6.1

writecoffee

June 19, 2012

1. Think of a few operations can lead to 8, i.e., 4 * 2 = 8, 16 / 2 = 8, 4 + 4 = 8, and my intuition helps me rule out 2nd and 3rd one, so we can just focus on the number 4 and 2 regardless of their positions.

2. Notice that the 1st and 2nd operands of the expected expression easily added to 4

3. Also notice that the 3rd and 4th operands could generate 2 by via 6 / 2. Since operator * and / have the same precedence, we could just flip "/ 2" and "* 6".

4. Here come the solution: (3 + 1) / 2 * 6 = 8.