

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

WHAT THIS LESSON TEACHES

Read the story and look for clue words. Words like 'altogether', 'in total', 'more join' and 'how many now' tell you to ADD. Words like 'how many more', 'difference' or 'left' tell you to SUBTRACT.

→ '248 members and 137 more join' means $248 + 137 = ?$ because 'more join' joins amounts.

→ 'how many more than Galway did Cork score' means subtract to find the difference.

MODEL THIS ON THE BOARD

ADD OR SUBTRACT? FIND THE CLUE WORD

- 1 A club had **153** fans and then **128** more arrived. How many altogether?
- 2 The two amounts are being put together to make a total, so we add.
- 3 **$153 + 128 = 281$** fans.

$$\begin{array}{r} 153 \\ + 128 \\ \hline 281 \end{array}$$

DISCUSSION STARTER

REFLECT

Which clue words helped you decide whether to add or subtract?

ANSWER KEY

a) $176 + 234 = 410$

b) $385 - 297 = 88$

c) $164 + 219 = 383$; $383 - 308 = 75$

Q1: 331

Q2: 414

Q3: 88

a) **Always** — 'In total' always tells you to join the amounts together by adding.

b) **Never** — 'How many more' asks for a difference, so it is always a subtracting story.

c) **Sometimes** — It depends on the clue words in the story, not on the numbers themselves.

d) **Always** — 'More join' always means extra members are joining the amount you already have.

EXTENSION SHEET · STRETCH ANSWERS

S1: 272

S2: 1417

S3: 720

S4: 182

S5: 1065

Investigation: Write the story — open-ended; scan pupils' working for valid solution paths rather than a single answer.