

Work Backwards

Advanced — ANSWER KEY

Undo three steps — including $\times$ or $\div$.

Think: Undo $\times$ with $\div$, and $\div$ with $\times$. Reverse the order of the steps.

1. Work backwards to find the starting number. Undo each step!

1) I thought of a number, then multiplied by 3, then added 5, then added 37, and got 87. What was my number?



My number = 15

2) I thought of a number, then divided by 4, then added 26, then subtracted 29, and got 0. What was my number?



My number = 12

3) I thought of a number, then subtracted 10, then subtracted 8, then multiplied by 3, and got 0. What was my number?



My number = 18

4) I thought of a number, then subtracted 4, then multiplied by 3, then added 19, and got 22. What was my number?



My number = 5

5) I thought of a number, then subtracted 9, then subtracted 8, then divided by 5, and got 1. What was my number?



My number = 22

6) I thought of a number, then added 3, then added 5, then divided by 5, and got 2. What was my number?



My number = 2

7) I thought of a number, then added 30, then added 24, then multiplied by 2, and got 112. What was my number?



My number = 2

8) I thought of a number, then divided by 2, then added 4, then subtracted 4, and got 3. What was my number?



My number = 6