Diagrams and fractions - lesson 3.3 - Word problems

Summary

This is the final lesson about addition and subtraction of fractions and will focus on word problems involving not only these two operations, but also comparison of fractions.

Material: worksheets.

Outline of the lesson

Starter

The goal of this starter is to put together the three “types” of addition of fractions: same denominators, one denominator being multiple of the other and two non-multiple denominators. When discussing the questions, do not treat each one of them as a different “type”. Instead, reinforce that if you look at the diagrams, it is possible to decide how proceed.

Task 1 to 8

Word problems involving fractions. The mixture of fractions presented textually and symbolically is intentional. This time, the questions are more varied in terms of possible approaches to solve than the previous word problems lesson.

Extension

In case students finish all the problems, I would suggest sums with new denominators. Such as:

\[
\frac{3}{7} + \frac{1}{3} \quad \frac{1}{6} + \frac{3}{8} \quad \frac{5}{12} + \frac{3}{8} \quad \frac{3}{5} + \frac{1}{6}
\]