

## 5-step Strategy for Solving Word Problems

### Five-Step Problem-Solving Process\*

1. What is the **question**? What do I need to find? (**NOT a math step.**)
  - 1.1. Find the question at the **end** of the word problem.
  - 1.2. Restate it in your own words and **Include the UNIT.**
  - 1.3. Write the question down in as few words as possible.
2. What **information** from the problem do I need? (**NOT a math step.**)
  - 2.1. Identify the type of problem. (Specific to your course of study - access your content knowledge.)
  - 2.2. Select only the info you need to answer the question and **Include the UNIT.**
3. **THINK** What is happening in this problem? (**NOT a math step.**)
  - 3.1. Review the problem for language that defines what is happening. (See pg.2 of this resource.)
  - 3.2. Write a math equation (translate the language into math).
4. **Do the Math! (Finally, a math step!)**
5. Does my answer **make sense**?
  - 5.1. Review the problem you restated Step 1.
  - 5.2. Did you answer the question with the right unit?

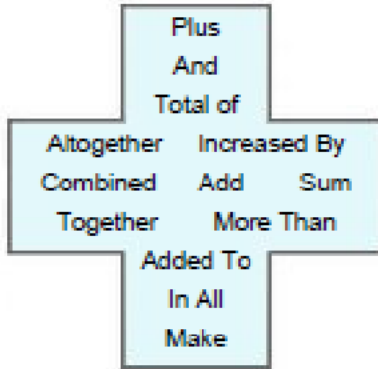
### Language of Math

Learning the following terms will help you create math expressions in Step 3.

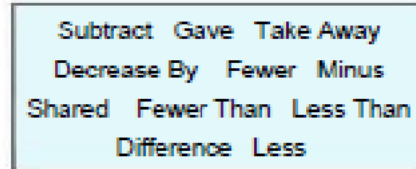


## Words and Phrases to Math Symbols

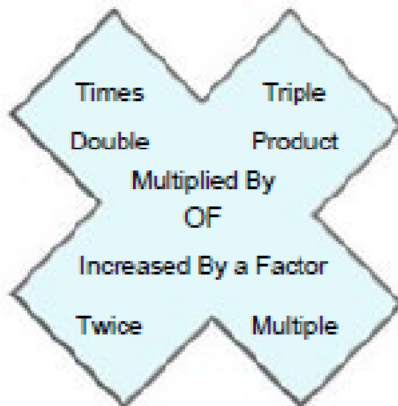
### Addition



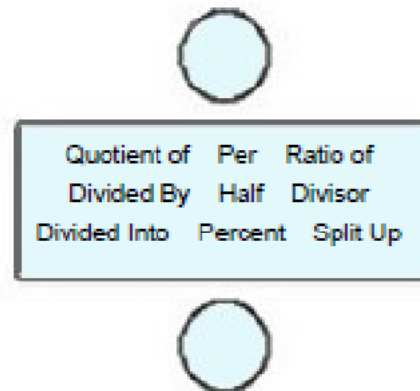
### Subtraction



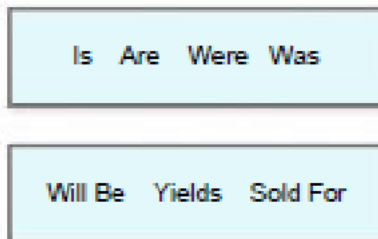
### Multiplication



### Division



### Equals



### Parenthesis Words

