14-7

# Problem Solving: Reasonableness

After solving a problem, look back and check that your answer is reasonable and that you answered the correct question.

Terrell bought a skateboard on sale for 20% off the original price. He also had a coupon for 10% off. The original price was \$80. How much did Terrell pay for the skateboard before tax?

Answer: Terrell paid \$24 for the skateboard.

## Is my answer reasonable?

Since the discount is about 30% off, Terrell will pay about 70% of the original cost of the skateboard.

70% of \$80 is \$56.

The answer is not reasonable because the price of the skateboard should be about 70% of the original price, or \$56.

#### Did I answer the correct question?

Yes. The question asks for the sale price of the skateboard.

### Ask yourself:

Did I use the correct operation(s) to solve the problem?

Is all of my work correct?

Is the actual answer close to my estimate?

#### Ask yourself:

What am I asked to find?

Look back and check. Tell if the answer given is reasonable. Explain why or why not.

- 1. Marita bought some toys for her cat at the pet store. The pet store is having a storewide discount of 15% on all pet toys. How much will Marita pay for the toys if the total price before the discount is \$42? *Answer: The discount price is \$35.70.*
- 2. Frankie paid a total of \$53.50 for some fish for his aquarium. The price includes a coupon for 7% off. What was the cost of the fish? *Answer: The fish cost \$50.00.*