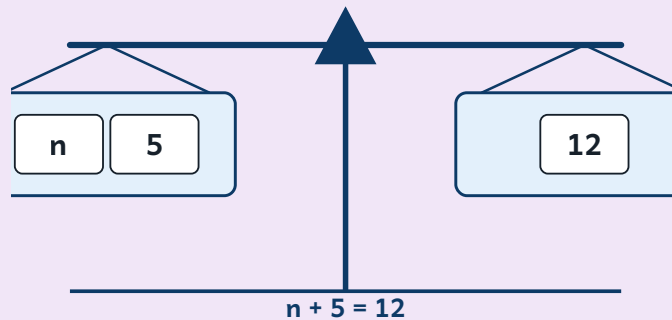


FINDING N ON THE BALANCE

- 1 Look at the equation $n + 3 = 7$.
- 2 The letter n holds the place of the hidden number on one pan.
- 3 Ask what number plus 3 lands on 7.
- 4 n must be 4 so the pans balance: $4 + 3 = 7$.

 WARM-UP

Use the balance scales. Put the letter pan and the number pan so both sides sit level.



1. Balance $n + 8$ against 16 and write the value of n
2. Balance $x - 4$ against 9 and write the value of x
3. Balance $2y$ against 10 and write the value of y

 PRACTICE

- 1 Sam and his sister share stickers. Sam has n stickers and gets 3 more from Mum. Now he has 7. What is n ?
- 2 Dad had x apples. He gave 4 to Gran. He has 9 left. What is x ?
- 3 Three brothers each saved m euro. Together they have 12 euro for a gift. What is m ?

ALWAYS, SOMETIMES, NEVER

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

- a. In $n + 3 = 7$ the letter n stands for 4.
- b. In $n + 4 = 9$, n can be any number we like.
- c. x , n and s can each stand for a hidden number in an equation.
- d. The same letter in one equation stands for two different numbers.