

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 subtracted 15, then added 35, then multiplied by 4, and got 176. What was my number?



My number = 24

2) I thought of a number, then added 11, then subtracted 13, then divided by 3, and got 3. What was my number?



My number = 11

3) I thought of a number, then added 38, then subtracted 17, then multiplied by 5, and got 215. What was my number?



My number = 22

4) I thought of a number, then multiplied by 4, then subtracted 8, then subtracted 18, and got 42. What was my number?



My number = 17

5) I thought of a number, then added 37, then divided by 4, then subtracted 5, and got 5. What was my number?



My number = 3

6) I thought of a number, then subtracted 4, then added 11, then multiplied by 4, and got 44. What was my number?



My number = 4

7) I thought of a number, then added 34, then subtracted 11, then multiplied by 4, and got 132. What was my number?



My number = 10

8) I thought of a number, then subtracted 8, then multiplied by 2, then added 22, and got 58. What was my number?



My number = 26