

Bellwork Monday, March 31, 2014

1. Suppose it takes you 7.2 hours to fly into a headwind about 1440 miles between two cities. The return trip takes only 6 hours because you are flying with a tailwind.

Write and solve a system of equations to find the speed of the wind and the speed of the plane if there were no wind.

p = speed of the plane
220 mph

w = speed of the wind
 $w = 20$ mph

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1440}{7.2} &= (p-w) \cdot 7.2 \\ \frac{1440}{6} &= (p+w) \cdot 6 \end{aligned} \quad + \quad \begin{aligned} 200 &= p-w \\ 240 &= p+w \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} 440 &= 2p \\ 220 &= p \end{aligned}$$

2. You run a painting business. To start the business you need to buy a truck and equipment which costs you \$21,000. Each job costs you an average of \$220 in materials. You pay your employees an average of \$350 on each job. You charge an average of \$900 per job. Find the break-even point.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Income} &= \text{Expenses} \\ 900j &= 21,000 + 220j + 350j \\ 900j &= 21,000 + 570j \\ 330j &= 21,000 \\ \frac{330j}{330} &= \frac{21,000}{330} \end{aligned}$$

$j = 64 \text{ jobs}$