

Algebra Problem Solving — Cheat Sheet

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ALGEBRA PROBLEM SOLVING

1. Translate the story in ITS order into an equation.
2. Solve with inverse operations.
3. Two unknowns: bigger = $(\text{sum} + \text{difference}) \div 2$.
4. Check against the original story, not your equation.

Examples: $2n + 5 = 17 \rightarrow n = 6$ · sum 10, diff 4 $\rightarrow 7$ and 3.