
What Has to Be Organized?

Organizing your thinking is something mathematicians are really good at. Students, often, are not. So we offer the question, "What needs to be organized?" Encourage students to try different ways to organize the quantities and relationships in a problem.

Help them understand the difference between the two:

Quantities: The quantities are generally whatever can be counted or measured in the problem. We use both a description or phrase and a number for a quantity. The description answers the question "How many of what?" If you know the value (number) of a quantity, you can write the description and the number together. Encourage students to record each **quantity** using a specific name and units for it.

Example: Apples Marcia picked (12).

Relationships: Are there operations that help you describe the relationships? Remember that you can include **calculations** and equalities, inequalities, and so on.

Example: Apples Greg picked = apples Marcia picked – 4.

Name: _____

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Quantities	Relationships and Calculations