# Interpreting Remainders

After reading the problem, ask yourself:

- Do I have to use all of the amount that I am dividing?
- If I round up the remainder, is the total amount I have still correct?
- What am I dividing? People? Food? Distance?

## Ignore It!
- When you are giving something away and you can’t give away more than you have
- When you are determining how many groups are completely full with the correct amount

## Round It!
- When you are dividing people into groups and you can’t leave anyone behind
- When you are putting something into groups and you have to use all of the item (even if the groups are not all equal)

## Report It! (As a Fraction or Decimal)
- When you are dealing with money, food, or measurements that can easily be split into decimal or fractional amounts

## Use It (The remainder is your answer)
- When the question asks for the amount left over, left out, or the amount partially filled

The school secretary has 29 boxes of pencils to split equally among three teachers. How many boxes will each teacher get?

Jared’s mom is filling treat bags. She has 36 pieces of candy. If she puts 8 pieces of candy in each bag, how many bag will she be able to fill completely?

There are 25 people waiting for a shuttle. If nine people can fit on one shuttle, how many trips will the shuttle need to take?

A librarian has 38 new books to put on shelves. She can fit 8 books on each shelf. How many shelves will she need for all of the books?

Situation: When you are giving something away and you can’t give away more than you have.

Situation: When you are determining how many groups are completely full with the correct amount.

Situation: When you are dividing people into groups and you can’t leave anyone behind.

Situation: When you are putting something into groups and you have to use all of the item (even if the groups are not all equal).
A butcher has 5 pounds of meat to divide into 2 equal containers. How many pounds of meat will go in each container?

Situation: When you are dealing with money, food, or measurements that can easily be split into decimal or fractional amounts.

Luis is giving skittles to his 3 friends. He has 23 skittles to split equally. How many skittles will be left over if Luis gives each friend an equal amount?

Situation: When the question asks for the amount leftover, left out, or the amount partially filled.
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Thanks!
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