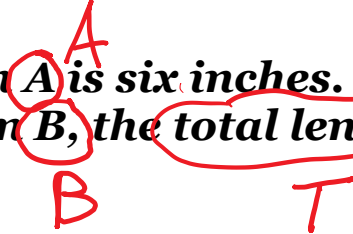


HOW TO SOLVE MATH WORD PROBLEMS



Lani has two ribbons. Ribbon A is six inches. When she attaches it to the end of ribbon B, the total length is 2 1/2 feet. How long is ribbon B?

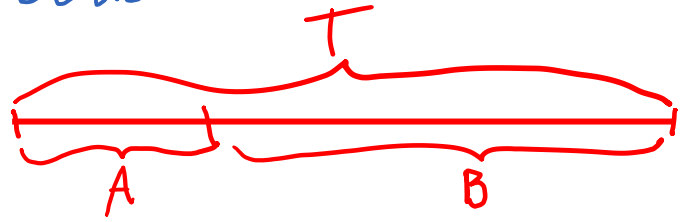


- 1.) Name the variables.
- 2.) Convert all measurements to same units.

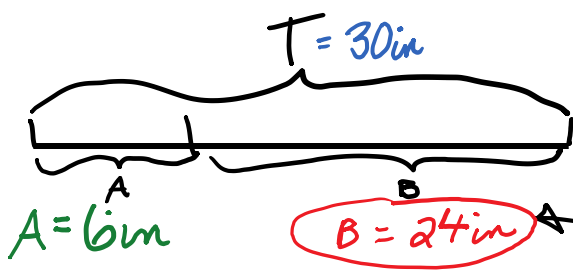
$A = 6 \text{ in}$
 $B = \underline{\quad ? \quad}$
 $T = 2\frac{1}{2} \text{ ft} = 2.5 \text{ ft} = 30 \text{ in}$

$2.5 \text{ ft} \times \frac{12 \text{ in}}{\text{ft}} = 30 \text{ in}$

- 3.) Draw a picture.



- 4.) Label:
 - variables,
 - quantities
 - units



- 5.) Write equations.

$$T = A + B$$

So... $T - A = \underline{B}$

$$\begin{array}{r}
 T \quad 30 \text{ in} \\
 -A \quad -6 \text{ in} \\
 \hline
 B \quad 24 \text{ in}
 \end{array}$$

- 6.) Solve the problem(s).

- 7.) Check your work.

Do it again without looking at what you did before.



VUPLES = Variables, Units, Picture, Label, Equation, Solve, & Check your answer by doing it again with fresh eyes.