Problem-Solving Strategy: Work Backward

Work backward to solve each problem.

1. Your basketball coach is retiring, and you are saving money to buy her a gift. The gift will cost $33. If you save $4.50 per week for the next 4 weeks, you will have enough to buy the gift. How much money did you already have?

2. Your friend Tamyra is buying a good-bye card for the coach. She bought a card and then returned it, got her money back, and bought a card for $1.50 less. She ended up with $.75 change in her pocket. What was the price of the first card?

3. You and Guy are planning a special luncheon for the coach. The party will start at 3:15 P.M. It will take you 45 minutes to set up the room. Before that, you have to spend 2 hours shopping for food. When will you leave to go shopping?

4. You are planning to buy sliced turkey for the coach’s luncheon because it is on sale. Yesterday, it was marked down by $1.00 per pound. This morning, it was marked down by another $.50. If you go tomorrow, you can get the turkey at $.75 per pound, or half of today’s price. What was the original price of the sliced turkey?