

3.5/3.6: Write and Solve Ratios and Proportions

Goals: *Write ratios in simplest form

*Solve proportions using cross-products

*Write and solve proportions from real-world situations

Ratio: a comparison of two quantities using division

Proportion: an equation stating two ratios are equal

Ex: Derek and his brother decide to combine their CD collections. Derek has 44 CDs and his brother has 52 CDs.

- a) Find the ratio of Derek's CDs to his brother's.

$$\frac{\text{Derek}}{\text{Bro}} = \frac{44}{52} = \frac{11}{13}$$

This means that for every 11 CD's Derek has, his brother has 13

- b) Find the ratio of Derek's CDs to the entire collection.

$$\frac{\text{Derek}}{\text{Total}} = \frac{44}{96} = \frac{11}{24}$$

This means that for every 24 CD's, Derek has 11 of them

Ex: A volleyball team plays 14 home matches and 10 away matches.

- a) Find the ratio of home matches to away matches.

$$\frac{14}{10} = \frac{7}{5}$$

- b) Find the ratio of home matches to all matches.

$$\frac{14}{24} = \frac{7}{12}$$

Ex: At a carwash fund raiser, 18 ninth grade students and 14 tenth grade students worked the first shift.

- a) Find the ratio of ninth grade students to tenth grade students.

$$\frac{18}{14} = \frac{9}{7}$$

- b) Find the ratio of ninth grade students to all students.

$$\frac{18}{32} = \frac{9}{16}$$

Proportion: An equation stating that two ratios are equal

To solve a proportion: Cross multiply, then solve like a normal equation.

Solve:

Ex: $\frac{w}{35} = \frac{4}{7}$

$$\begin{aligned} 7w &= 35(4) \\ 7w &= 140 \\ w &= 20 \end{aligned}$$

Ex: $\frac{9}{2} = \frac{m}{12}$

$$\begin{aligned} 2m &= 9(12) \\ 2m &= 108 \\ m &= 54 \end{aligned}$$

Ex: $\frac{z}{54} = \frac{5}{9}$

$$\begin{aligned} 9z &= 270 \\ z &= 30 \end{aligned}$$

Ex: $\frac{m+3}{8} = \frac{40}{64}$

$$\begin{aligned} 64(m+3) &= 320 \\ 64m + 192 &= 320 \\ 64m &= 128 \\ m &= 2 \end{aligned}$$

Ex: A recipe for tomato salsa calls for 30 tomatoes to make 12 pints of salsa. How many tomatoes are needed to make 4 pints?

$$\frac{30 \text{ tomatoes}}{12 \text{ pints}} = \frac{x \text{ tomatoes}}{4 \text{ pints}}$$

$$\begin{aligned} 12x &= 120 \\ x &= 10 \text{ tomatoes} \end{aligned}$$

Ex: The elevator that takes passengers from the lobby of the John Hancock Center in Chicago to the observation level travels 150 feet in 5 seconds. The observation level is located on the 94th floor, at 1029 feet above the ground. How long does it take to get from the lobby to the observation deck?

$$\frac{150 \text{ feet}}{5 \text{ seconds}} = \frac{1029 \text{ feet}}{x \text{ seconds}}$$

$$\begin{aligned} 150x &= 5145 \\ x &= 34.3 \text{ seconds} \end{aligned}$$



Ex: When two full moons occur in the same month, the second full moon is called a “blue moon.” On average, 2 blue moons occur every 5 years. How many are likely to occur in the next 25 years?

$$\frac{2}{5} = \frac{x}{25}$$

$$50 = 5x$$

$$x = 10$$

$$\text{Ex: } \frac{4}{x} = \frac{8}{x-3}$$

$$4(x-3) = 8x$$

$$4x - 12 = 8x$$

$$-12 = 4x$$

$$x = -3$$

$$\text{Ex: } \frac{3}{x} = \frac{9}{x-4}$$

$$3(x-4) = 9x$$

$$3x - 12 = 9x$$

$$-12 = 6x$$

$$-2 = x$$

Scale Drawing (or model): A drawing or model in which the dimensions are proportional to the actual object

Scale: relates the object's dimensions to the dimensions or the drawing or model

Ex: 1 in: 12 feet means: 1 inch on a drawing or model means 12 feet on the actual object

Ex: A map's scale is 1 cm : 85 km. Using a meter stick, the distance between Cleveland and Cincinnati is about 4.2 cm. How many kilometers apart are they?

$$\frac{1}{85} = \frac{4.2}{x}$$

$$x = 357 \text{ KM}$$