

Decimal Word Problems

Decimals

Instructions:

Read each word problem and decide whether to solve each one with addition or subtraction.



Helpful Hint:

Read carefully to decide whether to add or subtract. You can often find word clues to help you figure out what to do.

Add

total

in all

altogether

Subtract

remaining

how much more

how much faster

how much left

When solving equations, write the numbers so that the decimal points line up. Add or subtract each column, remembering to **put the decimal point in the correct place** (straight down).

Example: Jimmy's dad gave him \$60 for his birthday. He bought a cap for \$10.25. How much money did Jimmy have left?

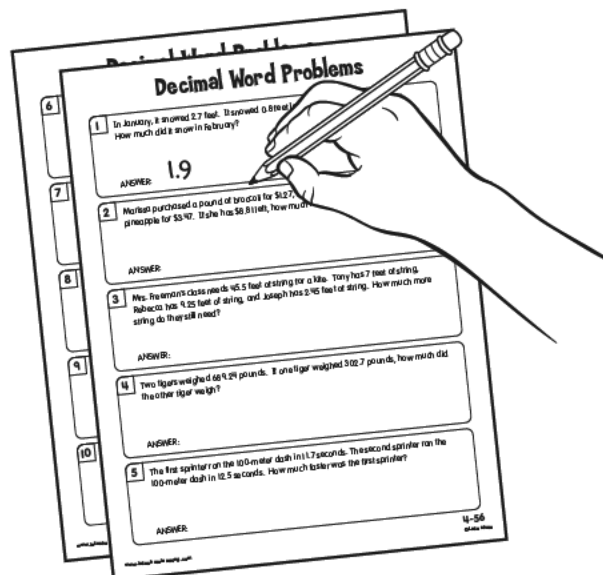
$$\begin{array}{r} 59.91 \\ - 10.25 \\ \hline 49.76 \end{array}$$

\$49.76 left

Sometimes two numbers that are added or subtracted do not have the same number of decimal places. Remember to **line up the decimals one on top of the other**. Then add a 0 to the end of the number with fewer decimal places.

$$\begin{array}{r} 18.62 \\ + 7.2 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 18.62 \\ + 7.20 \\ \hline 25.82 \end{array}$$



Decimal Word Problems

- 1** In January, it snowed 2.7 feet. It snowed 0.8 feet less in February than in January. How much did it snow in February?

ANSWER:

- 2** Marissa purchased a pound of broccoli for \$1.27, 6 apples for \$6.45, and a 3-pound pineapple for \$3.47. If she has \$8.81 left, how much money did she start with?

ANSWER:

- 3** Mrs. Freeman's class needs 45.5 feet of string for a kite. Tony has 7 feet of string, Rebecca has 9.25 feet of string, and Joseph has 2.45 feet of string. How much more string do they still need?

ANSWER:

- 4** Two tigers weighed 689.24 pounds. If one tiger weighed 302.7 pounds, how much did the other tiger weigh?

ANSWER:

- 5** The first sprinter ran the 100-meter dash in 11.7 seconds. The second sprinter ran the 100-meter dash in 12.5 seconds. How much faster was the first sprinter?

ANSWER:

Decimal Word Problems

- 6** The movie theater has 50 pounds of popcorn kernels. If 7.62 pounds are popped on Monday and 8.75 pounds are popped on Tuesday, how much is left for Wednesday?

ANSWER:

- 7** A freight elevator holds 850 pounds. A 483.75-pound piano and two 150-pound men board the elevator. How many more pounds can the elevator hold?

ANSWER:

- 8** This year, the star quarterback threw for an average of 312.32 yards per game. That was 21.23 yards more than he threw last year. How many yards did he average last year?

ANSWER:

- 9** Priya scored 9.754 on the vault. She then scored 8.96 on the uneven bars and 9.251 on her floor routine. What is her total score?

ANSWER:

- 10** Maddy can only spend \$42 on gas per week. On Monday, she put \$15.47 worth of gas in her car. On Thursday, she added another \$6.98, and on Saturday she added another \$17.28. How much does she have left to spend on gas for the week?

ANSWER:

Answer Key

1

In January, it snowed 2.7 feet. It snowed 0.8 feet less in February than in January. How much did it snow in February?

ANSWER: 1.9 feet

$$\begin{array}{r} 1\ 17 \\ 2.7 \\ - 0.8 \\ \hline 1.9 \end{array}$$

2

Marissa purchased a pound of broccoli for \$1.27, 6 apples for \$6.45, and a 3-pound pineapple for \$3.47. If she has \$8.81 left, how much money did she start with?

ANSWER: \$20.00

$$\begin{array}{r} 1\ 1 \\ \$1.27 \\ \$6.45 \\ + \$3.47 \\ \hline \$11.19 \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{r} 11\ 1 \\ \$11.19 \\ + \$8.81 \\ \hline \$20.00 \end{array}$$

3

Mrs. Freeman's class needs 45.5 feet of string for a kite. Tony has 7 feet of string, Rebecca has 9.25 feet of string, and Joseph has 2.45 feet of string. How much more string do they still need?

ANSWER: 26.8 feet

$$\begin{array}{r} 1 \\ 7.00 \\ 9.25 \\ + 2.45 \\ \hline 18.70 \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{r} 14 \\ 3\ 14\ 15 \\ 45.50 \\ - 18.70 \\ \hline 26.80 \end{array}$$

4

Two tigers weighed 689.24 pounds. If one tiger weighed 302.7 pounds, how much did the other tiger weigh?

ANSWER: 386.54 pounds

$$\begin{array}{r} 8\ 12 \\ 689.24 \\ - 302.70 \\ \hline 386.54 \end{array}$$

5

The first sprinter ran the 100-meter dash in 11.7 seconds. The second sprinter ran the 100-meter dash in 12.5 seconds. How much faster was the first sprinter?

ANSWER: 0.8 seconds faster

$$\begin{array}{r} 1\ 15 \\ 12.5 \\ - 11.7 \\ \hline 0.8 \end{array}$$

Answer Key

- 6** The movie theater has 50 pounds of popcorn kernels. If 7.62 pounds are popped on Monday and 8.75 pounds are popped on Tuesday, how much is left for Wednesday?

ANSWER: 33.63 pounds

$$\begin{array}{r} 7.62 \\ + 8.75 \\ \hline 16.37 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 50.00 \\ - 16.37 \\ \hline 33.63 \end{array}$$

- 7** A freight elevator holds 850 pounds. A 483.75-pound piano and two 150-pound men board the elevator. How many more pounds can the elevator hold?

ANSWER: 66.25 pounds

$$\begin{array}{r} 483.75 \\ + 150.00 \\ \hline 633.75 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 850.00 \\ - 633.75 \\ \hline 216.25 \end{array}$$

- 8** This year, the star quarterback threw for an average of 312.32 yards per game. That was 21.23 yards more than he threw last year. How many yards did he average last year?

ANSWER: 291.09 yards

$$\begin{array}{r} 312.32 \\ - 21.23 \\ \hline 291.09 \end{array}$$

- 9** Priya scored 9.754 on the vault. She then scored 8.96 on the uneven bars and 9.251 on her floor routine. What is her total score?

ANSWER: 27.965

$$\begin{array}{r} 9.754 \\ 8.960 \\ + 9.251 \\ \hline 27.965 \end{array}$$

- 10** Maddy can only spend \$42 on gas per week. On Monday, she put \$15.47 worth of gas in her car. On Thursday, she added another \$6.98, and on Saturday she added another \$17.28. How much does she have left to spend on gas for the week?

ANSWER: \$2.27

$$\begin{array}{r} \$15.47 \\ \$6.98 \\ + \$17.28 \\ \hline \$39.73 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} \$42.00 \\ - \$39.73 \\ \hline \$2.27 \end{array}$$