What Is a Percent?

The meaning of percent: Models and calculations

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

QUICK REVIEW

Percent means per 100: $35\% = 35/100 = 0.35$. To find a part, multiply the whole by the percent as a fraction. For example, 20% of 30 is $30 \times 20/100 = 6$. To find the percent use $100\times$part/whole; to find the whole divide the part by the percent fraction.

Worked example

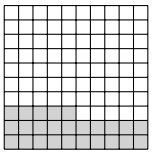
What percent of 48 is 12?

1. The part of the whole is $\frac{12}{48} = \frac{1}{4}$.
2. The percent number is $\frac{1}{4} \times 100 = 25$. Thus the percentage is 25%.
Answer: 25%.

Practice Problems

Show your thinking.

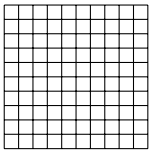
1. What percent is shaded?



2. Write $\frac{7}{20}$ as a percent.

3. Write 0.75 as a percent.

4. Shade 40% of the grid. How many small squares?



5. Nine of ten shots scored. What percent scored?

6. Is $\frac{1}{8}$ greater or less than 10%? Find its exact percent.

7. Express 17 out of 50 as a percent.

8. Write 65% as an exact fraction and a decimal.

Answer Key

1. 25%.
2. 35%.
3. 75%.
4. 40.
5. 90%.
6. $\frac{25}{2}\%$. It is greater than 10%.
7. 34%.
8. $\frac{13}{20} = 0.65$.

Step-by-Step Solutions

Follow each calculation, then check your own work.

Problem 1

1. The part of the whole is $\frac{25}{100} = \frac{1}{4}$.
2. The percent number is $\frac{1}{4} \times 100 = 25$. Thus the percentage is 25%.

Problem 2

1. The part of the whole is $\frac{7}{20} = \frac{7}{20}$.
2. The percent number is $\frac{7}{20} \times 100 = 35$. Thus the percentage is 35%.

Problem 3

1. The part of the whole is $\frac{3}{4} = \frac{3}{4}$.
2. The percent number is $\frac{3}{4} \times 100 = 75$. Thus the percentage is 75%.

Problem 4

1. $40\% = 40/100 = \frac{2}{5}$.
2. The part is $100 \times \frac{2}{5} = 40$. Check: $40/100 = \frac{2}{5} = 40\%$.

Problem 5

1. The part of the whole is $\frac{9}{10} = \frac{9}{10}$.
2. The percent number is $\frac{9}{10} \times 100 = 90$. Thus the percentage is 90%.

Problem 6

1. The part of the whole is $\frac{1}{8} = \frac{1}{8}$.
2. The percent number is $\frac{1}{8} \times 100 = \frac{25}{2}$. Thus the percentage is $\frac{25}{2}\%$.
3. $12.5 - 10 = 2.5$ percentage points above 10%.

Problem 7

1. The part of the whole is $\frac{17}{50} = \frac{17}{50}$.
2. The percent number is $\frac{17}{50} \times 100 = 34$. Thus the percentage is 34%.

Problem 8

1. $65\% = 65/100 = 13/20$ after dividing numerator and denominator by 5.
2. $13/20 = 65/100 = 0.65$ as a decimal.

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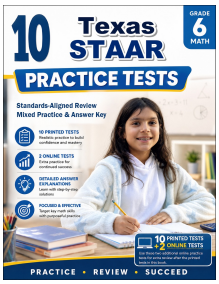

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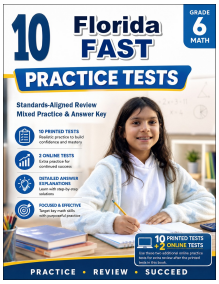

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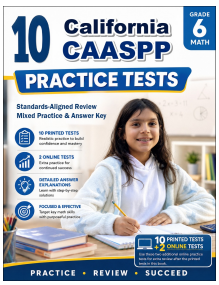

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