

Word Problems on Equal Groups

Chapter 9: Equal Groups · Topic 2

Key Concept

A word problem might say, 'There are 36 students to be divided into 6 equal teams. How many students per team?' We solve using division: $36 \div 6 = 6$.

Alternatively, if we know the group size and need the total, we use multiplication - '6 teams with 6 students each' means $6 \times 6 = 36$ students total.

Recognising whether we need to find the total (multiply) or find the group size/number of groups (divide) is key to solving these problems correctly.

Practising equal group word problems strengthens our understanding of the relationship between multiplication and division.

Quick Revision Notes

- 36 students divided into 6 teams gives 6 students per team.
- $36 \div 6 = 6$ solves this equal group problem.
- If we know group size and need the total, we multiply.
- 6 teams of 6 students means $6 \times 6 = 36$ total.
- We divide to find group size or number of groups.
- We multiply to find the total from equal groups.
- Recognising which operation to use is key.
- This strengthens the multiplication-division relationship.

Practice Questions

- 1 Solve: 42 pencils shared equally among 7 students. How many each?
- 2 Solve: 9 rows with 4 chairs each. How many chairs total?
- 3 Create your own equal groups word problem.
- 4 Identify whether a problem needs multiplication or division.
- 5 Draw a picture to solve an equal groups problem.
- 6 Solve three more equal groups word problems.