**Lower Elementary:**



*Question:* On Monday, Rob sends a letter to Bailey at 10:00 am. Bailey receives the letter at 1:30 pm on Wednesday. How many hours does it take for the letter to get from Rob to Bailey?

C:\Users\jane.adams\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCache\Content.Word\airplane.png**Upper Elementary:**

*Question:* Lina and Thomas are taking a vacation to San Francisco. Flights to San Francisco cost $250 per ticket. Return flights cost $325 per ticket. Lina and Thomas have a coupon for 50% off the cost of a single one-way ticket. What is the least they could spend on airfare before tax?

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**Middle School:**

*Question:* Roni and Taylor want to take a road trip. They need to save $1,000 to cover their costs. They have $400 left over from their last road trip. If Roni saves three times as much as Taylor by the time they have their $1,000, then how much money did Taylor save?

**Algebra and Up:**

*Question:* Derek and Ben plan to meet for dinner at a fancy restaurant. Derek’s route to the restaurant is 4 miles, and his average driving speed en route is 20 miles per hour. Ben’s route to the restaurant is 6 miles, and his average driving speed en route is 24 miles per hour. If Derek starts driving to the restaurant 5 minutes after Ben, then who will reach the restaurant first? By how many minutes?

**Lower Elementary:**

*Question:* On Monday, Rob sends a letter to Bailey at 10:00 am. Bailey receives the letter at 1:30 pm on Wednesday. How many hours does it take for the letter to get from Rob to Bailey?

*Answer:* 51½ hours

*Solution:* After 10:00 am, there are 14 hours left on Monday. The letter is in transit all 24 hours of Tuesday. 1:30 pm is 13½ hours into Wednesday. So, the letter takes 14 + 24 + 13½ = 51½ hours to get from Rob to Bailey.

C:\Users\jane.adams\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCache\Content.Word\airplane.png**Upper Elementary:**

*Question:* Lina and Thomas are taking a vacation to San Francisco. Flights to San Francisco cost $250 per ticket. Return flights cost $325 per ticket. Lina and Thomas have a coupon for 50% off the cost of a single one-way ticket. What is the least they could spend on airfare before tax?

*Answer:* $987.50

*Solution:* To spend the least possible amount on their airfare, Lina and Thomas would need to use the coupon on one of the most expensive tickets. So, if they get 50% off a $325 ticket, one of those tickets is reduced to $325 ÷ 2 = $162.50. That means that the least Lina and Thomas could spend on airfare is $250 + $250 + $325 + $162.50 = $987.50.

C:\Users\jane.adams\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCache\Content.Word\road trip.png

**Middle School:**

*Question:* Roni and Taylor want to take a road trip. They need to save $1,000 to cover their costs. They have $400 left over from their last road trip. If Roni saves three times as much as Taylor by the time they have their $1,000, then how much money did Taylor save?

*Answer:* $150

*Solution:* Since Roni and Taylor already have $400, they need $1,000 – $400 = $600 more to reach their total. If Roni saves 3 times as much as Taylor, that means we need to split the remaining $600 into 4 equal parts—3 for Roni and 1 for Taylor. So, Taylor saves $600 ÷ 4 = $150.

**Algebra and Up:**

*Question:* Derek and Ben plan to meet for dinner at a fancy restaurant. Derek’s route to the restaurant is 4 miles, and his average driving speed en route is 20 miles per hour. Ben’s route to the restaurant is 6 miles, and his average driving speed en route is 24 miles per hour. If Derek starts driving to the restaurant 5 minutes after Ben, then who will reach the restaurant first? By how many minutes?

*Answer:* Ben arrives 2 minutes before Derek.

*Solution:* Derek drives at an average speed of 20 mph, so it takes him 20 mph ÷ 4 miles = 12 minutes to drive to the restaurant. Ben drives at an average speed of 24 miles per hour, so it takes him 24 mph ÷ 6 miles = 15 minutes to drive to the restaurant. Since Derek starts driving 5 minutes after Ben, that means that Derek arrives 12 + 5 = 17 minutes after Ben starts driving. So, Derek arrives 2 minutes after Ben.