



GLOSSARY

Arithmetic Operations	Includes addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division. One or a combination of these basic arithmetic operations can appear in a mathematical problem.
Benchmark	A number that has almost the same value as some fraction and can be used to estimate an answer. Some benchmarks for fractions are 0, $\frac{1}{2}$, and 1.
Common Denominator	A denominator shared by two or more fractions. Fractions are converted to have a common denominator by multiplying the numerator and denominator by the same number.
Common Factor	A factor of two or more numbers. For example, 2 is a common factor of 4 and 6.
Comparison Symbols	Symbols used to show when a number or fraction is less than, greater than, or equal to another number or fraction. For example, “<” means “is less than,” “>” means “is greater than,” and “=” means “is equal to.”
Composite number	Any number that has more than two factors.
Denominator	The bottom number in the fraction. For example, the denominator in the fraction $\frac{1}{2}$ is 2. It represents the total number of equal sized parts of an object or items in a group.
Difference	What is left over when one number is subtracted from another. For example, the difference of $8 - 5$ is 3.
Division	Used to find out how many times something “fits” into some thing. Is a shortcut for subtracting many times. For example, 2 “fits” into 6, 3 times ($6 \div 2 = 3$).



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Divisor

The divisor is the number that is being divided into another number. $10 \times \boxed{\frac{3}{4}}$ ← divisor

Equivalent Fractions

Fractions that are equal in size, but have different denominators and numerators. These fractions reduce to the same number when written in lowest terms. For example, $\frac{2}{4}$ and $\frac{5}{10}$ are equivalent fractions, because both fractions reduce to $\frac{1}{2}$.

Estimate

A rough idea of the answer in an arithmetic operation. Benchmarks can be used to estimate answers.

Factor

A number that divides evenly into a number. For example, the numbers 1, 2, and 4 all divide evenly into 4. So 1, 2, and 4 are all factors of 4.

Factoring

The process of breaking numbers down into all of their factors.

Fraction

A number used to describe part of something. When we divide something into parts, the parts are fractions of the whole. Fractions are also used to describe part of a group.

Greatest Common Factor (GCF)

The largest number that divides evenly into a set of numbers. For example, the greatest common factor (GCF) of 12 and 16 is 4.

Improper Fraction

A fraction that has a larger numerator than denominator.

Least Common Denominator (LCD)

The smallest multiple of the denominators for two or more fractions. Sometimes called the “lowest common denominator.”



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Least Common Multiple (LCM)

The smallest number that appears in two or more lists of multiples. For example, 4 is the LCM of these two lists of multiples:

Multiples of 2: 2, ④, 6, 8, 10

Multiples of 4: ④, 8, 12, 16, 20

Like Fractions

Fractions that have the same denominator.

Lowest Terms

When a fraction has been reduced to have the smallest denominator possible. Also known as “simplest form.”

Mixed Number

A mixed number is made up of a whole number and a fraction.

Multiple

The answer you get when you multiply a whole number by other whole numbers. For example, 2, 4, 6, 8 and 10 are multiples of 2.

Numerator

The top number in a fraction. For example, the numerator in the fraction $\frac{1}{2}$ is 1. It represents the part of the total number that you are interested in.

Order of Operations

A set of rules used to solve mathematical problems. The order of operations is brackets, then division, or multiplication. Then addition or subtraction.

Prime Number

Any number that only has two factors: 1 and the number itself. For example, 3 is a prime number, because it only has two factors: 1 and 3.

Product

The solution or answer to a multiplication problem. For example, 8 is the product of the problem, $2 \times 4 = ?$



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Proper Fraction	A fraction that has a smaller numerator than denominator.
Quotient	The answer in a division problem. For example, 2 is the quotient of the problem, $8 \div 4 = ?$
Reciprocal	The “flipped” version of a fraction. It is necessary for performing division with fractions. For example, the reciprocal of $\frac{2}{3}$ is $\frac{3}{2}$.
Remainder	The number that is left over when a number cannot be divided evenly by another number. For example, when 10 is divided by 4, the answer is 2, with a remainder of 2.
Simplest Form	When a fraction has been reduced to have the smallest denominator possible. Also known as “lowest terms.”
Unlike Fractions	Fractions that do not have the same denominator.
Whole Number	A number that does not contain a fraction. For example, 1, 2, and 3 are whole numbers.