

Write Your Own Total Problem

Step 1: Draw the graphic organizer

(total)	
(part)	(part)

or write the equation.

$$P1 + P2 = T$$

Step 2: Choose your topic and add labels.

<i>Animals</i>	
(total)	
(part)	(part)
<i>Cats</i>	<i>Dogs</i>

Cats *Dogs* *Animals*

$$P1 + P2 = T$$

Step 3: Decide what will be unknown and label it with a question mark. Fill in numbers that make sense.

<i>Animals</i>	
7	
3	?
<i>Cats</i>	<i>Dogs</i>

$$P1 + P2 = T$$
$$3 + ? = 7$$

Step 4: Write a word problem that matches.

Zara saw 7 animals. 3 of the animals were cats. The rest were dogs. How many dogs did she see?