# Problem Solving: Reasonableness

After you solve a problem, check to see if your answer is reasonable. Also check that you answered the right question.

Example:
74 students are going to a special class dinner where they will be seated 8 to a table. Will 9 tables be enough?

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|---|---|
| Reasonableness<br>$74 \div 8 = 9$ R2 | The answer is close to 9 tables. |
| Answering the right question | All students must have seats, so there must be one more table to hold the remaining 2 students, making 10 tables in all. |

Tell whether each answer is reasonable.

1. Kendra wants to paste 500 photographs into an album, 6 photos to a page. She figures that she will need about 100 pages.

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2. Hwong has 39 muffins. If each of his guests will eat 2 muffins, Hwong figures that he can serve muffins to 19 guests.

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3. Ivan has a piece of lumber 104 inches long. He is sawing it into 12-inch lengths to make fence posts. He says he can get about 9 fence posts out of the board.

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