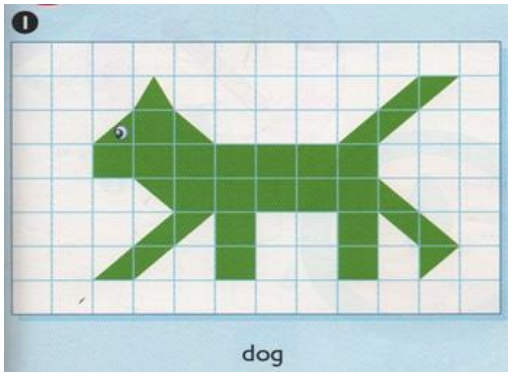
Calculating the Area of an irregular shape

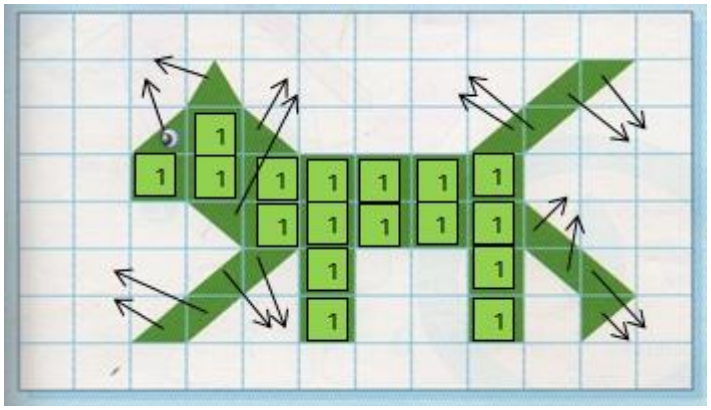
Yesterday's task involved calculating the area of different shapes. I have some more shapes below that I would like you to calculate the area of, however some of these shaded squares that make up my shapes are not complete.



I will try to show you the steps we need to work through to calculate the area of the dog.

1. We firstly need to count all the square units that are inside the dog. I have labelled all the complete squares with a 1. There are 17 complete squares.

2. We can't stop here! There are more parts to the dog that we haven't included within our counting of the squares. I have drawn an arrow on all the half squares that we can then put together to make a whole square.

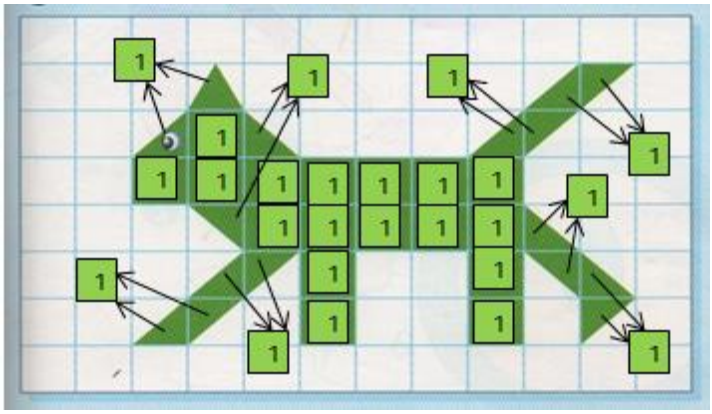


Can you see the ear is a triangle that takes up half of the square?

The eye is in a triangle too – this is half of a square too.

I need to put all the half squares together to see how many whole squares can be made from them:

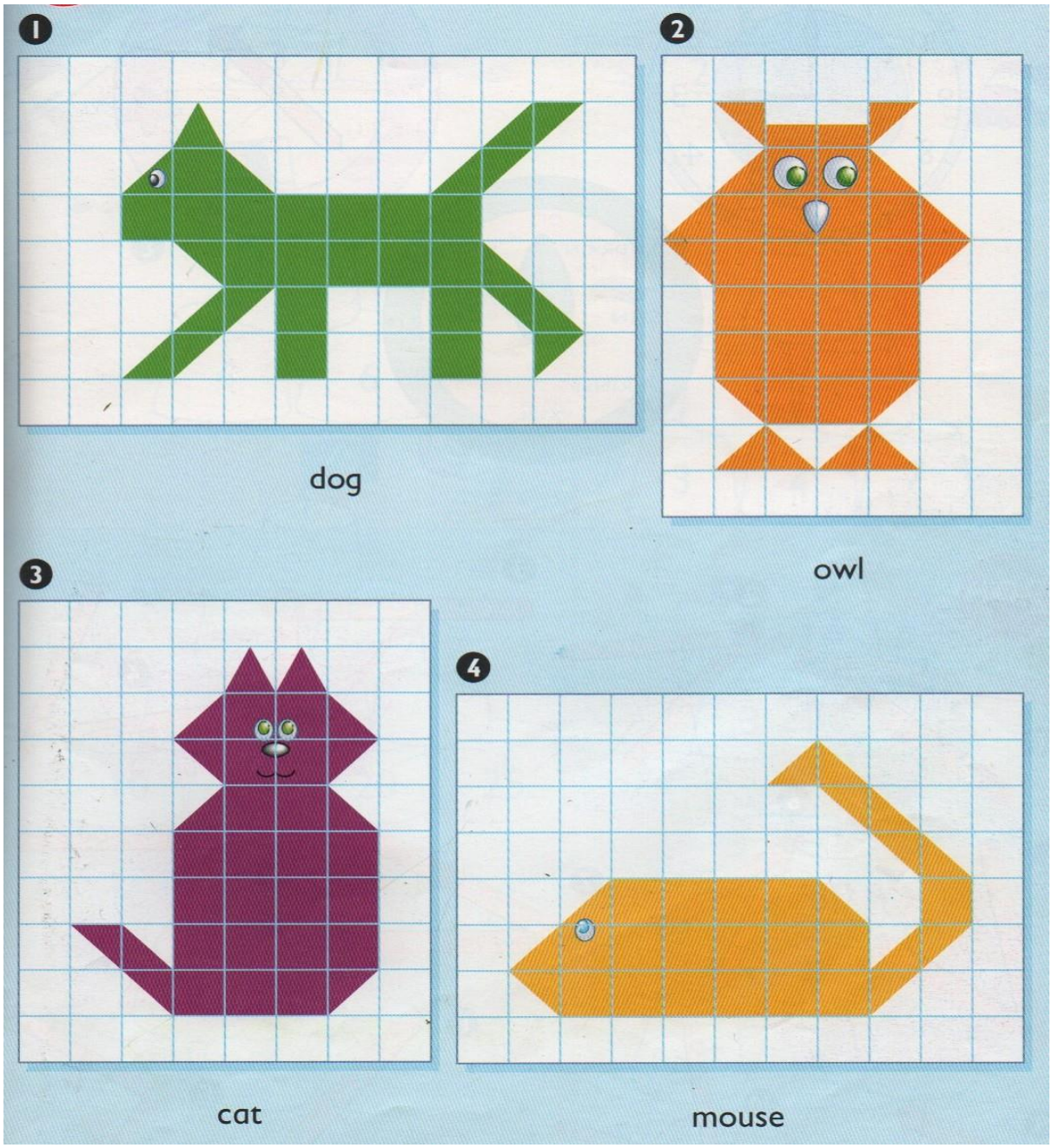
3. How many extra squares can you make? (Put a dot in the triangles as you make them into squares.....to make sure you don't miss any out!)



There should be 8 whole squares made up from the 16 half squares.

8 squares + 17 squares = 25 units². This is the total area of the dog.

Now, have a go at work out the area of the owl, cat and mouse in the same way.



Answers:

Dog = 25 units^2

Owl = 28 units^2

Cat = 27 units^2

Mouse = 23.5 units^2