

Fractions Introduction

Reading Fractions

Fractions are parts of a whole. We use them to write and work with amounts that are less than a whole number (one) but more than zero. The form of a fraction is one number over another, separated by a fraction (divide) line.

Example: $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{2}{3}$ and $\frac{3}{7}$

These are Fractions. Each of the two numbers tells certain information about the fraction. The bottom number is called the denominator & tells how many parts the whole (one) number it was divided into. The top number is the numerator & tells how many of the parts to count.

$\frac{1}{2}$ says, "Count one of two equal parts."

$\frac{2}{3}$ says, "Count two of three equal parts."

$\frac{3}{7}$ says, "Count three of seven equal parts."

Fractions are used to tell us about wholes and their parts:

Example: A class of 10 students had 2 people absent one day. 2 absentees are part of a whole class of 10 students. $\frac{2}{10}$ represents the fraction of students absent.

Write fractions that tell the following information.

- Count three of five equal parts.
- Count one of four equal parts.
- Count seven of twelve equal parts.
- Count three of seven equal parts.
- Count twenty of fifty equal parts.
- It's 10 km to Gramma's. We have already driven 3 km. What fraction of the way have we driven?
- A pizza was cut into eight slices. Five were eaten. What fraction of the pizza was eaten?
- There are 12 students in a class. 6 have passed the fractions test. What fraction of the students have passed fractions?