

To prove, if proof were ever needed, that authors are humans too, here's an instance when I was caught out by my own puzzle.

In a previous book, I posed the question shown below and readers were invited to think of the simplest possible answer to the question.

The intended answer was FOUR, because there are four letters in the word "FOUR". This is the only number for which this property holds.

However, a friend of mine pointed out that there was another perfectly good, straightforward answer to the same question. Can you work out what the alternative is?

***How many letters are there
in the correct answer
to this question?***