What Is a Percent?

The meaning of percent: Applications and decisions

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. Of 24 students, 18 walk to school. What percent walk?

2. A bottle has 45 mL out of its 60 mL capacity. What percent full is it?

3. A goal is 20 books and 12 are read. Show progress as a percent.

4. A plant tray has 27 seedlings survive out of 30. Find the survival percent.

5. A 70% target means how many successes in 10 tries?

6. A shop labels 8 of 25 items as 30%. Find the exact percent to repair the label.

7. A garden has 21 occupied beds out of 28. What percent is occupied?

8. A group needs at least 60% agreement. There are 13 votes in favor out of 20. Find the percent and decide.

Answer Key

1. 75%.
2. 75%.
3. 60%.
4. 90%.
5. 7.
6. 32%.
7. 75%.
8. 65%. Yes; $65\% \geq 60\%$.

Step-by-Step Solutions

Follow each calculation, then check your own work.

Problem 1

1. The part of the whole is $\frac{18}{24} = \frac{3}{4}$.
2. The percent number is $\frac{3}{4} \times 100 = 75$. Thus the percentage is 75%.

Problem 2

1. The part of the whole is $\frac{45}{60} = \frac{3}{4}$.
2. The percent number is $\frac{3}{4} \times 100 = 75$. Thus the percentage is 75%.

Problem 3

1. The part of the whole is $\frac{12}{20} = \frac{3}{5}$.
2. The percent number is $\frac{3}{5} \times 100 = 60$. Thus the percentage is 60%.

Problem 4

1. The part of the whole is $\frac{27}{30} = \frac{9}{10}$.
2. The percent number is $\frac{9}{10} \times 100 = 90$. Thus the percentage is 90%.

Problem 5

1. $70\% = 70/100 = \frac{7}{10}$.
2. The part is $10 \times \frac{7}{10} = 7$. Check: $7/10 = \frac{7}{10} = 70\%$.

Problem 6

1. The part of the whole is $\frac{8}{25} = \frac{8}{25}$.
2. The percent number is $\frac{8}{25} \times 100 = 32$. Thus the percentage is 32%.

Problem 7

1. The part of the whole is $\frac{21}{28} = \frac{3}{4}$.
2. The percent number is $\frac{3}{4} \times 100 = 75$. Thus the percentage is 75%.

Problem 8

1. The part of the whole is $\frac{13}{20} = \frac{13}{20}$.
2. The percent number is $\frac{13}{20} \times 100 = 65$. Thus the percentage is 65%.
3. $65 - 60 = 5$ percentage points above the requirement.

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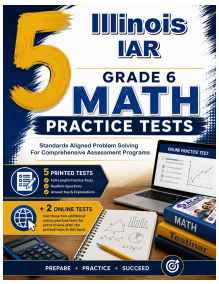

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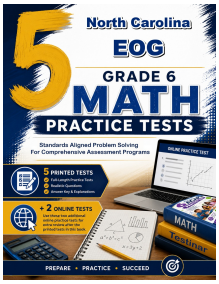

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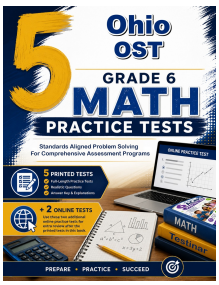

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