Solving Word Problems

In solving word problems, one must:

1. Understand the problem.

2. Let the unknown be the variable.

3. Translate mathematical statement into mathematical expression.

4. Solve for the unknown.

WORK PROBLEM

1. One pipe can fill a tank in 30 minutes, but a second pipe can fill it in 25 minutes. How long will it take if both pipes are used?

let x -total number of minutes

$$150x \left(\frac{1}{30} + \frac{1}{25}\right) = \left(\frac{1}{x}\right) 150x$$
$$5x + 6x = 150$$
$$\frac{11x}{11} = \frac{150}{11}$$
$$x = 13.63$$

or 13 minutes and 38 seconds

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AGE PROBLEM

2. Three years ago, a woman was 5 times as old as her daughter. Three years from now, she will be three times as old as her daughter. How old are they now?

let *x* -age of the daughter 5x-3=5(3)-35x - 3 = 3x + 3=15-35x - 3x = 3 + 32*x* 6 =12x = 3

Therefore, the age of the daughter is 3 years old and the woman's age is 12 years old.

NUMBER PROBLEM

3. Find five consecutive integers such that the sum of the first three integers is equal to the sum of the last two of the integers.

- let x -first integer(x)+(x+1)+(x+2)=(x+3)+(x+4)x+1 -second integer3x+3=2x+7x+2 -third integer3x-2x=7-3x+3 -fourth integerx=4(x+1)=4+1=5(x+2)=4+2=6
 - Therefore, the integers are 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8, respectively.

$$(x+2) = 4+2 = 6$$

 $(x+3) = 4+3 = 7$
 $(x+4) = 4+4 = 8$

INVESTMENT PROBLEM

4. A businessman invested part of Php 2M at 12% and the rest at 15%. If both investments gave him Php 250,000 per annum, how much was each investment?

let *x* -investment at 12% 2,000,000 – *x* -investment at 15%

(x)(.12)(1) + (2,000,000 - x)(.15)(1) = 250,000.12x + 300,000 - .15x = 250,000300,000 - 250,000 = .15x - .12x50,000 - .03x $.03 \quad .03x$ x = 1,666,666.67(2,000,000-x) = 2,000,000-1,666,666.67= 333, 333.33

Therefore, Php 1,666,666.67 was invested at 12% while Php 333,333.33 was invested at 15%.

COIN PROBLEM

5. The price of admission to a certain show was Php 250 for adults and Php 150 for children. If 500 tickets were sold for a total of Php 100,000, how many of each kind were sold?

let x -admission for adults 500 - x -admission for children

250x + 150(500 - x) = 100,000250x + 75,000 - 150x = 100,000 $\frac{100x}{100} = \frac{25,000}{100}$ x = 250

Therefore, the number of tickets sold to the adults is 250 tickets as well as the children.

500 - x = 500 - 250= 250

THANK YOU!! ③