

Addition and Subtraction

Maths

Level 2

Exam-style practice · 11 questions · 28 marks · Non-calculator

Remember

Column method: line up the units (and the decimal points). Carry when a column goes over 9; borrow when you cannot subtract.

Check by estimating: round each number to one significant figure and add or subtract in your head. If your exact answer is nowhere near the estimate, look again.

Money: always work in the same unit – either all pence or all pounds with two decimal places. £3.5 is a mark lost; write £3.50.

Time is not decimal: 2 h 45 min + 1 h 30 min = 3 h 75 min = **4 h 15 min**.

Section A – Whole numbers

1. A stock count shows 3,486 items in the warehouse and 1,275 in the shop. 2,918 are sold in the sale. How many are left in total? (2 marks)

2. A car's mileage was 46,378 at the start of the year and 58,205 at the end. How many miles were driven? Check your answer by estimating. (2 marks)

3. A hall holds 1,250 people. Tickets sold: Friday 837, Saturday 1,194, Sunday 968. How many empty seats were there in total over the three nights? (3 marks)

4. A charity's target is £25,000. Donations so far: £8,745, £6,380 and £4,912. How much more is needed? (2 marks)

Section B – Money and decimals

5. Meera's shopping: bread £1.35, milk £1.79, cereal £3.20, apples £2.45, cheese £4.99. She pays with a £20 note. How much change does she get? (2 marks)

6. An invoice lists labour £186.50, parts £74.25 and a call-out fee of £45. A £30 discount is applied. What is the total? (2 marks)

7. A runner's split times were 4.85 min, 5.12 min and 4.93 min. A rival finished the same three sections in 15.05 min. Who was faster and by how much? (3 marks)

8. A gas bill was £128.64 last quarter and £97.18 this quarter. Water was £61.40 and £64.05. How much less were the two bills together this quarter? (3 marks)

Section C – Time and measures

9. A care worker's shifts this week: 7 h 30 min, 8 h 15 min, 6 h 45 min, 7 h 50 min. She is contracted for 30 hours. How much overtime has she worked? (3 marks)

10. A train leaves at 08:47 and arrives at 11:23. A second train for the same journey takes 2 h 51 min. Which is quicker, and by how many minutes? (3 marks)

11. A parcel weighs 2.35 kg. Three more parcels weigh 1.8 kg, 950 g and 1.475 kg. A courier's limit is 7 kg per trip. Can all four go in one trip? Show your working. (3 marks)

Addition and Subtraction – Answers

Level 2 · Working shown so you can check your method, not just the final number.

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Section A

- $3,486 + 1,275 = 4,761$; $4,761 - 2,918 = \mathbf{1,843}$.
- $58,205 - 46,378 = \mathbf{11,827 \text{ miles}}$. Estimate: $58,000 - 46,000 = 12,000 \checkmark$.
- Total capacity $3 \times 1,250 = 3,750$. Sold $837 + 1,194 + 968 = 2,999$. Empty seats = **751**.
- $8,745 + 6,380 + 4,912 = 20,037$. $25,000 - 20,037 = \mathbf{£4,963}$.

Section B

- Total = £13.78. Change = $20.00 - 13.78 = \mathbf{£6.22}$.
- $186.50 + 74.25 + 45.00 = 305.75$; $- 30 = \mathbf{£275.75}$.
- $4.85 + 5.12 + 4.93 = 14.90$ min. **The first runner** was faster by $15.05 - 14.90 = \mathbf{0.15 \text{ min}}$ (9 seconds).
- Last quarter: $128.64 + 61.40 = 190.04$. This quarter: $97.18 + 64.05 = 161.23$. Difference = **£28.81 less**.

Section C

- $7:30 + 8:15 + 6:45 + 7:50 = 28 \text{ h } 140 \text{ min} = 30 \text{ h } 20 \text{ min}$. Overtime = **20 minutes**.
- $08:47 \rightarrow 11:23$ is 2 h 36 min. **The first train** is quicker by $2:51 - 2:36 = \mathbf{15 \text{ minutes}}$.
- $2.35 + 1.8 + 0.95 + 1.475 = 6.575 \text{ kg}$. **Yes** – 6.575 kg is under the 7 kg limit (by 425 g). Converting 950 g to 0.95 kg is essential.

Where Level 2 students lose marks on addition and subtraction

- Adding minutes as if they were decimals ($7.30 + 8.15 = 15.45$ 'hours'). Convert to minutes, or carry at 60.
- Mixing units – adding 950 g to 2.35 kg as $950 + 2.35$.
- Forgetting the final step: working out the total spent but not the change, or the hours worked but not the overtime.