

What's the Word?

Division Terms

Knowing the basic division terms is very important!

Understanding Division Terms

DIVIDEND: The number that is being divided is called the dividend.



In this problem, 485 is being divided by 5. So 485 is the dividend.

DIVISOR:

The number that is divided by is called the divisor.

Let's look at the last problem again.

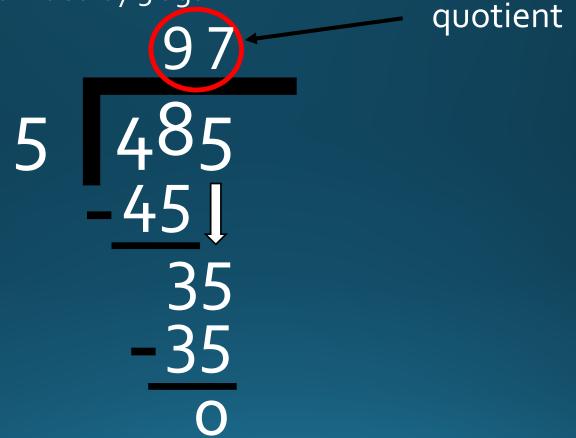


We're looking for how many times 5 can be divided into 485. So 5 is the divisor.

QUOTIENT:

The number of times the divisor goes into the dividend.

Let's look at 485 divided by 5 again.

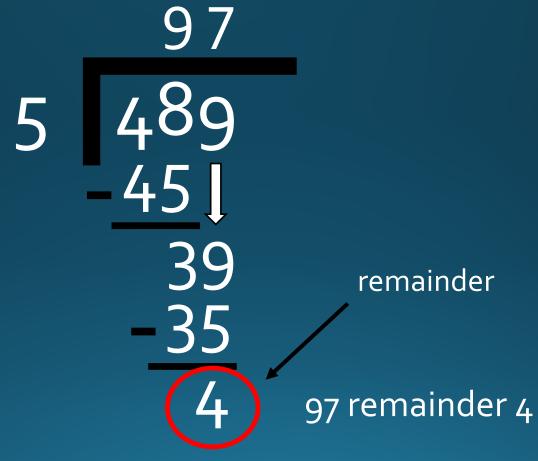


5 goes into 48 nine times with 3 left over. You bring down the 5 from 485 to make 35. Then 5 goes into 35 seven times. Your answer of how many times 5 goes into 485, or the quotient, is 97.

REMAINDER:

This is the number that is "left over" if your divisor does not go into your dividend exactly.

Let's take the problem we just solved, but let's change 485 to 489.

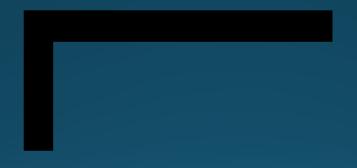


5 goes into 48 nine times. Bring down the 9 next to the 3. 5 goes into 39 seven times. 39 minus 35 leaves you with 4. In other words, 4 is your remainder.

One more thing:

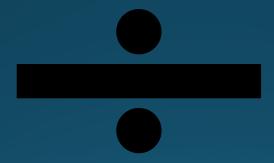
There's more than one way that a problem might show you that you are supposed to divide.

It might look like this:



Kind of like a tipped over L.

It might look like this:



A division sign that's a line with a dot above and below it.

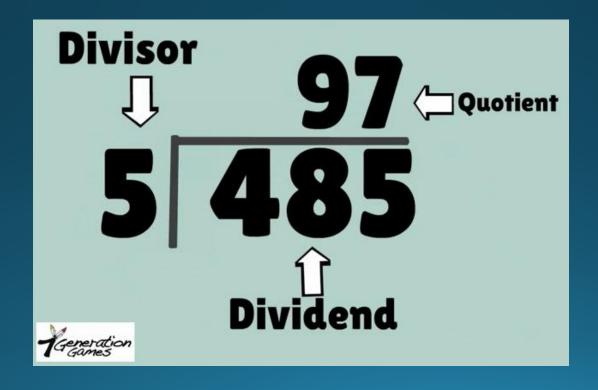
It might look like this:

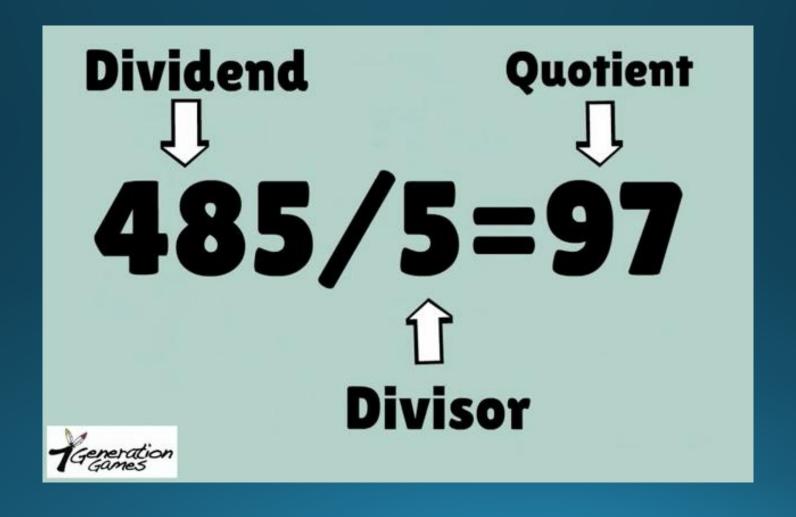


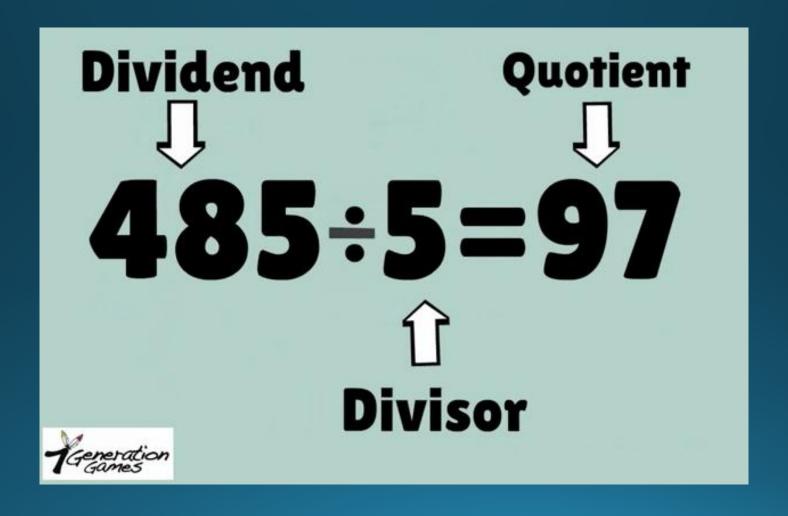
Like a slash.

It all means the same thing: Divide to solve.

With each problem, you will still have a divisor, a dividend, and a quotient.



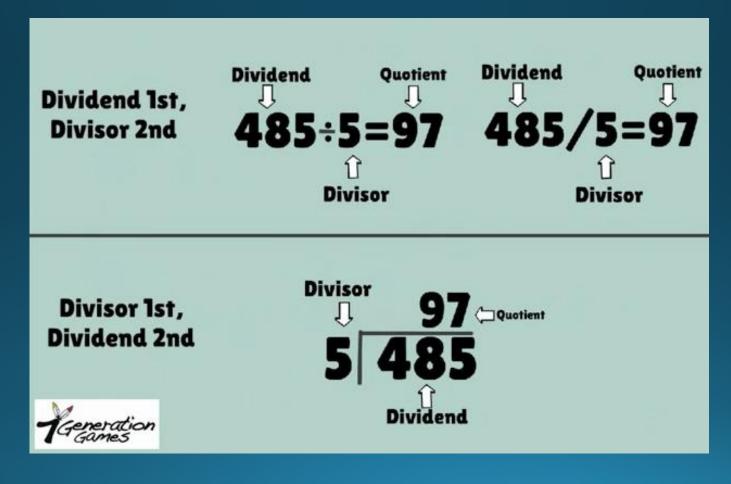




You'll notice when the / or ÷ symbols are used, the dividend is the first number in the problem and the divisor is the second.

However, when the problem is written using the symbol, the divisor is the first number in the problem and the dividend is the second.

Make sure you remember not to mix up your divisor and dividend. This will help you prevent easily avoidable mistakes.



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