

Taxonomy of One-Step Word Problems: Whole Number Addition & Subtraction

One-Step Addition and Subtraction Word Problem Types			
Join	Result Unknown Connie had 5 marbles. Juan gave her 8 more marbles. How many marbles does Connie have altogether?	Change Unknown Connie has 5 marbles. How many more marbles does she need to have 13 marbles altogether?	Start Unknown Connie had some marbles. Juan gave her 5 more. Now she has 13 marbles. How many marbles did Connie have to start with?
Separate	Result Unknown Connie had 13 marbles. She gave 5 to Juan. How many marbles does Connie have left?	Change Unknown Connie had 13 marbles. She gave some to Juan. Now she has 5 marbles left. How many marbles did Connie give to Juan?	Start Unknown Connie had some marbles. She gave 5 to Juan. Now she has 8 marbles left. How many marbles did Connie have to start with?
Part-Part-Whole	Whole Unknown Connie has 5 red marbles and 8 blue marbles. How many marbles does she have altogether?		Part Unknown Connie has 13 marbles: 5 are red and the rest are blue. How many blue marbles does Connie have?
Compare	Difference Unknown Connie has 13 marbles. Juan has 5 marbles. How many more marbles does Connie have than Juan?	Larger Quantity Unknown Juan has 5 marbles. Connie has 8 more than Juan. How many marbles does Connie have?	Smaller Quantity Unknown Connie has 13 marbles. She has 5 more marbles than Juan. How many marbles does Juan have?

SOURCE: Carpenter, Fennema, Franke, Levi, and Empson, 1999, p. 12. Used by permission of Heinemann. All rights reserved.