

| Understanding of word problems | | |
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| Corona peer group discussion | | |
| Stanza | text | Line |
| 18 | I really don't understand them, but I really try to understand and keep on learning how to solve these problems [reading from response to questionnaire] | 77 |
| 19 | Word problems can be easuy if you understand them and a bit difficult if you misread the question or you don't understand... [reading from response to questionnaire] | 78 |
| 25 | ... and you know sometimes you must read over a question a lot of times... but just miread one word, it just wipes you out. | 82 |
| 25 | I don't understand the first one at all [possibly referring to the $x^2 + 3x - 4$] | 97 |
| Corona focus group discussion | | |
| 4 | I, sometimes I don't understand [the words], but I really try very hard to learn. | 30 |
| 13 | Well maths... err, it's... err, like... people have different abilities, others they can,can understand word problems by, in different ways, even... err, they understand it by picturising everything that is given in the statement. So if actually... err, word problems are, are a way of trying to see the whole world you understand them, and things. And, if you can understand the statement and you can solve the required... err, question, then it helps, like it helps you to think in a logical way. It's not like, it's not something which you normally do every day but, like that given question it like, it tests you on your abilities to think fast in the required time and to answer the question and how well you understood the question. | 65 |
| 22 | ... if you misread it, if you misread sometimes you're not going to understand it fully, so that will determine whether you are going to get the correct answer or the wrong, the incorrect answer. | 92 |
| 24 | It can be both things because you can misinterpret what they're saying, or you can, you might misunderstand... what the question actually means. | 97 |
| 25 | I think I misread ... err, most of the questions, sometimes I do read them properly, but then don't understand then what's happening. | 102 |

| Corona focus group discussion Cont.) | | |
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| 27 | Ja, in reading... and sometimes like you don't understand the question, and even though if you go over it a lot of times, like an exam there's no-one to help you read the question, that's why you just end up getting the answer wrong. Or, you just give up sometimes, but you know I try my best to answer the question even when I don't understand. Or just one word, just don't understand one word, the whole thing... just don't understand one word, the whole thing, it will go wrong. That's why thinking that they shouldn't put bombastic words, you know in word problems. Just give us in a simpler form then we can answer them properly. | 112 |
| 30 | It just seemed to be wrong. Coz I didn't understand the question... So, I knew that I'm trying to solve this thing but I | 166 |
| 40 | So if you use things you can see, things that we normally deal with everyday it makes it much more easier. | 159 |
| 41 | Sometimes you don't know how fast he's going, two kilometres per hour or n kilometres per hour, so it makes it a bit difficult. | 163 |
| Duskhaven peer group discussion | | |
| 1 | ... I can't understand the words | 3 |
| 13 | Okay, so... so I'm misinterpreting to the question. | 43 |
| 20 | ... all of them you need to read more than three times to get it right. | 74 |
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| 2 | Actually, understanding by numbers you have, you have to think of what, what you gonna do. But, word problems I said that are meant for understanding because they, they just, they already tell you what you must do. | 27 |
| 5 | Ja, it helps me with understanding. [See line 27 above.] | 52 |
| 7 | ... the words they wasn't that clear for me, wasn't what I think I see every day. | 60 |
| 14 | When it come to word problems if you don't understand the question then somewhere along the line you gonna, you gonna get the answer wrong. That's why I say it... it's difficult, if you don't understand the words then the word problems will be difficult themselves. | 81 |
| 15 | ... well I can say that seeing as English is my second... actually third, my third language, it actually is difficult for me, umm, to understand some of the words. | 84 |
| 16 | ... the way we speak in the word order is sometimes different, is different to what it is. And then reading it that sometimes does not make sense. | 86 |
| | When you think you understood, you need to understand. | 88 |
| 17 | Because sometimes they use words, it's complicated. If they could use simple words like add that and subtract that, it would be much easier. | 90 |
| 19 | Because they trick you, you know, because like Gio said, sometimes you think you understand and then you get there and you don't, and you realise, I don't think that words mean what I think it means. So they trick you sometimes because you think you going right and then you see, you develop the problem and you've nowhere to go, and you didn't decide, and you thought you understand. So... that's why I use 'tricky'. | 101 |
| 20 | Because when you read a problem and you don't understand it's because you don't undersand the words. | 104 |

| Manumission peer group discussion | | |
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| 16 | But this question is confusing, here he walks many kilometres, but is short, but here he walks less kilometres but he takes 15 minutes longer, you see it's confusing. | 78 |
| 17 | Do you know what is required> | 83 |
| | ... and then what is happening here? | 85 |
| 20 | And this one again, problem 3 cannot be understood. | 100 |
| | I can't talk about it, I don't know what I have written. | 101 |
| | Now what should I do? | 103 |
| 25 | ... they explain you should understand the question before you start, and what they have written here you cannot understand. | 119 |
| 32 | And you know if they can tell us what is going on here it would be so simple. | 137 |
| 35 | But, in one of them they should be more specific because we are students, we do not know them. | 146 |
| | But here they say cork, we do not know that, we are students. | 148 |
| 33 - 34 | But they also do not know. | 139 |
| | They also do not undersatnd. | 141 |
| | They don't explain what's going on... | 142 |
| | Do whatever you want. | 143 |
| 38 | Maybe you will understand them in December. | 155 |
| Manumission focus group discussion | | |
| 2 | You said, no, I can't do this because... because I can't ans..., I didn't understand it... | 13 |
| 4 | If you don't understand what it's saying to you then like you can't find the answer, like you can't find, you can't solve it if you don't understand the problem. | 24 |
| 5 | If you don't understand those words, you cannot do the numbers. You must first understand the words that you see in order to do the problem. | 33 |
| 6 | The words, you must start knowing, know the mathematical words and English words, unless you know those words...[inaudible]... to do the mathematics. | 38 |

| Manumission focus group discussion (cont.) | | |
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| 7 | ... You must understand those words in order to do the mathematics. | 42 |
| 8 | ... if you don't know difference, like the product or sum, find the sum, you must understand that those are the mathematical words. | 44 |
| 9 | Sometimes they are not specific. You don't know what you are looking for, and what is, and what is the whole problem. | 47 |
| 12 | What makes them confusing... well, something... err, the word problems that makes them to be confused is some other words which I don't under, I don't understand them, you know, and that contain English that I don't understand those meanings of those words. Err... sometimes if they give you the paragraph, you become confused because you don't understand the meaning of the words, that's why they are confusing sometimes. | 58 |
| 13 | You understand them [the words they give you] and you knoe them, but they don't go with that whole paragraph, words... Okay, they don't go with the whole paragraph... you don't knoe what you are supposed to do. | 67 |
| 17 | Yes, some of them they are like simple like I understand it... in problem 2 I find, I found it easy for me like to do... and some of the numbers you can't understand what to do like what you have to add, subtract, divided, multiply... you don't know what to do. | 97 |
| 16 | I get an answer because I've been reading the questions, and some questions I understand them and some I don't understand them. | 92 |
| 19 | Some of them they are not, they don't give you enough information. They are like, they are not specific, you don't know what to do like, they don't give you like... I think that they give you enough information it's just that you don't understand it. | 113 |
| 25 | If you then know, if you don't understand the given information it will not be easy to do, to solve the whole sum. | 141 |
| 34 | Ja, they were difficult. But if you are... using, doing it, it will become easy for you to understand. | 176 |