

Fraction word problems

To find a fraction of a number, divide the number by the denominator.

For example, $\frac{1}{3}$ of 30 is the same as $30 \div 3 = 10$.

To find $\frac{2}{3}$ of 30 you just multiply $\frac{1}{3}$ by 2: $\frac{1}{3} = 10$ so $\frac{2}{3} = 20$.

- 1. Read each problem. Ask yourself: Is it a one- or two-step problem?
Write a number sentence for the problem, then work out the answer.
Write down your method.**

Word problem	Method	Answer
Sally has 80p in her purse. She spends $\frac{3}{4}$ of her money on some sweets. How much does she spend?		
Paul has 45 marbles. He puts $\frac{2}{5}$ of the marbles in his pocket. How many are in his pocket?		
$\frac{2}{3}$ of the cakes at a party are eaten. There were 36 on the plate. How many are left?		
There is a plate of 36 pieces of fruit on the table. $\frac{1}{3}$ are bananas. $\frac{1}{4}$ are apples. All the rest are oranges. How many are oranges?		

2. Write the answers to these fraction problems.



Gordon went out for lunch with his friends.

The bill came to £30.

- a. One half of the bill was for burgers.

How much was spent on burgers?

- b. One third of the bill was spent on milkshakes.

How much was this?

- c. One sixth of the bill was spent on ice cream.

How much was this?

- d. To get home, Gordon spent a quarter of a £20 note on a taxi.

How much was the taxi fare?