

Problem solving is an opportunity to apply your calculation skills to 'real-life'

situations. To do this, you need to will need to follow several steps, but first consider the problem below:

Josh wants to buy a T.V that costs **R2,380** but he only has **R2 259**. **How much more** does he still need?

Step 1: I will read the problem two to three times before I attempt to answer.

Step 2: I will underline (and highlight) the two numbers in the problem and the operational keyword.

Step 3: I will draw a picture.

$$R\ 2\ 259 + \quad ? = \quad R\ 2\ 380$$

Step 4: $R\ 2\ 380 - R\ 2\ 259 = \square$

Step 5: $2\ 380 - 2\ 000 = 380$

$$380 - 200 = 180$$

$$180 - 50 = 130$$

$$130 - 9 = 121$$

Therefore, he still needs R121.

Step 6: I will use the inverse operation to check my answer.

$$2\ 259 + 121 = \square$$

$$2\ 000 + 0 = 2\ 000$$

$$200 + 100 = 300$$

$$50 + 20 = 70$$

$$9 + 1 = 10$$

$$2\ 000 + 300 + 70 + 10 = 2\ 380$$

STEPS for Solving Word Problems

- 1. Read the problem carefully.**
Maggie picks 2 flowers. Her mom gives her 2 more. How many flowers does Maggie have now?
- 2. Underline the facts you will need to solve the problem.**
Maggie picks 2 flowers. Her mom gives her 2 more. How many flowers does Maggie have now?
- 3. Draw a picture, if needed, to help you solve the problem.**
- 4. Write a number sentence for the problem.**
 $2 + 2 = \underline{\quad}$
- 5. Solve the problem. Show your work.**
 $2 + 2 = 4$
- 6. Check your answer.**

Remember: You must always write the final answer in words! Also write what it is that you're calculating i.e. 'R' for rands.

Activity 4

1. Calculate the answers to the following problems.
Show all your working out.

a. There were 1 961 T.Vs in storage. During the sales week, 1 592 T.Vs were sold. How many TV sets were left in the storage?

b. There are 3 366 pine trees currently in the nature reserve. Park workers aim for there to be 4 000 pine trees after three months. How many more pine trees do they still need to plant?

c. Mr. Mc Crowley's farm picked 2 102 lemons and Ms Moosa's farm picked 3 126 lemons from her lemon trees. How many more lemons did Ms Moosa's farm pick?

d. There are 4 104 erasers in the storage of a shop. The store manager counted 3 647 at the end of the day. By how much did the number of erasers decrease?

e. Two teams are competing against each other in skipping. Team A completes 2 412 skips and team B completes 1 784. What is the difference in the number of skips of the two teams?

The Key Word in Word Problems	
 Add Sum Total All together Plus In all	 Multiply Product Times Twice Total Multiplied by
 Subtract Remain Difference Less than Fewer How many more Minus	 Divide Quotient Goes into Split Equally Each