

# Solving Word Problems

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We'll expand on how to read the question.

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Also remember these steps do not have to be performed in order; rather, one goes back and forth between the steps, generally repeating each step several times.

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- ▶ total cost =  $C$
- ▶ sales price of the item =  $p$
- ▶ amount of sales tax =  $T$

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We thus get:

$$C = p + T.$$

# Another Equation or Formula

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$$T = r \cdot p.$$

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We may notice we can simplify this to obtain  $C = (1 + r)p$ , but this isn't strictly necessary.

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- ▶ We never really paid attention to what was being asked for, other than noticing at the end that we had found what we wanted.
- ▶ The process, in a way, was mostly information gathering.