

Possible Solutions

Students can solve this problem in two different ways, and both will result in the same solution:

a) Students can choose to add the two percentages being referenced and then find that percentage of the whole.

1. 40% of students chose comedy and 18% chose horror: $40\% + 18\% = 58\%$
2. Multiply the whole (200) by the percentage found above (58%) to solve

$$\begin{array}{r} 20 \\ \times .58 \\ \hline 1600 \\ +10000 \\ \hline 116.00 \end{array}$$

116 students chose comedy or horror as their favorite movie type

b) Students could also choose to calculate the two percentages first, then add those amounts of students.

1. 40% of 200 = $200 \times .4 = 80$ students
2. 18% of 200 = $200 \times .18 = 36$ students
3. Add the two amounts of students together: $80 + 36 = 116$

116 students chose comedy or horror as their favorite movie type