Problem Solving: Work Backward

Solve each problem by working backward.

1. Indira bought 6 yards of material for drapes and a bag of buttons. She spent a total of $39. If the buttons cost her $3, how much was each yard of material?

2. Max cut a pole into 4 equal pieces. Then he cut 2 inches off one piece of the pole. Then piece left was 4 inches long. How long was the pole to before Max started cutting?

3. Ms. Enrico took 12 of her students on a field trip to the art museum. The cost for 12 students and one adult was $84. If Ms. Enrico’s ticket was $12, what did it cost for each student ticket?

4. Marisa bought 6 large cheese pizzas and 3 salads for a party. She paid $99 for everything. If each salad was $5, what was the cost of each pizza?

5. Mr. Leone ate dinner at his favorite restaurant. He had an appetizer, a main course, and dessert. The total bill, minus tax and tip, came to $29. If the main course was $14 and the appetizer cost twice as much as the dessert, how much was the appetizer and how much was the dessert?

6. A total of 121 people came to the school science fair this year. This number is 7 more than twice the number of people who came to last year’s science fair. How many people came last year?