Recall Nicole's and Amir's general equations for finding the number of gray stones in a cobblestone for an unknown size number:

Amir Nicole

 $(x \cdot x) + (x \cdot x) + (x \cdot x) = T$   $x^2 + x \cdot (x+1) + x^2 = T$ 

Now consider the reasoning of another student.

I think  $x \cdot (x + 1)$  should be  $x^2 + 1$ , because the dot means you multiply x by x which is  $x^2$ . Then you have a 1 left, which you add.

1. What would you say to your friend? Use the stone context and drawings in your response.



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