LESSON MAKER PRO

Estimate or Exact?

Choose the best kind of answer.

GRADE 3 · 3.CE.1.a

3.CE.1.a "Determine and justify whether an estimate or an exact answer is appropriate when solving single-step and multistep contextual problems involving addition and subtraction, where addends and minuends do not exceed 1,000."

NAME _____ DATE _____

CHOOSE WISELY

Use an estimate when you need a quick, close answer. Use an exact answer when you need the real total or difference, such as for money or a final count.

WORKED EXAMPLE

A team sold 258 tickets on Friday and 141 tickets on Saturday. Does the coach need an estimate or an exact answer to report the total?

1. The coach is reporting the real number of tickets, so use an exact answer.
2. 258 + 141 = 399.
3. The exact total is 399 tickets.

Answer: Exact answer: 399 tickets.

PRACTICE 5 problems

1 A game costs $18. You have $20. Do you need an estimate or an exact answer to know if you have enough? Find the difference.

ANSWER _____

2 A librarian wants a quick idea of the total books on two carts, 392 and 214. Round to the nearest hundred. Estimate or exact? Tell why.

ANSWER _____

3 A theater has 673 seats. Then 128 seats are filled. Does the manager need an estimate or an exact answer to know open seats? Find it.

ANSWER _____

4 A team has collected 451 cans and has a goal of 700 cans. They want a rough plan for how many more cans to collect. Round to the nearest hundred. Estimate or exact?

ANSWER _____

5 A shopper buys items that cost $326 and $149. Does the shopper need an estimate or an exact answer at checkout? Find the total.

ANSWER _____

APPLY IT Show your work

1 Riley has 350 trading cards. Riley gives 127 cards to friends and gets 86 new cards. Does Riley need an estimate or an exact answer to know the number of cards now? Find it.

WORK SPACE

ANSWER _____

2 At a school festival, 238 students come in the morning and 171 come in the afternoon. The principal wants a quick idea of how many students came. Round to the nearest hundred. Is an estimate or an exact answer appropriate?

WORK SPACE

ANSWER _____

CHALLENGE One step up

A pet shelter has 684 cans of food. It uses 219 cans, then receives 148 more cans. Does the shelter need an estimate or an exact answer to record its cans? Find the number and explain why.

WORK SPACE AND ANSWER

ANSWER KEY

Estimate or Exact?

GRADE 3 · 3.CE.1.a

PART 1 · PRACTICE

#	PROBLEM	ANSWER
1	A game costs $18. You have $20. Do you need an estimate or an exact answer to know if you have enough? Find the difference.	**Exact. You have $2 left.**
2	A librarian wants a quick idea of the total books on two carts, 392 and 214. Round to the nearest hundred. Estimate or exact? Tell why.	**Estimate, about 600 books. A quick idea does not need the real total.**
3	A theater has 673 seats. Then 128 seats are filled. Does the manager need an estimate or an exact answer to know open seats? Find it.	**Exact. 545 seats are open.**
4	A team has collected 451 cans and has a goal of 700 cans. They want a rough plan for how many more cans to collect. Round to the nearest hundred. Estimate or exact?	**Estimate, about 200 more cans.**
5	A shopper buys items that cost $326 and $149. Does the shopper need an estimate or an exact answer at checkout? Find the total.	**Exact. The total is $475.**

PART 2 · APPLY IT

1. **Exact. Riley has 309 cards.** Subtract 127 from 350, then add 86. The real number of cards is needed.
2. **Estimate, about 400 students.** Round 238 to 200 and 171 to 200. A quick idea calls for an estimate.

CHALLENGE

Exact. 684 - 219 + 148 = 613 cans. The shelter needs the real count to keep its records correct.

Accept clear justifications that connect a quick or rough need to estimating and a real count, total, or cost to an exact answer. Accept estimates based on rounding each number to the nearest hundred.