Two friends – Sam & Joe – both lose their dad's in a war.

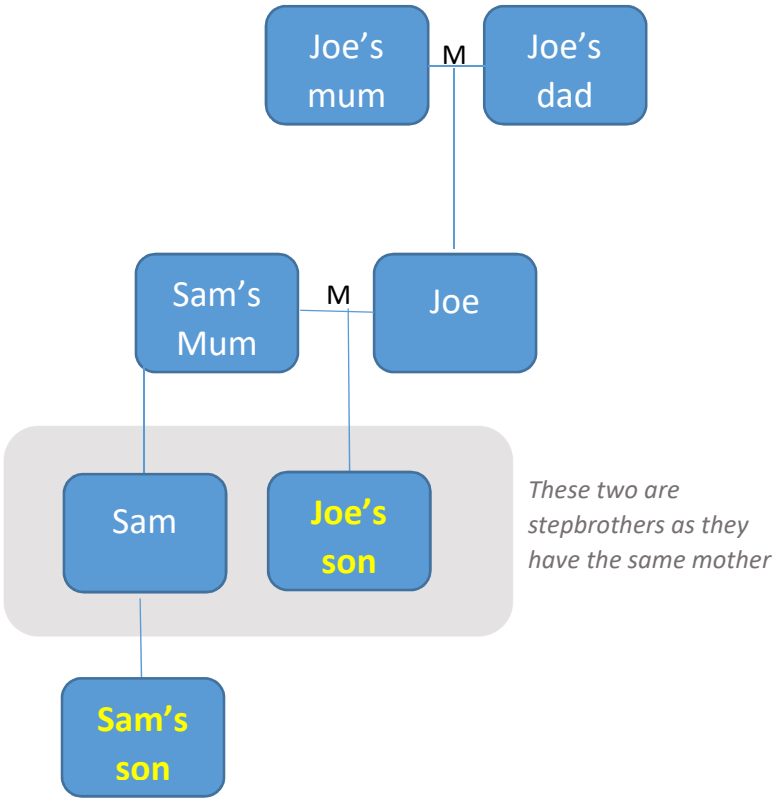
Sam and Joe end up marrying each other's mothers.

Both couples then have a son.
The sons are related … but how?

Answer: Sam's son and Joe's son are both each other's uncle!

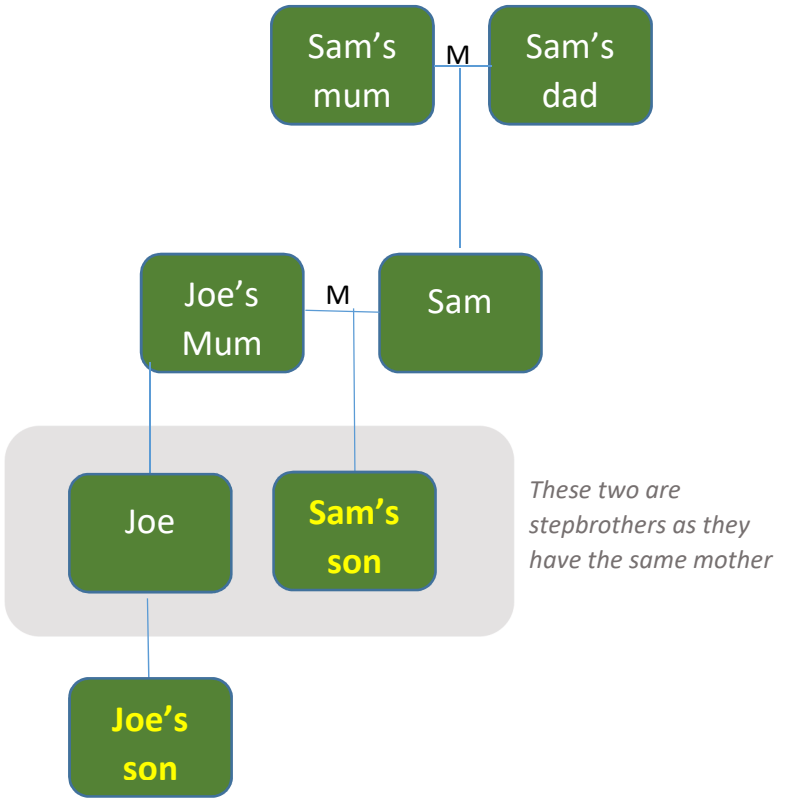
The best way to solve this problem is to draw a family tree.

In this version we can see that Sam and Joe's son are stepbrothers – so Joe's son is Sam's son's uncle.



M = married

In this version we can see that Joe and Sam's son are stepbrothers – so Joe's son is Sam's son's uncle.



If you put this information together – and really want to blow your brain – you may be able to see that Joe is his own step – grandfather! Sam is also his own step-grandfather…

