

Amir is attempting to solve $2\frac{5}{14} - \frac{2}{7}$

Here is his working out:



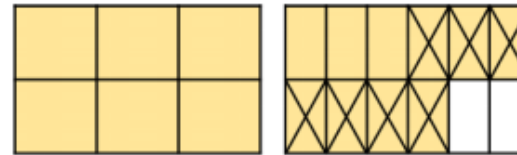
$$2\frac{5}{14} - \frac{2}{7} = 2\frac{3}{7}$$

Do you agree with Amir?
Explain your answer.

Possible answer:

Amir is wrong because he hasn't found a common denominator when subtracting the fractions he has just subtracted the numerators and the denominators. The correct answer is $2\frac{1}{14}$

Here is Rosie's method.
What is the calculation?



Can you find more than one answer?
Why is there more than one answer?

The calculation

$$\text{could be } 1\frac{5}{6} - \frac{7}{12}$$
$$\text{or } 1\frac{10}{12} - \frac{7}{12}$$

There is more than one answer because five sixths and ten twelfths are equivalent. Children should be encouraged to write the question as $1\frac{5}{6} - \frac{7}{12}$ so that all fractions are in their simplest form.