



Maths Accelerator Centre

1 Marine Parade Central, #12-03, Parkway Centre, S 449408

Tel/SMS/Whatsapp : 87257203 Email : maths.accelerator.centre@gmail.com

P5 Problem Sums – Mini Lesson

Term 1 Lesson 1

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Strategy: Comparison Mode

The **Comparison Model** strategy is a problem-solving approach often used in mathematics word problems where quantities overlap  or are expressed in relation to one another.

 **Core Idea:** Compare two or more group totals that share a common element. By subtracting — or contrasting these totals, the shared quantity cancels out, leaving a direct relationship between the other parts.

Key Takeaway

The **Comparison Model** simplifies complex multi-person  or multi-group problems by focusing on differences between overlapping totals. It's especially powerful  when combined with ratio information, because it quickly isolates unknown values without needing to solve multiple equations simultaneously.

Discussion Question

Follow the trainer in this video and solve this question.

Addison, Bryan and Calvin share some cards. Addison and Bryan have 4059 cards. Addison and Calvin have 3135 cards. Bryan has 4 times as many cards as Calvin. Calvin packs his cards into bundles of 7 cards each. How many bundles does he have?

Practice Time

Here are **4 practice questions** based on this strategy.

Follow the step-by-step method we discussed in the video to solve each one.

- ✓ Work through the problems carefully.
- ✓ Check your solutions against the **Answer Key** provided on the last page.

Question 1

Dylan, Emma, and Fiona share some marbles. Dylan and Emma have 5280 marbles.

Dylan and Fiona have 3648 marbles. Emma has 3 times as many marbles as Fiona.

Fiona packs her marbles into boxes of 12 marbles each.

How many boxes does she have?

 **Question 2**

Aaron, Bella, and Chloe share some pens. Aaron and Bella have 4620 pens. Aaron and Chloe have 3180 pens. Bella has 3 times as many pens as Chloe. Chloe packs her pens into boxes of 12 pens each. How many boxes does she have?

 **Question 3**

Maya, Ethan, and Sophia share some coins. Maya and Ethan have 2890 coins. Maya and Sophia have 1930 coins. Ethan has 2 times as many coins as Sophia. Sophia puts her coins into jars of 10 coins each.

How many jars does she have?

 **Question 4**

Ryan, Chloe, and Liam share some books. Ryan and Chloe have 7542 books. Ryan and Liam have 5022 books. Chloe has 6 times as many books as Liam. Liam stacks his books into piles of 18 books each.

How many piles does he have?

Answer Key

1. 68 Boxes
2. 60 Boxes
3. 96
4. 28 piles