: TEST

Directions

Choose the best answer to each question.

- 1 Which number sentence should you use to find the total number of cars?

- (A) $4 + 5 = \square$
- (B) $5 - 4 = \square$
- (C) $4 \times 5 = \square$
- (D) $5 \div 4 = \square$



- 2 Josh has kept a record of the number of pages he read in one month. Which is the best estimate of the total number of pages he read?

- (F) 500
- (G) 600
- (H) 700
- (J) 800

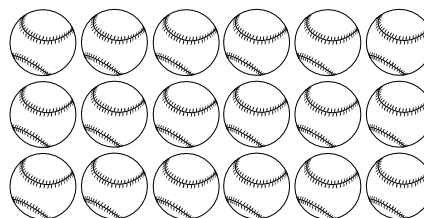
Number of Pages	
Week 1	98
Week 2	203
Week 3	197
Week 4	104

- 3 Coach Bates got 28 shirts for the girls' soccer team. There are 19 girls on the team. How many extra shirts did she get?

- (A) 47
- (B) 19
- (C) 10
- (D) 9

- 4 Which of these is an incorrect number sentence to find the total number of baseballs?

- (F) $6 \times 6 \times 6 =$
- (G) $6 + 6 + 6 =$
- (H) $6 \times 3 =$
- (J) $3 + 3 + 3 + 3 + 3 + 3 =$



- 5 Manuel has a large bag of marbles. He gives Elise 12 marbles from the bag. What else do you need to know to find out how many marbles Manuel has left?

- (A) how many marbles fit in one bag
- (B) how many bags of marbles Elise has
- (C) what kinds of marbles they are
- (D) how many marbles Manuel had in the bag to start with

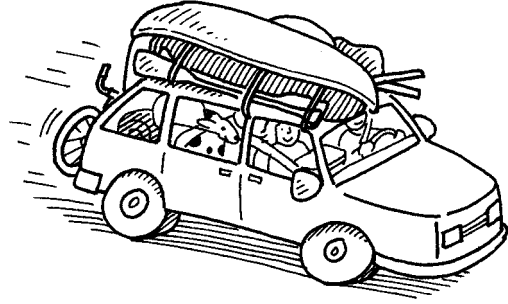
6 There are 78 girls and 91 boys at a summer camp. Which numbers give the best estimate of the total number of children at the camp?

- (F) $70 + 90$
- (G) $70 + 100$
- (H) $80 + 90$
- (J) $80 + 100$



7 The Calders are taking a trip to the Grand Canyon. They plan to travel about 290 miles each day. About how far will they travel in 3 days?

- (A) 900 miles
- (B) 800 miles
- (C) 600 miles
- (D) 300 miles



8 Kim loves to swim. She goes to the pool 5 days a week to swim laps. What else do you need to know to find out how many laps Kim swam last week?

- (F) how many laps she swam each day
- (G) which days of the week she swam
- (H) how many laps she can swim in one hour
- (J) how long it takes her to swim one lap

9 Lenny has 450 stamps in his stamp collection. At a stamp show, he sells 52 of his stamps. Then he buys 85 new stamps. How many stamps does he have in his collection now? Write your answer below. Show your work.

10 Tasha has 96 CDs. She wants to group them into 8 equal stacks. How many CDs will be in each stack? Write your answer below. Show your work.

SCORE	10
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Answer Keys

Problem-Solving Strategies

PRACTICE 1: TEST

1. C
2. G
3. D
4. F
5. D
6. H
7. A
8. F
9. $450 - 52 + 85 = 483$ stamps
10. $96 \div 8 = 12$ CDs