Problem solving

Some problems give you too little information to solve a problem, while others give you insignificant additional data. Look at these examples.

Too Much Information

Alexia bought 5 candy bars for $2.00, a glass of milk for .75¢, and a package of gum for .25¢. She also bought a pencil from the school store for .25¢. How much did her snack cost her?

Facts not needed:

The cost of the pencil.

Facts needed:

The cost of the candy bars, milk and gum.

$2.00 + .75 + .25 = $3.00

Alexia spent $3.00 on her snack.

Too Little Information

Tony bought 2 cookies for .50¢ and a soda. How much did Tony's snack cost?

Missing Facts:

The cost of the soda

You cannot solve this problem without more information.

① **Some problems have information that is not needed.** Underline the data that is not needed and then solve the problems. Some problems do not have enough information to solve. If a problem does not have enough information write "not enough information" as the answer.

Simon has $50.00 and saves $10.00 each week. He wants to know when he will have enough money to buy a new bicycle. How long will he need to save his money?

For lunch, Kimberly purchased a slice of pizza for $2.00 and a soft drink for $0.75 while shopping at the mall. She also purchased a new blue jean jacket for $35.00. How much did Kimberly spend on lunch?

Allen will perform rope tricks in the school talent contest. He needs 4 pieces of rope which measure 3 feet long each. He also needs a rope 20 feet long. He has decided to perform 5 new tricks and needs some additional practice. If rope costs $1.25 per foot at the local hardware store, how much will he spend to purchase the amount of rope needed?