Skillswise

Problem solving: distances - answers

1.

Step 1 **Read and understand the problem.**	You travel at 42 mph for 4 hours. How far will you travel?
Step 2 **Work out what calculations you need to do.**	42 miles is travelled every hour. So 4 lots of 42 will give the distance travelled.
Step 3 **Carry out the calculations and answer the problem.**	You might find it easier to do the multiplication if you partition 42 into 40 and 2: 40 × 4 = 160 4 × 2 = 8 So 42 × 4 = 168. Distance travelled will be 168 miles.
Step 4 **Check your answer works.**	Try a different method for the multiplication. Multiply by 4 by multiplying by 2 twice: 42 × 2 = 84 84 × 2 = 168 The answer is correct.

2.

Step 1 **Read and understand the problem.**	A distance is given as 72 km. One km is a bit more than half a mile. What would be a good estimate for an equivalent in miles?
Step 2 **Work out what calculations you need to do.**	Estimating is always an excellent idea. 72 km is about 70 km. Every km is about half a mile so you need to work out 70 lots of half a mile. 70 lots of a half is the same as half of 70, or 70 divided by 2.
Step 3 **Carry out the calculations and answer the problem.**	70 ÷ 2 = 35 A good estimate would be 35 miles.
Step 4 **Check your answer works.**	Check by multiplication: 35 × 2 = 70, which is close to 72. The answer is correct.