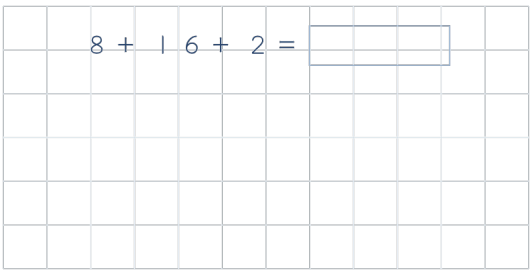
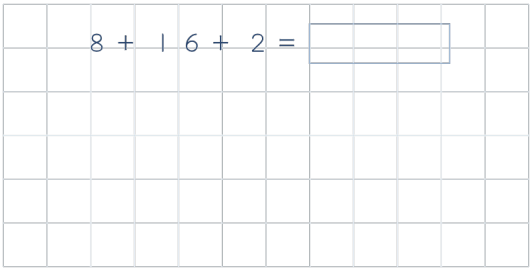
Year 6 - Adding 3 Numbers — Lesson Guide

Step 1



First, we circle both plus signs in the question. There are two additions, so we will calculate in two steps.

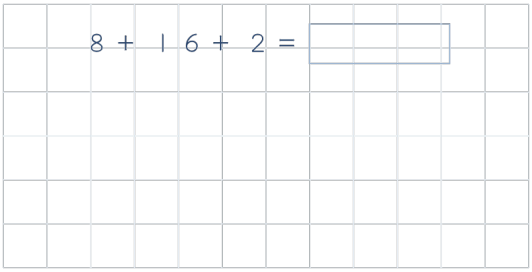
Step 2



Remember: Look at all three numbers. Use each original number once.

Addition is commutative, which means we can add the numbers in any order and get the same sum. Let's look for a pair that is easy to work out first.

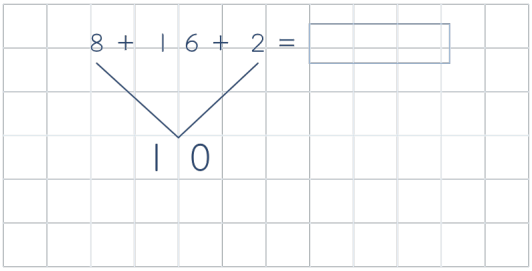
Step 3



Remember: Use each original number once.

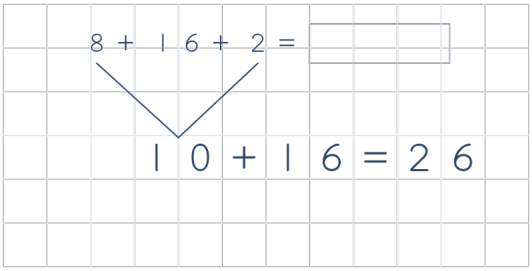
Use number bonds, doubles and other number facts to choose a helpful pair. A useful pair here is 8 and 2. 8 + 2 = 10. That gives us a multiple of 10, which is easy to add to. Draw a line from each chosen number to where we will write the first result. Keep 16 for the next step. Other pairs can still give the same sum.

Step 4



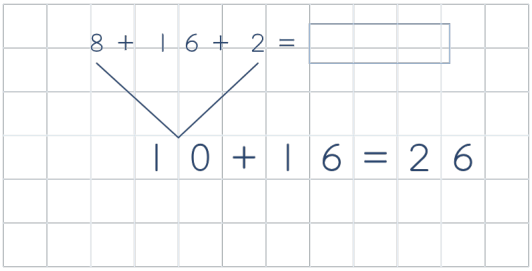
First, we add the chosen pair. 8 + 2 = 10. We write 10 on the squares, in the middle below the two chosen numbers. We still need the remaining addend, 16.

Step 5



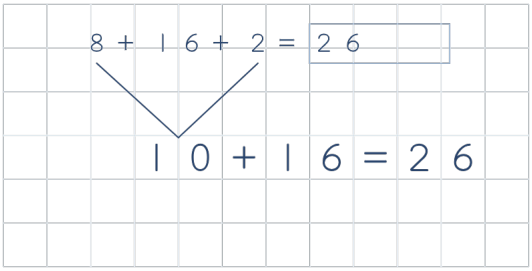
Next, we add the remaining addend to our first result. 10 + 16 = 26. There are no exchanges in this addition, so we can work it out mentally. We could use a column method if needed. We have now used all three original numbers once.

Step 6



Now, we check that we have used all three original addends once. First, 8 + 2 = 10. Then, 10 + 16 = 26. All three original numbers have been used once.

Step 7



The sum is 26. Copy 26 into the answer box. Make sure you copy the answer correctly.