

Challenge

Choose the Operation

1. Describe when you would choose each operation to solve a problem.

Addition	
Subtraction	
Multiplication	
Division	

2. List four words or phrases for each operation that help you know when to choose that operation.

Addition	
Subtraction	
Multiplication	
Division	

Solve each problem. Explain why you chose the operation.

3. A pet store has 15 hamsters and 5 cages. The same number of hamsters is put into each cage. How many are in each cage?

4. A pet store has 12 red canaries, 9 white canaries, and 7 yellow canaries. How many canaries are there in all?

Challenge

Choose the Operation

Possible answers given.

1. Describe when you would choose each operation to solve a problem.

Addition	to combine unequal groups to find a total
Subtraction	to separate a total into unequal groups
Multiplication	to combine equal groups to find a total
Division	to separate a total into equal groups

2. List four words or phrases for each operation that help you know when to choose that operation.

Addition	sum, plus, in all, altogether
Subtraction	difference, minus, take away, less
Multiplication	product, factor, times, multiply
Division	into, divide, equal groups, share

Solve each problem. Explain why you chose the operation.

3. A pet store has 15 hamsters and 5 cages. The same number of hamsters is put into each cage. How many are in each cage?

3 hamsters; Possible

answer: I chose division

because I needed to separate the total number

of hamsters into 5 equal

groups.

4. A pet store has 12 red canaries, 9 white canaries, and 7 yellow canaries. How many canaries are there in all?

28 canaries; Possible

answer: I chose addition

because I needed to combine the unequal groups

of canaries to find the

total.