

Substitution Word Problems

Example Problems

EXAMPLE 1: If the formula for calculating the number of paper plates (p) needed for a party, based on the number of guests (n), is $p = 3n$. How many paper plates will be needed for a party of 5 people?

SOLUTION: First, when confronting a word problem it is useful to create a list of which pronumeral represents what part of the question. For example in the above question we have,

- n , is the number of guests,
- p , is the number of paper plates required.

Then we can extract from the question the important information, in this question we have

a party of 5 people

which tells us that the variable representing the number of guests is 5. We can represent this as a simple equation

$$n = 5.$$

EXAMPLE 2:

SOLUTION:

EXAMPLE 3:

SOLUTION:

Question Bank

NOTE: Any questions where you get a decimal as an answer can be rounded to 2 decimal places.

1. .

Answers

1. .