Whole Numbers as Fractions

Spot mistakes, reason, and work backward

Name _____ **Date** _____ **Score** _____ / 6

QUICK REVIEW

All the equal parts of one whole give $\frac{b}{b} = 1$. A whole in fifths has 5 fifths, so $\frac{5}{5} = 1$. Count complete groups of denominator-sized parts. A whole number can also have denominator 1: $6 = \frac{6}{1}$.

Worked example

Write 5 as a fraction with denominator 2.

1. Each whole has 2 parts of size $\frac{1}{2}$.

2. 5 wholes have $5 \times 2 = 10$ parts, so $5 = \frac{10}{2}$.

Answer: $5 = \frac{10}{2}$.

Practice Problems

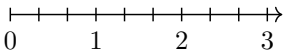
Show your thinking.

1. A student says $\frac{3}{4} = 3$. Give the correct numerator for 3 wholes with denominator 4.

2. Complete $\frac{16}{\square} = 2$. How many equal parts are in one whole?

3. Complete $\frac{8}{\square} = 4$. How many equal parts are in one whole?

4. Decide which is a whole number: $\frac{9}{3}$ or $\frac{8}{3}$. Mark both on the line to check.



5. A student says $\frac{2}{3} = 2$. Give the correct numerator for 2 wholes with denominator 3.

6. Write two fraction names for 1, one with denominator 1 and one with denominator 8.

Answer Key

1. $3 = \frac{12}{4}$, not $\frac{3}{4}$.
2. Denominator 8.
3. Denominator 2.
4. $\frac{9}{3} = 3$ is whole; $\frac{8}{3}$ is not.
5. $2 = \frac{6}{3}$, not $\frac{2}{3}$.
6. $\frac{1}{1} = \frac{8}{8} = 1$.

Step-by-Step Solutions

Follow each calculation, then check your own work.

Problem 1

1. 3 wholes need 4 pieces each, giving $3 \times 4 = 12$ pieces.
2. Check: $12 \div 4 = 3$. The numerator must be 12, not 3.

Problem 2

1. The 16 pieces are divided among 2 wholes: $16 \div 2 = 8$ parts per whole.
2. Check: $\frac{16}{8} = 2$ because $2 \times 8 = 16$.

Problem 3

1. The 8 pieces are divided among 4 wholes: $8 \div 4 = 2$ parts per whole.
2. Check: $\frac{8}{2} = 4$ because $4 \times 2 = 8$.

Problem 4

1. 9 pieces form $9 \div 3 = 3$ complete groups of 3.
2. $8 = (2 \times 3) + 2$ leaves 2 pieces after 2 wholes, so $\frac{8}{3}$ lies between 2 and 3.

Problem 5

1. 2 wholes need 3 pieces each, giving $2 \times 3 = 6$ pieces.
2. Check: $6 \div 3 = 2$. The numerator must be 6, not 2.

Problem 6

1. With denominator 1, 1 one-whole pieces give $\frac{1}{1}$.
2. With denominator 8, there are $1 \times 8 = 8$ pieces, giving $\frac{8}{8}$.

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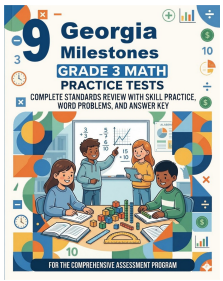

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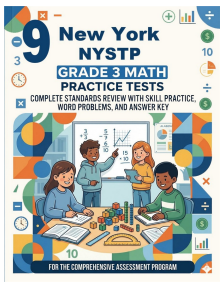

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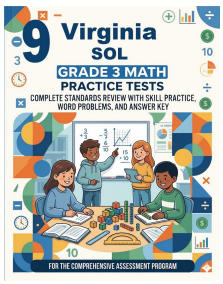

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