Math Conversions: Percentages & Discounts

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Finding a fractional part of a whole

1. Write the lesser number over the greater number. Reduce if necessary.

Example: 9 is what part of 18? Ans: 1/2

Finding discounts

1. Multiply the list price by the rate of discount. (The rate of discount being a decimal)
2. Subtract the amount of discount from the list price.

Example: The price of a shirt is $20. It is 15% off. What is the new price? Ans: $17

Finding the rate of discount

1. Subtract the sale price from the regular price to find the discount.
2. Put the discount amount and the regular price in a fraction, with the discount as the Numerator.
3. Reduce the fraction as neccessary. Convert the fraction into a decimal.

Example: Regular price: $15 Sale price: $12 Ans: 20%

Finding the percentage by comparison

1. Make a fraction placing the first number over the second number.
2. Reduce the fraction in lowest terms.
3. Change the fraction to a decimal.
4. Change the decimal to a percent by moving the decimal point 2 places to the right.

(Adding zeros may be necessary.)

Example: 28 is what percent of 40? Ans: 70%

Finding percent of increase or decrease

INCREASE

1. Subtract to find the number of increase.
2. Make a fraction with the amount of increase (Denominator) and the original number.
3. Reduce the fraction as neccessary. Convert the fraction into a decimal.

DECREASE

1. Subtract to find the number of decrease.
2. Make a fraction with the amount of decreasse (Numerator) and the original number.
3. Reduce the fraction as neccessary. Convert the fraction into a decimal.

Example Increase: Sarah had 20 pencils, now she has 25 pencils. Ans: 25%

Example Decrease: Sarah had 20 pencils, now she has 12 pencils. Ans: 40%

Finding the percentage for circle graphs

1. Find the total of the items together.
2. Find what percent each part is of the total.
3. Add a decimal point, then three zeros while dividing.
4. Estimate (.214 would be 21%, .285 would be 29%, etc.)