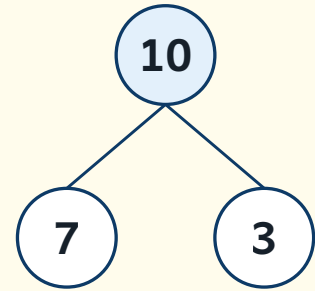
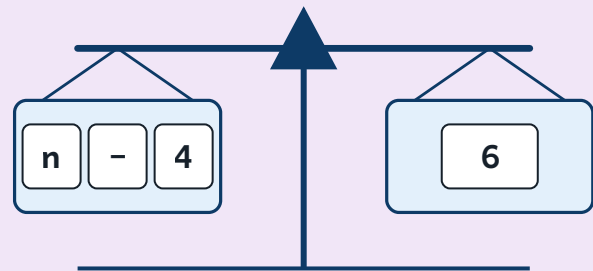
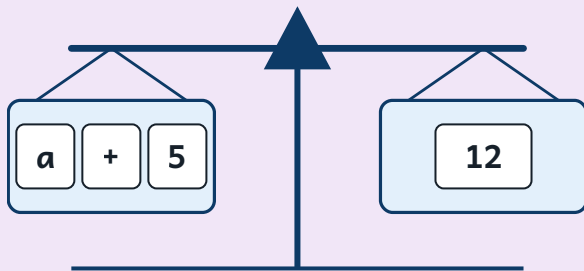


FIND A IN $a + 3 = 10$

- 1 The letter **a** stands for the missing part in the bond.
- 2 What number with **3** makes the whole **10**? That number is **7**.
- 3 Check: $7 + 3 = 10$, so $a = 7$.

**WARM-UP**

Each balance is level. Write the number the letter is hiding.



1. Find a in $a + 5 = 12$.
2. Find n in $n - 4 = 6$.

PRACTICE

- 1 Ola has some pencils, then finds **5** more in her tray, giving **12** pencils. In $a + 5 = 12$, what number is the letter a hiding?

? ALWAYS, SOMETIMES, NEVER

Always, sometimes or never true? Write A, S or N.

- a. The letter in a balanced sentence stands for one certain number that keeps both sides equal. ☐
- b. In $a + 5 = 12$, the letter a stands for 7. ☐
- c. Changing the letter a to n changes the number it stands for. ☐
- d. The number that a letter stands for is bigger than every number written in the sentence. ☐

REFLECT

Do you prefer a box or a letter for the unknown — and why?

