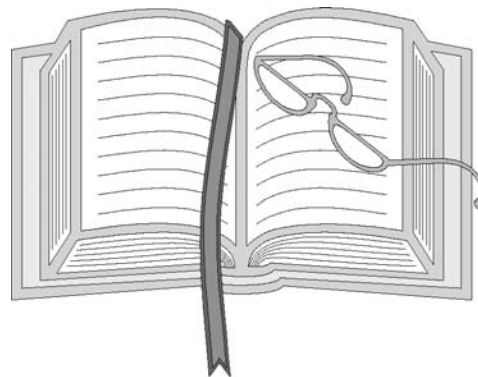


**9-4****Real-Life Career Activity****Literary Agent**

Literary agents represent book authors. The agents help the authors or writers find a publisher for the book they have written. In turn, literary agents help publishers find quality writers. Agents also explain the publisher's contracts to the writers. In return for the agent's services, writers pay their agents a *commission*—a fraction of the income the writer receives from sales of the book. The fraction usually varies between  $\frac{1}{10}$  and  $\frac{1}{5}$ . Suppose an agent receives  $\frac{1}{5}$  of the writer's income from sales of the book. The agent can use the formula below to calculate his commission.



$$a = \frac{1}{5}w$$

In this formula,  $a$  is the commission of the agent, and  $w$  is the income of the writer.

Suppose a writer signs a contract with a publisher for \$30,000. What commission will the agent receive?

$$a = \frac{1}{5}(30,000)$$

$$a = 6,000$$

The agent will receive a commission of \$6,000.

**Solve.**

1. Calculate the commission an agent who receives  $\frac{1}{5}$  of the writer's income will receive from a contract for \$50,000.
2. Calculate the commission an agent who receives  $\frac{1}{5}$  of the writer's income will receive from a contract for \$20,000.
3. An agent who receives  $\frac{1}{5}$  of the writer's income receives \$500 in commission. For how much money was the writer's contract?