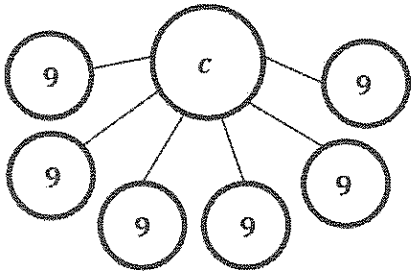
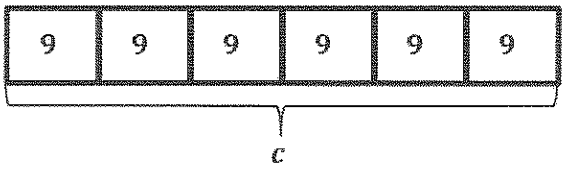
G3-M7-Lesson 3

Mrs. Yoon buys 6 bags of counters. Nine counters come in each bag. She gives each of her 12 math students 4 counters. How many counters does she have left?

I will use the RDW (Read-Draw-Write) process to solve this multi-step problem. First I'll read the problem, then I'll pause and visualize what's happening in the problem to get an idea about what to draw.



or



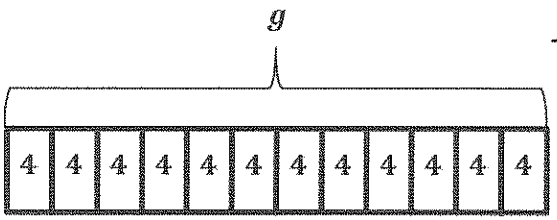
I can draw and label a picture of the problem in many different ways. Here's how I could use either a number bond or a tape diagram to show the first part of the problem. Both models show that the unknown is the whole, or the total.

c represents the total number counters Mrs. Yoon buys.

$6 \times 9 = c$

$c = 54$

Mrs. Yoon buys 54 counters.



Next, I can draw a second model to help me find the total number of counters Mrs. Yoon gives away. This time I can use g to represent the unknown.

g represents the total number of counters Mrs. Yoon gives away.

To solve this larger fact I can break apart 12 as 10 and 2, then distribute the 4. I chose to break apart the 12 because tens facts are easy for me.

$$\begin{aligned} g &= 12 \times 4 \\ &= (10 + 2) \times 4 \\ &= (10 \times 4) + (2 \times 4) \\ &= 40 + 8 \\ g &= 48 \end{aligned}$$

Mrs. Yoon gives away 48 counters.

I can reread the question and see that my statement doesn't answer it. That helps me remember that there's one step left to do. I need to subtract the number of counters Mrs. Yoon gives away from her total counters to find how many she has left.

$54 - 48 = 6$

Mrs. Yoon has 6 counters left.