Variables and equations

Grade 3 Word Problems Worksheet

For each question, write an equation with a variable for the unknown amount. Then, solve the equation to answer the question.

1. Sheena received her score on her 50-item math test. She made 7 mistakes on that test. How many questions did she get correct on the test?

2. Bob needs to find his 24 crayons. He found 8 crayons underneath his bed and another 9 crayons in his crayon box. How many crayons does he still need to find?

3. Ryan has 2 small jars. The first jar contains 21 marbles, and the second jar contains 18 marbles. How many marbles does Ryan have altogether?

4. After Angel gave 9 seashells to her friend Jared, she had 21 seashells left. How many seashells did she have at the beginning?

5. Jade planted 12 jackfruit seeds and 9 avocado seeds. After a month, 10 of the jackfruit seeds began to grow. How many jackfruit seeds did not grow?

6. Janice cut her birthday cake into equal slices. She gave 2 slices to her father and had 10 slices left. How many slices of cake were there altogether?

Answers

Note: There are several possible correct equations for each problem.

1. $7 + x = 50$ or $50 - 7 = x$
    $x = 43$
    She got 43 questions correct.

2. $8 + 9 = 17$ or $24 - 8 - 9 = x$
    $24 - x = 17$
    $x = 7$
    He needs to find 7 more crayons.

3. $x = 21 + 18$
    Ryan has 39 marbles altogether.

4. $x - 9 = 21$ or $21 + 9 = x$
    She had 30 seashells at the beginning.

5. $12 - x = 10$ or $12 - 10 = x$
    $x = 2$
    There were 2 jackfruit seeds that did not grow.

6. $x - 2 = 10$ or $10 + 2 = x$
    $x = 12$
    There were 12 slices of cake altogether.