

The value of x

Annotation

Joel can solve problems that use algebraic conventions of letter symbols and can explain his understanding of the given notation.

Problem: The value of x

The teacher shows the student the following problem, reading it to them as required, and asks the student to solve the problem:

$$\textit{If } \frac{x}{2} = 12, \textit{ then what is the value of } x?$$

Student Response

Joel: Twenty-four.

Teacher: Tell me why you think that.

Joel: When I see one number or symbol over another, I know it means that the top one is being divided by the bottom one. In this case, "x" is divided by two. So I think what number divided by two equals 12, and that's 24.