

Pre-Algebra — Word Problems

10 questions · Key topics: Variables, Ratios, Percent, Integers, Fractions, Equations

Q01 · Variables & Equations

■ ISOLATE THE VARIABLE

Move numbers to one side, keep the variable alone. Do the same to both sides!

Example: $x + 5 = 12 \rightarrow x = 12 - 5 = 7$

Sarah has some stickers. She gives away 8 stickers and has 15 left. Which equation finds the number she started with?

(A) $x - 8 = 15$, so $x = 23$

(B) $x + 8 = 15$, so $x = 7$

(C) $8x = 15$, so $x = 1.875$

(D) $x / 8 = 15$, so $x = 120$

Q02 · Ratio & Proportion

■ CROSS-MULTIPLY

$a/b = c/d \rightarrow axd = bxc$. Set up equal fractions and cross-multiply to find x .

Example: $3/4 = x/12 \rightarrow 36 = 4x \rightarrow x = 9$

A recipe uses 3 cups of flour for every 2 cups of sugar. How many cups of flour are needed for 8 cups of sugar?

(A) 10 cups

(B) 12 cups

(C) 16 cups

(D) 6 cups

Q03 · Percent

■ PERCENT = PART \div WHOLE \times 100

"Of" means multiply. Sale price = original \times (1 - discount rate).

Example: 30% of 50 = $0.30 \times 50 = 15$

A jacket originally costs \$80. It is on sale for 25% off. What is the sale price?

(A) \$55

(B) \$20

(C) \$60

(D) \$65

Q04 · Integer Operations

■ SAME SIGN = ADD · DIFFERENT SIGN = SUBTRACT

Keep the sign of the number with larger absolute value. Use a number line!

The temperature was -4°F in the morning. It rose 11 degrees, then dropped 7 degrees. What is the final temperature?

(A) 4°F

(B) 0°F

(C) -14°F

(D) 14°F

Q05 · Order of Operations

■ PEMDAS — Parentheses / Exponents / Multiply-Divide / Add-Subtract

Always evaluate left to right within the same level. Multiplication BEFORE addition!

Example: $3 + 4 \times 2 = 3 + 8 = 11$ (NOT 14)

Tom earns \$12/hr. He works 3 hours Monday and 5 hours Tuesday, then spends \$20 on lunch. Which expression gives the correct amount left?

(A) $12 \times 3 + 5 - 20 = 21$

(B) $12 \times (3 + 5) - 20 = 76$

(C) $(12 \times 3) + 5 - 20 = 21$

(D) $12 + 3 \times 5 - 20 = 7$

Q06 · Fractions

■ COMMON DENOMINATOR TO ADD/SUBTRACT FRACTIONS

Convert to same denominator first. $1/4 = 2/8$. Then add or subtract numerators only.

Maria eats $3/8$ of a pizza and her brother eats $1/4$. What fraction is left?

(A) $3/8$

(B) $5/8$

(C) $4/8$

(D) $1/2$

Q07 · Inequalities

■ FLIP THE SIGN WHEN DIVIDING/MULTIPLYING BY NEGATIVE!

Solve like an equation, but if you \times or \div both sides by a negative, reverse the inequality.

Jake needs at least \$50. He has \$18 and earns \$8/hour. What is the minimum number of hours he must work?

(A) 3 hours

(B) 4 hours

(C) 5 hours

(D) 6 hours

Q08 · Rate & Speed

■ $D = R \times T$ (Distance = Rate \times Time)

Opposite directions \rightarrow ADD speeds. Same direction \rightarrow SUBTRACT speeds.

Example: 60 mph for 2.5 hours $\rightarrow D = 60 \times 2.5 = 150$ miles

Train A travels at 60 mph and Train B at 40 mph from the same station in opposite directions. After how many hours are they 300 miles apart?

(A) 2 hours

(B) 3 hours

(C) 4 hours

(D) 5 hours

Q09 · Distributive Property

■ $a(b + c) = ab + ac$ — MULTIPLY OUTSIDE \times EVERY TERM INSIDE

Factor the common number outside parentheses. Multiply it with every item inside.

Notebooks cost \$3 each and pens cost \$1.50 each. A teacher buys 6 of each. Which expression uses the distributive property correctly?

(A) $6 \times 3 + 1.50 = \$19.50$

(B) $6(3 + 1.50) = \$27$

(C) $(6 + 3) \times 1.50 = \$13.50$

(D) $6 \times 3 \times 1.50 = \27

Q10 · Two-Step Equations

■ UNDO IN REVERSE PEMDAS ORDER: first \pm then $\times \div$

Step 1: add or subtract to move constants. Step 2: multiply or divide to isolate x .

Example: $2x + 6 = 14 \rightarrow 2x = 8 \rightarrow x = 4$

Emma triples a number, then subtracts 7, and gets 20. What is her number?

(A) 4

(B) 7

(C) 9

(D) 13

ANSWER KEY — Pre-Algebra

Q01	Q02	Q03	Q04	Q05	Q06	Q07	Q08	Q09	Q10
A	B	C	B	B	A	B	B	B	C

Geometry — Word Problems

10 questions · Key topics: Perimeter, Area, Angles, Pythagorean Theorem, Volume, Similar Triangles

Q01 · Perimeter

■ PERIMETER = SUM OF ALL SIDES

Rectangle: $P = 2(l + w)$. Don't forget to count BOTH lengths and BOTH widths!

Example: Rectangle 5x3: $P = 2(5+3) = 16$

A rectangular garden is 12 m long and 7 m wide. Fencing costs \$5/meter. What is the total fencing cost?

- (A) \$95 (B) \$190
(C) \$420 (D) \$380
-

Q02 · Area of Triangle

■ $A = 1/2 \times \text{base} \times \text{height}$ (height must be PERPENDICULAR!)

The height is NOT the slant side — it must form a 90° angle with the base.

A triangular sail has a base of 9 m and a height of 14 m. What is the area?

- (A) 63 m² (B) 126 m²
(C) 46 m² (D) 94.5 m²
-

Q03 · Circles — Circumference

■ $C = 2\pi r = \pi d$ (one full rotation = one circumference!)

Given radius $\rightarrow C = 2\pi r$. Given diameter $\rightarrow C = \pi d$. Don't confuse the two!

Example: Radius = 5: $C = 2\pi(5) = 10\pi \approx 31.4$

A wheel has a radius of 35 cm. How far does it travel in one complete rotation? ($\pi \approx 3.14$)

- (A) 109.9 cm (B) 219.8 cm
(C) 3846.5 cm² (D) 175 cm
-

Q04 · Angle Relationships

■ SUPPLEMENTARY = 180° | COMPLEMENTARY = 90°

"S" for Straight line (180°). "C" for Corner/right angle (90°). Set up equation and solve!

Two supplementary angles are $(3x + 10)^\circ$ and $(x + 30)^\circ$. What is the value of x?

- (A) $x = 25$ (B) $x = 35$
(C) $x = 40$ (D) $x = 50$
-

Q05 · Pythagorean Theorem

■ $a^2 + b^2 = c^2$ (c = hypotenuse, always the LONGEST side!)

The hypotenuse is OPPOSITE the right angle. Common triples: 3-4-5, 5-12-13, 8-15-17.

Example: $a=3, b=4: c^2 = 9+16 = 25 \rightarrow c = 5$

A 13 ft ladder leans against a wall with its base 5 ft from the wall. How high up does it reach?

- (A) 8 ft (B) 10 ft

(C) 12 ft

(D) 14 ft

Q06 · Area of Circle

■ $A = \pi r^2$ — **MUST USE RADIUS, NOT DIAMETER!**

If given diameter, divide by 2 FIRST to get radius, then square it. #1 most common trap!

A circular pizza has a diameter of 16 inches. What is the area? ($\pi \approx 3.14$)

(A) 200.96 in²

(B) 803.84 in²

(C) 50.24 in²

(D) 401.92 in²

Q07 · Volume of Rectangular Prism

■ $V = l \times w \times h$ (units are CUBED: cm³, m³, ft³)

Volume fills 3D space — multiply all three dimensions. Partial fill: multiply by fraction.

A fish tank is 60×30×40 cm and is filled 3/4 full. What is the volume of water?

(A) 54,000 cm³

(B) 72,000 cm³

(C) 36,000 cm³

(D) 48,000 cm³

Q08 · Triangle Angles

■ **ALL THREE ANGLES IN A TRIANGLE SUM TO 180°**

Set up: angle1 + angle2 + angle3 = 180°. Substitute expressions and solve for the variable.

A triangle has angles of 90°, (2x – 10)°, and (x + 20)°. Find x.

(A) x = 20

(B) x ≈ 26.7

(C) x = 30

(D) x = 35

Q09 · Composite Shapes

■ **SPLIT INTO SIMPLE SHAPES → CALCULATE EACH → ADD (or subtract for holes)**

L-shapes, T-shapes: divide into rectangles. Shaded region: subtract inner from outer.

An L-shaped room is made of two rectangles: 10×4 m and 6×3 m. What is the total area?

(A) 52 m²

(B) 58 m²

(C) 78 m²

(D) 46 m²

Q10 · Similar Triangles

■ **SIMILAR = SAME SHAPE, PROPORTIONAL SIDES → CROSS-MULTIPLY**

Set up: (side of small)/(side of big) = (other side of small)/(other side of big).

Example: Small sides 3,4,5 and big triangle base = 6 → scale factor 2 → sides 6, 8, 10

A 6 ft person casts a 4 ft shadow. A tree casts an 18 ft shadow at the same time. How tall is the tree?

(A) 12 ft

(B) 24 ft

(C) 27 ft

(D) 20 ft

Q01	Q02	Q03	Q04	Q05	Q06	Q07	Q08	Q09	Q10
B	A	B	B	C	A	A	B	B	C