

# MODELLING WORD PROBLEMS USING LINEAR SYSTEMS

To **MODEL** a word problem using a system of linear equations you must:

- 1) Declare your Variables using "LET" statements
- 2) Create each of your Equations

**MODEL**  
means to  
set up in  
mathematical  
form

## TYPES OF LINEAR SYSTEM PROBLEMS

In our class there are **TWO** types of linear system problems that can be modelled.

### FIRST

is when you have a Single SCENARIO under different conditions.

**Example:**

- ① Jason weighs six kilograms less than twice Bill's weight.
- ② If the sum of their weights is 102 kilograms, how much does each person weigh?

Let  $J$  be Jason's weight

Let  $B$  be Bill's weight

$$\textcircled{1} J = 2B - 6$$

$$\textcircled{2} J + B = 102$$

### SECOND

is when you have two SCENARIOS under similar conditions.

**Example:**

① Karl's Towing charges \$80 plus \$0.22/km. ② Bev's Towing charges \$70 plus \$0.30/km.

Write a linear system to represent this problem. Which towing company would you use? Explain.

Let  $C$  be the total cost of towing

Let  $k$  be the # of km towed

$$\textcircled{1} C = 0.22k + 80$$

$$\textcircled{2} C = 0.30k + 70$$

**Examples:**

Model each of the word problems using a system of linear equations.  
You **DO NOT** need to solve the problems.

1. Jill makes two types of quilts.

The first type costs \$25 for fabric and \$40 per hour for hand quilting.

The second type costs \$50 for fabric and \$22 per hour for machine quilting.

For what number of hours are the costs the same? **MODEL this problem.**

Let  $C$  be the cost for a quilt

Let  $h$  be # of hours needed

$$\textcircled{1} \quad C = 40h + 25$$

$$\textcircled{2} \quad C = 22h + 50$$

2. A band held a concert in its hometown. A total of 15 000 people attended.

The tickets cost \$8.00 per student and \$12.50 per adult.

The concert took in a total of \$162 500.

How many adults came to the concert? **MODEL this problem.**

Let  $x$  be # of adult tickets sold

Let  $y$  be # of student tickets sold

$$\textcircled{1} \quad x + y = 15\,000$$

$$\textcircled{2} \quad 12.50x + 8y = 162\,500$$