Fraction addition and subtraction word problems

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Use the explanations to discuss the idea. A worked answer is one example; equivalent answers may also be valid.

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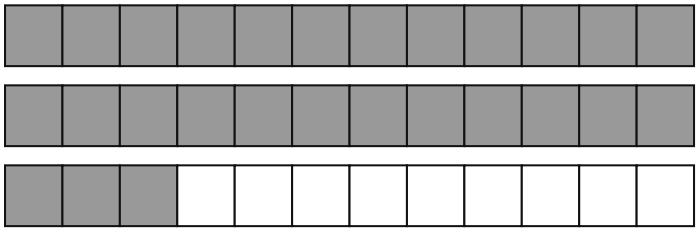
1. A path is 2 3/12 meters long. You walk 1 3/5 meters. How many meters remain?

13/20

2 3/12 – 1 3/5 = 135/60 – 96/60 = 13/20. The answer is in meters.

2 3/12



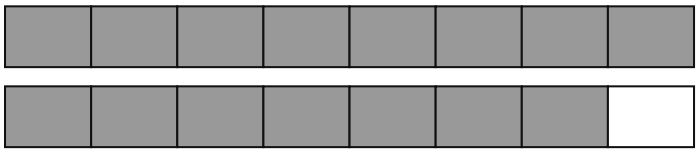
1 3/5

2. A jug has 1 7/8 liters of water. Another 1 2/3 liters are poured in. How many liters are there now?

85/24

1 7/8 + 1 2/3 = 45/24 + 40/24 = 85/24 = 3 13/24. The answer is in liters.

1 7/8



1 2/3

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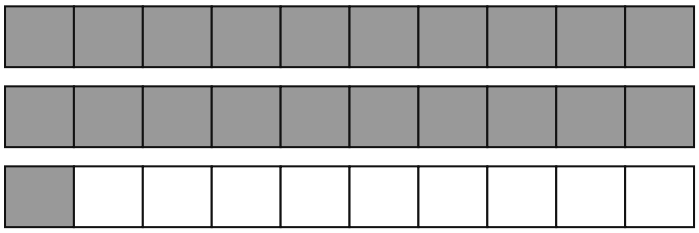
3. A path is 2 1/10 meters long. You walk 1/2 meters. How many meters remain?

8/5

2 1/10 − 1/2 = 21/10 − 5/10 = 8/5 = 1 3/5. The answer is in meters.

2 1/10



1/2

4. A jug has 2 2/3 liters of water. Another 1 1/4 liters are poured in. How many liters are there now?

47/12

2 2/3 + 1 1/4 = 32/12 + 15/12 = 47/12 = 3 11/12. The answer is in liters.

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5. A jug has 2 1/3 liters of water. Another 1/12 liters are poured in. How many liters are there now?

29/12

2 1/3 + 1/12 = 28/12 + 1/12 = 29/12 = 2 5/12. The answer is in liters.

6. A ribbon is 2 3/4 meters long. You cut off 1/2 meters. How many meters remain? Which reason would help you solve this correctly?

Picture the situation. Decide whether amounts are being combined or taken away, then compare the result with a nearby whole number before calculating exactly.

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7. A ribbon is 1 5/12 meters long. You cut off 1/6 meters. How many meters remain?

5/4

1 5/12 – 1/6 = 17/12 – 2/12 = 5/4 = 1 1/4. The answer is in meters.

8. Find 1 9/10 – 1 4/5.

1/10

1 9/10 – 1 4/5 = 19/10 – 18/10 = 1/10.