

Lesson 19 **NUMBER****Addition and subtraction word problems – choose the operation**

WHAT THIS LESSON TEACHES

Clue words in a story tell you whether to add or subtract. Words like altogether and more point to adding, while left, gave away and how many more point to subtracting.

→ A hurler scored 24 then 18 more: altogether means add so $24 + 18 = ?$

→ She had 52 euro and spent 27: spent means subtract so $52 - 27 = ?$

MODEL THIS ON THE BOARD

SPOT THE CLUE WORD FIRST

- 1 Read: a hurler scored **24** points then **18** more. How many altogether?
- 2 The clue word altogether means the scores are joined, so we add.
- 3 Build the number sentence **$24 + 18 = ?$**
- 4 Add the tens and units to reach **42**.
- 5 Write the full answer: She scored 42 points altogether.

DISCUSSION STARTER

REFLECT Which story words helped you decide whether to add or take away?

ANSWER KEY

Scaffold: visual check on the page

Q1: 23 bibs

a) **Always** — Altogether is a joining word so the operation is always addition.

b) **Never** — The question might ask how many more or how many left, which need subtraction.

c) **Always** — How many more always points to finding the difference by subtracting.

d) **Sometimes** — Eighteen more means add, but how many more means subtract.