

Maya's Market



Figure 1: A girl in an apron stands behind a wooden market stall piled high with red and green apples

Maya helped at her grandmother's market stall on Saturday morning. She counted out the apples. There were thirty-five red ones and twenty-two green ones. How many apples altogether? Maya added thirty-five plus twenty-two. She made a group of ten green apples first. Now she had forty-five plus twelve. That made fifty-seven apples in total. At lunchtime, a customer bought nineteen apples. Maya subtracted nineteen from fifty-seven. She counted back by tens. Fifty-seven minus ten was forty-seven. Forty-seven minus nine was thirty-eight. Thirty-eight apples remained on the stall. Grandmother smiled. You are a natural mathematician, she said. Maya felt proud.

Words to know

- **subtract:** take away a number from another number to find the difference
- **altogether:** the total when you put numbers together
- **compose:** put together to make a whole

- **difference:** the answer when you subtract one number from another

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