

**Objective:** Solve problems including missing number problems involving multiplication and division, recording solutions with a range of representations to include number-lines, bar-models and arrays

**Year 3 Task: Which symbol?** <https://nrich.maths.org/6777>

Put in the missing symbols to make these number sentences correct. Use +, -, ×, ÷ and =.

For example:

$$2 \square 3 = 6 \text{ is } 2 \times 3 = 6 \text{ and } 3 \square 5 - 2 \text{ is } 3 = 5 - 2$$

Try these:

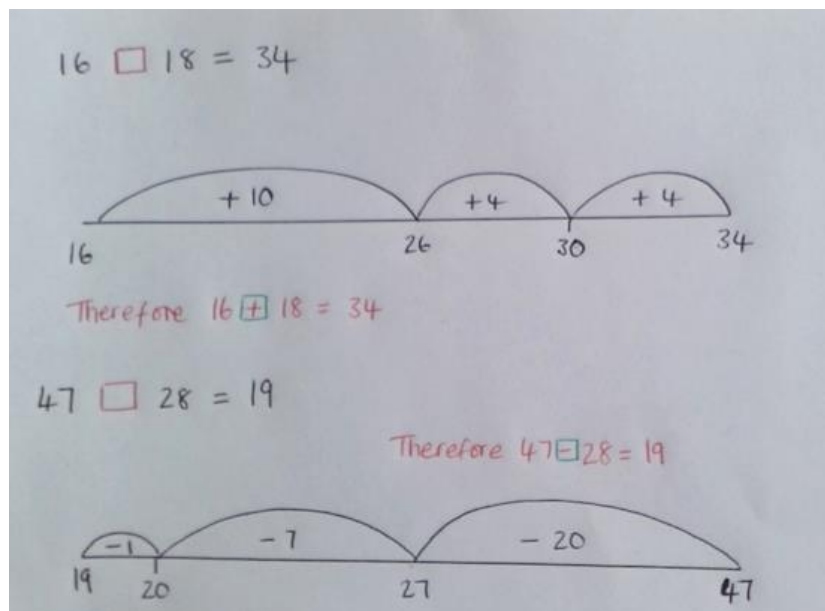
$$16 \square 18 = 34$$

$$47 \square 28 = 19$$

$$18 \square 2 = 9$$

$$30 \square 10 \times 3$$

**Worked example**



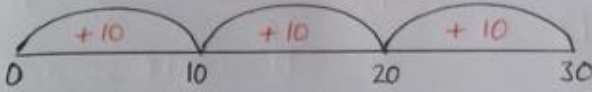
$18 \square 2 = 9$

18	
9	9

$2 \times 9 = 18$   
Therefore  $18 \square 2 = 9$

$30 \square 10 \times 3$

$10 \times 3 = 30$



Therefore  $30 \square 10 \times 3$

### Variation

- What if...?

All these number sentences below, except two of them, have two solutions.

Can you find the symbols to use?

$$51 \square 36 \square 15$$

$$45 \square 5 \square 9$$

$$27 \square 36 \square 63$$

$$70 \square 14 \square 56$$

$$7 \square 5 \square 35$$

$$50 \square 5 \square 10$$

Which two number sentences have only one answer?

Can you see why this is so?