Generating Addition and Subtraction Word Problems in a Context

Form groups as shown below, As a group, decide on a familiar context for the word problems you will create. Clearly identify the context in the table.

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| Group | Context (book, TV show, movie, etc. Must be familiar to every group member.) |
| 1 | Sesame Street |
| 2 | Tangled |
| 3 | How I Met Your Mother |
| 4 | Grey’s Anatomy |
| 5 | Harry Potter |
| 6 | Spongebob |
| 7 | Sesame Street |
| 8 | Basketball |
| 9 | Disney characters! |
| 10 | Spongebob |
| 11/12 | Grey’s Anatomy |
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Find the two cells assigned to your group. Using your group’s context, work together to generate story problems that exemplify the given structures, then type your problems in the table. If you finish quickly, read the problems other groups have created and feel free to generate additional problems in the blank cells. The problems should include whole numbers with totals of 100 or less.

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| Add To/Join Problems | | |
| *Result Unknown* | *Change Unknown* | *Start Unknown* |
| Cookie Monster made 12 cookies. He decided to bake 8 more. How many total cookies did he bake? | Rapunzel has 5 lanterns to light in the boat, there are a total of 17 lanterns in the boat. How many lanterns does Flynn have in the boat? | Ted has dated a lot of girls this year. He dates five more this month. If Ted has dated 30 girls in the past 12 months, how many girls had he dated before this month? |
| Meredith has 4 surgeries to scrub in on. Then, she was asked to scrub on 2 more surgeries. How many surgeries did she scrub in on that day? | Harry knows 5 spells. Hermione taught Harry some more spells. Now he knows 11 spells. How many spells did she teach him? | Spongebob has some crabby patties, Patrick has 5. All together they have 14 crabby patties. How many crabby patties does Spongebob have? |
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| Take From/Separate Problems | | |
| *Result Unknown* | *Change Unknown* | *Start Unknown* |
| Elmo has 12 red balls and Abby Cadabby wants 6 of them. How many will Elmo have left after he gives her the 6 balls? | Bailee has 36 basketballs. She gave some to Luke and had 22 left. How many did she give to Luke? | Belle wants to borrow 2 pairs of Cinderella’s glass slippers, Cinderella has 7 pairs after she gives two pairs to Belle. How many pairs does Cinderella own? |
| Spongebob has 6 Krabby Patties. Patrick stole 4. How many Krabby Patties does Spongebob have left? | Meredith has 12 surgeries scheduled in the day, but she only does 5. How many surgeries did Meredith have to do the next day? | Meredith was scheduled to perform some surgeries today. Derek took 2 of the surgeries and Meredith performed 3, how many surgeries did Meredith have scheduled? |
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| Put-Together/Take-Apart/Part-Part-Whole Problems | | |
| *Whole Unknown* | *One Part Unknown* | *Both Parts Unknown* |
| Squidward has 4 clarinets and 6 drums. How many musical instruments does Squidward have in all? | Cookie Monster made 24 cookies. If 10 of the cookies were chocolate chip and the rest are sugar cookies, how many sugar cookies did he make? | Rapunzel and Flynn have 12 lanterns in their boat to light. How many lanterns can each of them light? |
| Grover has 3 purple capes and 4 green capes. How many capes does Grover have in all? | Lincoln High scored 72 points. Baliee had 30 points. How many points did the rest of her teammates have? | Pooh has 15 pots of honey, some of the pots are yellow and some are red. What are all the different combinations of yellow and red pots? |
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| Compare Problems | | |
| *Difference Unknown* | *Larger Unknown* | *Smaller Unknown* |
| If Barney has had 10 drinks, and Ted has had 5, how many more drinks has Barney had than Ted? | Meredith has been with Derek for 1 year. Allison has been with Derek for 4 more years. How many years in total has Derek been dating both of them? | Ron drank 2 more Butterbeers than Draco. Ron drank 7. How Many Butterbeers did Draco drink? |
| Sandy has 10 nuts at her house. Squidward has 5 nuts. How many more nuts does Sandy have than Squidward? | Avery has 18 bags of blood. Lexi has 5 more bags than Avery. How many more bags does Lexi have than Avery? |  |
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