

Algebra 2  
1.2 – Solving Systems of Equations Algebraically  
Word Problems

Name: KEY

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Period: \_\_\_\_\_

Applications of Linear Systems

**Learning Target:** Students will be able to interpret word problems to write and solve systems of equations.

**Steps:**

1. Define two variables. Be specific about the quantity they represent.
2. Write a system of two equations.
3. Solve the system using substitution or elimination.
4. Use units to label both answers and check to make sure the answers make sense!

**Set up a system of equations and solve.**

- 1.) The Rocket Coaster has 15 cars, some that hold 4 people and some that hold 6 people. There is room for 72 people altogether. How many 4-passenger cars are there? How many 6-passenger cars are there?

$x = 4\text{-PASSENGER CARS}$

$y = 6\text{-PASSENGER CARS}$

NINE 4-PASSENGER CARS  
SIX 6-PASSENGER CARS

$$x + y = 15 \rightarrow -4x - 4y = -60$$

$$4x + 6y = 72 \rightarrow 4x + 6y = 72$$

$$2y = 12$$

$$y = 6$$

$$x + 6 = 15$$

$$x = 9$$

- 2.) Tickets to the Valentine Dance cost \$3 per person or \$5 per couple. If \$475 worth of tickets were sold and 180 people attended the dance, how many couples were there?

$x = \text{INDIVIDUAL}$

$y = \text{COUPLE}$

$$x + y = 180$$

$$3x + 5y = 475$$

- 3.) Pi High School ordered 40 science books. The next week, the school ordered 30 algebra books. The bill for the first order was \$360 greater than the bill for the second order. The two bills together totaled \$3960. Find the price of an algebra book.

$x = 1^{\text{st}} \text{ ORDER}$

$y = 2^{\text{nd}} \text{ ORDER}$

$$40x = 30y + 360$$

$$40x + 30y = 3960$$

- 4.) To raise money for new uniforms, the band boosters sell t-shirts and hats. The cost of each t-shirt is \$6.00 and the cost for the hat is \$4.00. The boosters spend a total of \$2,000 on t-shirts and hats. The selling prices of the t-shirts are \$10.00 and the selling prices of the hats are \$7.00. They sell all of the merchandise and their revenue is \$3375. How many t-shirts and hats did they sell?

$t = \text{T-SHIRTS}$

$h = \text{HATS}$

$$6t + 4h = 2000$$

$$10t + 7h = 3375$$



- 5.) Calvin has \$8.80 in pennies and nickels. If there are twice as many nickels as pennies, how many pennies does Calvin have? How many nickels?

$$P = \text{PENNIES} \quad .01P + .05N = 8.80$$

$$N = \text{NICKELS} \quad N = 2P$$

$$.01P + .05(2P) = 8.80$$

$$.01P + .10P = 8.80$$

$$.11P = 8.80$$

$$P = 80$$

$$N = 2(80)$$

$$N = 160$$

80 PENNIES  
160 NICKELS

- 6.) A total of 78 seats for a concert are sold, producing a total revenue of \$483. If seats cost either \$2.50 or \$10.50, how many \$2.50 seats and how many \$10.50 seats were sold?

$$x = \$2.50 \text{ SEAT} \quad x + y = 78$$

$$y = \$10.50 \text{ SEAT} \quad 2.50x + 10.50y = 483$$

- 7.) You enroll in a book club in which you can earn bonus points to use towards the purchase of books. Each paperback book you order cost \$6.95 and earns you 2 bonus points. Each hardcover book costs \$19.95 and earns you 4 bonus points. The first order you place comes to a total of \$60.75 and earns you 14 bonus points. How many of each type of book did you order?

$$P = \text{PAPERBACK BOOK} \quad 6.95P + 19.95H = 60.75$$

$$H = \text{HARDCOVER BOOK}$$

$$2P + 4H = 14 \rightarrow P = -2H + 7$$

3 PAPERBACK BOOKS

2 HARDCOVER BOOKS

$$6.95(-2H + 7) + 19.95H = 60.75$$

$$-13.90H + 48.65 + 19.95H = 60.75$$

$$6.05H = 12.10$$

$$H = 2$$

$$P = -2(2) + 7$$

$$P = -4 + 7$$

$$P = 3$$

- 8.) Using only 34-cent stamps and 20-cent stamps, Peggy put \$3.52 postage on a package. She used twice as many 34-cent stamps as 20-cent stamps. Determine how many of each type of stamp she used.

$$x = 34\text{-CENT STAMPS} \quad .34x + .20y = 3.52 \quad .34(2y) + .20y = 3.52$$

$$y = 20\text{-CENT STAMPS}$$

$$x = 2y$$

$$.68y + .20y = 3.52$$

$$.88y = 3.52$$

$$y = 4$$

$$x = 2(4)$$

$$x = 8$$

EIGHT 34-CENT STAMPS

FOUR 20-CENT STAMPS

- 9.) The graph below was made to compare the costs of renting copy machines from Company A and from Company B. What information is given by the point of intersection of the two lines.

- A. The number of copies from which the fixed per-month charge is equal to the cost of copies  
B. The price per copy for renting a copier from both companies  
C. The fixed per-month charge for renting a copier from both companies  
☒ D. The number of copies for which the total cost per month is the same for both companies

Copy Machine Rental Cost

