Measurement Units and Conversions

Explore ideas and representations

Name _____ **Date** _____ **Score** _____ / 8

QUICK REVIEW

The same measurement needs more small units and fewer large units. Multiply to count smaller units; group or divide to count larger units. Useful facts: 1 m $= 100$ cm, 1 kg $= 1{,}000$ g, 1 hour $= 60$ minutes, and 1 foot $= 12$ inches.

Worked example

Convert 3 yards to feet.

1. Use 1 yard $= 3$ feet.
2. $3 \times 3 = 9$.
3. Check: $9 \div 3 = 3$ yards.
Answer: 9 feet.

Practice Problems

Show your thinking.

1. Convert 7 m to centimeters.

2. Convert 5 kg to grams.

3. Convert 4 hours to minutes.

4. Convert 6 feet to inches.

5. Fix: 2 km $= 200$ m.

6. Convert 3 m 40 cm to centimeters.

7. Complete this meter-to-centimeter table.

m	cm
2	
5	
9	

8. Why does the numerical count grow when 4 m is written in centimeters?

Answer Key

1. 700 cm.
2. 5000 g.
3. 240 minutes.
4. 72 inches.
5. $2{,}000$ m.
6. 340 cm.
7. $200, 500, 900$ cm.
8. 4 m $= 400$ cm; smaller units need a larger count.

Step-by-Step Solutions

Follow each calculation, then check your own work.

Problem 1

1. Use 1 m $= 100$ cm.
2. $7 \times 100 = 700$.
3. Check: $700 \div 100 = 7$ m.

Problem 2

1. Use 1 kg $= 1000$ g.
2. $5 \times 1000 = 5000$.
3. Check: $5000 \div 1000 = 5$ kg.

Problem 3

1. Use 1 hour $= 60$ minutes.
2. $4 \times 60 = 240$.
3. Check: $240 \div 60 = 4$ hours.

Problem 4

1. Use 1 foot $= 12$ inches.
2. $6 \times 12 = 72$.
3. Check: $72 \div 12 = 6$ feet.

Problem 5

1. One kilometer equals $1{,}000$ m.
2. $2 \times 1{,}000 = 2{,}000$ m.
3. $200 \div 1{,}000 = \frac{1}{5}$ km, so the original conversion is too small.

Problem 6

1. 3 m $= 3 \times 100 = 300$ cm.
2. Add 40 cm: $300 + 40 = 340$ cm.
3. $340 = 3 \times 100 + 40$ checks the mixed units.

Problem 7

1. $2 \times 100 = 200$ cm.
2. $5 \times 100 = 500$ cm.
3. $9 \times 100 = 900$ cm; every meter gives 100 centimeters.

Problem 8

1. Each meter contains 100 centimeter units.
2. $4 \times 100 = 400$ of those smaller units.
3. The length stays equal because $400 \div 100 = 4$ m.

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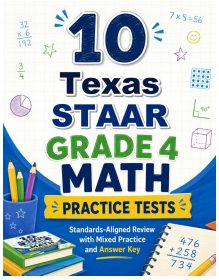

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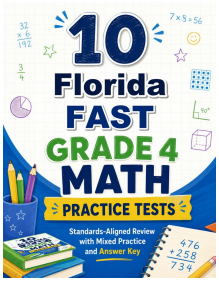

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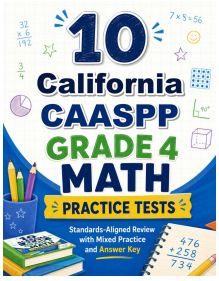

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