



**When reading a math story problem,
ask yourself some questions:**

1. What is this problem asking me to do?—What is the question?
What question words are used?
2. What are the important facts?
3. What “key” words are important for solving this problem?
(See back for list of words.)
4. What math operation should I use?
(+, -, \times , \div)
5. Solve the problem and then ask,
“Does my answer make sense?”
6. Do I know a way to check my answer?



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Key Words to Help Solve Story Problems

<u>Addition Key Words</u>	<u>Subtraction Key Words</u>
add	change (money)
added to	debit
additional	decrease
altogether	decreased by
and	deduct
both	difference
combined	difference between/of
credit	dropped
deposit	farther
extra	fell
gain	fewer than
in all	How much is left?
increase of	How much less
increased	How much more
increased by	left
increment	less than
more	lost
more than	minus
plus	more than
raise	nearer
sum	reduce
together	remain
total	remainder
total of	take away
whole	words ending in “-er”
	How much heavier is Jean’s apple?

<u>Multiplication Key Words</u>	<u>Division Key Words</u>
apiece	average
area	cut
as much	divided
at this rate	divided by
by	divided equally
double	each
every	equal pieces
in all	evenly
multiplied	every
multiplied by	half
of	How many times
per (as in \$1 per item)	out of
product	per (as in miles per gallon)
product of	quotient
times	ratio
total	shared
triple	shared equally
twice	split
volume	

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