

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

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.

