

in two variables - II (contd...)

Word Problems :-

Problems stated in words are called word or applied problems.

Solving word problems :-

Due to the wide variety of word (or applied) problems, there is no single technique that works in all cases. However, the following general suggestions should prove helpful :-

Step 1:- Read and reread the statement of the problem carefully, and determine what quantities must be found.

Step 2:- Represent the unknown quantities by letters. x and y (Take any two letters)

Step 3:- According to given conditions, form two linear equations in x and y

Step 4:- Solve these equations simultaneously.

TYPE - I Number problem

Example 1:- Find two numbers such that the larger number added to three times the smaller number gives 7 and twice the larger number added to the smaller number gives 9.

Solution :- Let the larger number be x and the smaller number be y . According to given,

$$x + 3y = 7 \text{ --- (i) and } 2x + y = 9 \text{ --- (ii)}$$

Here, coefficient of x are 1 and 2, L.C.M = 2

$$\Rightarrow [x + 3y = 7] \times 2 \Rightarrow 2x + 6y = 14$$

$$[2x + y = 9] \times 1 \quad \begin{array}{r} 2x + 6y = 14 \\ - \quad 2x + y = 9 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$5y = 5 \Rightarrow y = 1$$

On substituting value of y in (i), we get

$x + 3(1) = 7 \Rightarrow x = 4$ So, larger number is 4 and smaller number is 1.

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TYPE-II Digits based problem

Example 2:- The sum of the digits of a two digit number is 9. If the digits are reversed the new number decreased by 9 is equal to 4 times the original number.

Solution:- Let the digit in tens place be x and digit in unit's place be y . (OR Assume vice-versa)

Then, the original number = $10x + y$

and reverse number = $10y + x$

Given, sum of digits = 9 $\Rightarrow x + y = 9$ ----- (i)

According to given condition,

(Reverse number) - 9 = 4(Original number)

$$\Rightarrow 10y + x - 9 = 4(10x + y) \Rightarrow x - 40x + 10y - 4y = 9$$

$$\Rightarrow -39x + 6y = 9 \quad \Rightarrow 39x - 6y = -9$$

$$\Rightarrow 13x - 2y = -3$$
 ----- (ii)

From equation (i), $x + y = 9 \Rightarrow x = 9 - y$

On substituting, $x = 9 - y$ in equation (ii), we get

$$13(9 - y) - 2y = -3 \Rightarrow 117 - 13y - 2y = -3$$

$$\Rightarrow -15y = -3 - 117 \Rightarrow -15y = -120 \Rightarrow y = 8$$

On substituting $y = 8$ in (i), we get

$$x + 8 = 9 \Rightarrow x = 1$$

Therefore, required number = $10x + y = 10(1) + 8 = 18$

TYPE-III Problems based on fractions:-

Example 3:- A fraction becomes $\frac{4}{5}$ when 1 is added to both the numerator and denominator. If 5 is subtracted from both numerator and denominator, the fraction becomes $\frac{1}{2}$. Find the fraction.

Solution:- Let the fraction be $\frac{x}{y}$

Then, according to question,

$$\frac{x+1}{y+1} = \frac{4}{5} \Rightarrow 5x+5 = 4y+4 \Rightarrow 5x-4y = -1$$
 ----- (i)

and $\frac{x-5}{y-5} = \frac{1}{2} \Rightarrow 2x-10 = y-5 \Rightarrow 2x-y = 5$ ----- (ii)

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Coefficient of x and y in equation (i) and (ii) are 1 and 4, L.C.M = 4

$$\Rightarrow [5x - 4y = -1] \times 1 \Rightarrow 5x - 4y = -1$$

$$[2x - y = 5] \times 4 \Rightarrow \begin{array}{r} 8x - 4y = 20 \\ \underline{-} \quad \underline{+} \quad \underline{-} \end{array}$$

$$-3x = -21 \Rightarrow x = 7$$

On substituting $x = 7$ in equation (ii), we get

$$2 \times 7 - y = 5 \Rightarrow 14 - y = 5 \Rightarrow y = 9$$

Hence, the required fraction $\frac{x}{y} = \frac{7}{9}$

TYPE - IV Problems based on age

Example 4:- A man is three times as old as his son. Five years later, the father will be two and a half times as old as the son. How old are the father and the son?

Solution:- Let the father's age be ' x ' years and the son's age be ' y ' years

$$\text{Given, man's age} = 3 (\text{son's age}) \Rightarrow x = 3y \text{ --- (i)}$$

Five years later, father's age = $(x + 5)$ years
and son's age = $(y + 5)$ years

$$\text{Then, } (x + 5) = 2 \frac{1}{2} (y + 5) \Rightarrow (x + 5) = \frac{5}{2} (y + 5)$$

$$\Rightarrow 2(x + 5) = 5y + 25 \Rightarrow 2x + 10 = 5y + 25$$

$$\Rightarrow 2x - 5y = 15 \text{ --- (ii), substituting } x = 3y$$

in equation (ii), we get $2 \times 3y - 5y = 15$

$$\Rightarrow 6y - 5y = 15 \Rightarrow y = 15$$

Therefore, father's age = $3 \times 15 = 45$ years
and son's age = 15 years.