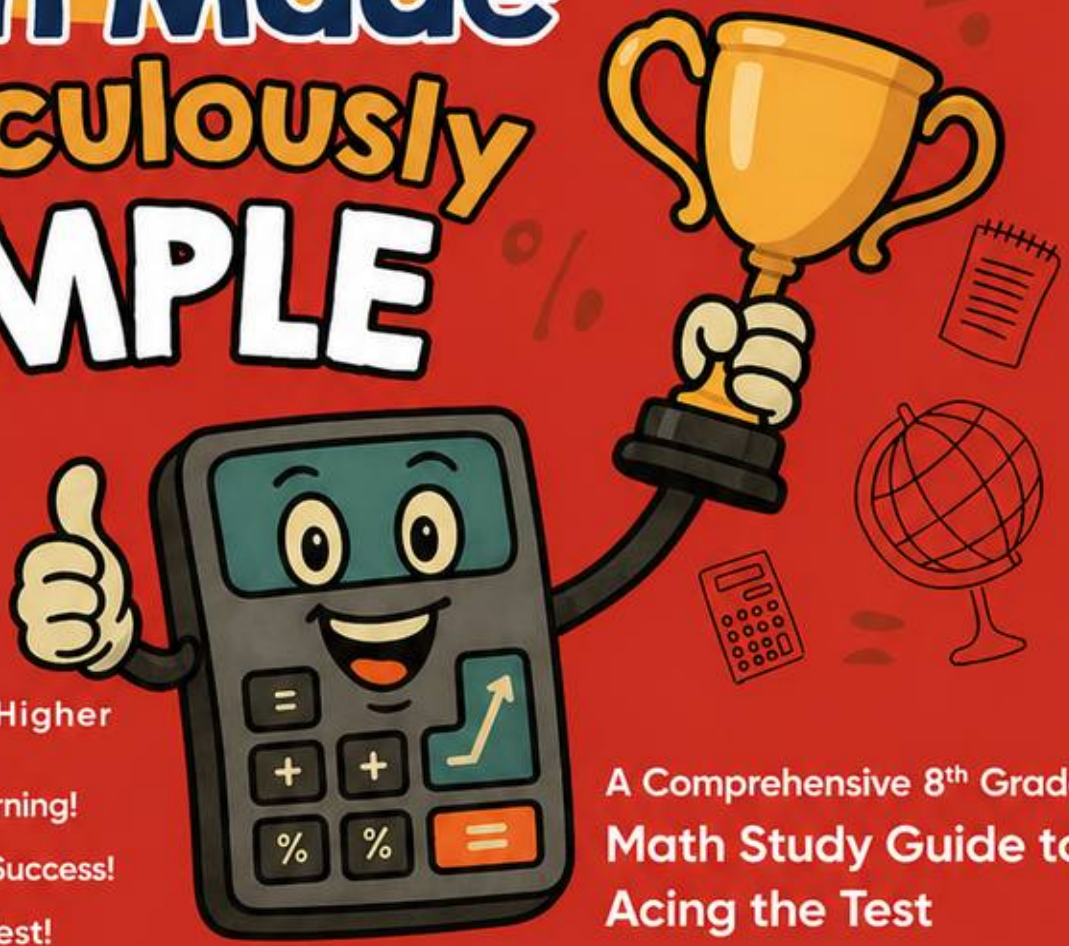
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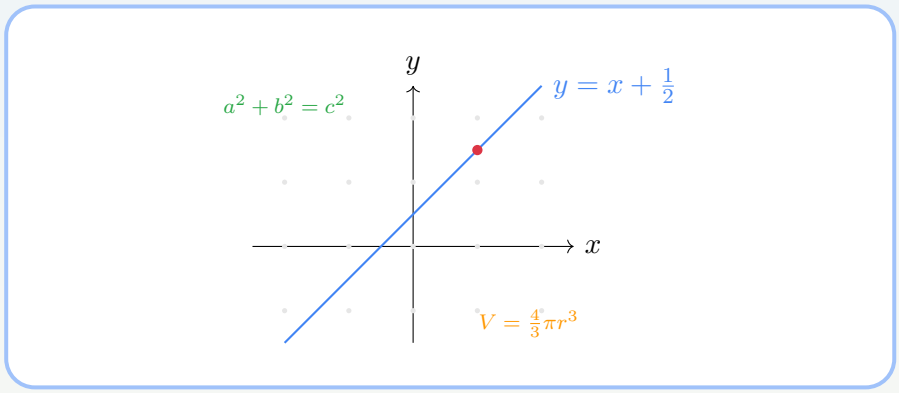
A Comprehensive 8th Grade Math Study Guide to Acing the Test

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Kentucky KSA Grade 8 Math

Made Ridiculously Simple

A Comprehensive 8^{th} Grade Math Study Guide to Acing the KSA Test



Reza Nazari

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KY.8.G.6	Explain a proof of the Pythagorean Theorem and its converse
KY.8.G.7	Apply the Pythagorean Theorem to determine unknown side lengths in right triangles in real-world and mathematical problems in two and three dimensions
KY.8.G.8	Apply the Pythagorean Theorem to find the distance between two points in a coordinate system
KY.8.G.9	Apply the formulas for the volumes and surface areas of cones, cylinders and spheres and use them to solve real-world and mathematical problems
KY.8.NS	Understand and apply concepts of rational and irrational numbers
KY.8.NS.1	Understand informally that every number has a decimal expansion; the rational numbers are those with decimal expansions that terminate in 0s or eventually repeat. Know that other numbers are called irrational
KY.8.NS.2	Use rational approximations of irrational numbers to compare the size of irrational numbers, locate them approximately on a number line diagram and estimate the value of expressions
KY.8.SP	Investigate patterns of association in bivariate data
KY.8.SP.1	Construct and interpret scatter plots for bivariate numerical data to investigate patterns of association between two quantities. Describe patterns such as clustering, outliers, positive or negative association, linear association and nonlinear association
KY.8.SP.2	Know that lines are widely used to model relationships between two quantitative variables. For scatter plots that suggest a linear association, informally fit a line and informally assess the model fit by judging the closeness of the data points to the line
KY.8.SP.3	Use the equation of a linear model to solve problems in the context of bivariate numerical data, interpreting the slope and intercept

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CHAPTER

1

Real Numbers & Number Sense

1. Rational and Irrational Numbers KY.8.NS, KY.8.NS.1
2. Turning Repeating Decimals into Fractions KY.8.NS, KY.8.NS.1
3. Estimating Irrational Numbers KY.8.NS, KY.8.NS.2
4. Estimating Expressions with Irrational Numbers KY.8.G, KY.8.G.3

② Estimate $\sqrt{45}$ to one decimal place.

First, squeeze with integers: $6^2 = 36 < 45 < 49 = 7^2$, so $6 < \sqrt{45} < 7$. Now refine to tenths. **Test:** $6.7^2 = 44.89 < 45$ and $6.8^2 = 46.24 > 45$. This tells us $6.7 < \sqrt{45} < 6.8$—we're narrowing it down! Since 45 is much closer to 44.89, we know $\sqrt{45} \approx 6.7$ is our best estimate to one decimal place.

Answer: $\sqrt{45} \approx 6.7$

Practice Problems

Give the two consecutive integers that bound each square root, then estimate to one decimal place where indicated.

1. $\sqrt{10}$ is between _____

2. $\sqrt{18}$ is between _____

3. $\sqrt{35}$ is between _____

4. $\sqrt{50}$ is between _____

5. $\sqrt{72}$ is between _____

6. $\sqrt{90}$ is between _____

7. $\sqrt{6} \approx$ _____ (1 d.p.)

8. $\sqrt{14} \approx$ _____ (1 d.p.)

9. $\sqrt{30} \approx$ _____ (1 d.p.)

10. $\sqrt{52} \approx$ _____ (1 d.p.)

11. Order: $\sqrt{5}$, 2, $\sqrt{3}$ _____

12. Greater: $\sqrt{11}$ or 3.3? _____

Study Tips

- Memorize perfect squares through 169 (13^2). This gives you the power to quickly bracket any square root and know which two integers it falls between. You're building your math toolkit!
- When estimating $\sqrt{x}$ to one decimal place, find the two tenths it falls between, then decide which is closer. If they're equally close, test hundredths for extra accuracy before rounding.
- **Here's a time-saver for comparing irrational numbers:** just compare the radicands directly—no estimation needed! Since $47 < 53$, you know right away that $\sqrt{47} < \sqrt{53}$. Smart thinking!

✍ Word Problems

13. A square garden has an area of 75 m^2. The gardener wants to know whether the side length is closer to 8 m or 9 m so she can decide how many fence posts to order. Between which two consecutive integers does the side length fall, and which integer is it closest to?

_____

14. Two drones take off from the same point and fly in perpendicular directions. Drone A travels $\sqrt{60}$ km and Drone B travels 7.5 km. Without using a calculator, determine which drone flies farther.

_____

15. A park ranger estimates the distance across a circular lake. The lake's area is 200 m^2. (a) The radius satisfies $\pi r^2 = 200$. Find r^2. (b) Estimate r to the nearest tenth. (c) Estimate the diameter to the nearest metre.

_____

16. Between which two consecutive whole numbers does each value lie? (a) $\sqrt{50}$ (b) $\sqrt[3]{100}$ (c) Order from least to greatest: $\sqrt{50}$, $\sqrt[3]{100}$, 7.2

_____

17. A square garden has area 150 ft^2. You need to buy fencing for all four sides. Fencing is sold in whole-foot lengths. (a) Find the exact side length. (b) Estimate the perimeter to the nearest tenth of a foot. (c) How many whole feet of fencing must you buy?

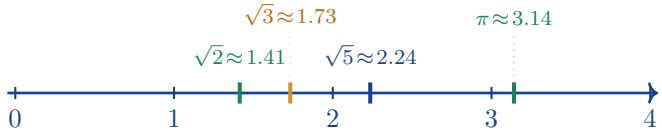
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1.4 Estimating Expressions with Irrational Numbers

KY.8.G, KY.8.G.3

Estimating a *single* irrational number like $\sqrt{45}$ is one thing—you squeeze it between two perfect squares and zero in on the decimal. But what happens when an expression mixes **several** irrational numbers with addition, subtraction, multiplication, or exponents? **Here's how you handle it:** replace each irrational number with its decimal approximation, then carry out the arithmetic step by step. But here's the real secret that saves time and keeps your answer exact—**simplify before you substitute!** For example, $(\sqrt{3})^2 = 3$ exactly (no decimal needed!), and $\sqrt{2} \cdot \sqrt{8} = \sqrt{16} = 4$—the irrational parts cancel out completely. Only use decimal approximations for the parts that *truly* stay irrational. One more important rule: **round at the very end, not in the middle.** Early rounding piles up error and throws off your final answer. The reference line below collects the key approximations you'll need most.



Key Concepts & Quick Review

Useful approximations: $\sqrt{2} \approx 1.41$, $\sqrt{3} \approx 1.73$, $\sqrt{5} \approx 2.24$, $\pi \approx 3.14$

Strategy: Substitute ⇒ Simplify ⇒ Round to the required number of decimal places.

Bounding: Computing both a *lower bound* (using smaller approximations) and an *upper bound* (using larger ones) confirms how accurate the estimate is.

Examples

① Estimate π^2 to two decimal places.

Start by substituting: use $\pi \approx 3.14$. Then compute $\pi^2 \approx 3.14 \times 3.14$. **Break it into parts:** $3 \times 3.14 = 9.42$ and $0.14 \times 3.14 = 0.4396$. **Add them:** $9.42 + 0.44 = 9.86$ (rounding 0.4396 to 0.44). **Check your work:** the actual value is $9.8696\ldots$, so our estimate of 9.86 is spot-on! That's the power of smart substitution.

Answer: $\pi^2 \approx 9.86$

② Estimate $3\sqrt{5} - 2$ to one decimal place.

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