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DATE _____



Fractions Work Sample page 1 of 2

1 Anthony's teacher gave the class this problem: $\frac{7}{10} + \frac{5}{100}$.

a Anthony says it's better to think about money rather than a clock face to help solve this problem. Do you agree? Explain your answer.

Anthony is correct. Explanations will vary.

Tenths & hundredths are better suited to money since $\frac{1}{10}$ of a dollar is 10¢ and $\frac{1}{100}$ is 1¢. $\frac{1}{10}$ of an hour is 6 minutes and $\frac{1}{100}$ of an hour is a fraction of a minute; both can be hard to work with mentally.

b Solve $\frac{7}{10} + \frac{5}{100}$. Show your work.

Work will vary. Example:

$\frac{7}{10} = 7$ dimes = 70¢; $\frac{5}{100} = 5$ pennies = 5¢

$70 + 5 = 75$ ¢; 75¢ is $\frac{3}{4}$ of a dollar

$\frac{7}{10} + \frac{5}{100} = \frac{75}{100}$ OR $\frac{3}{4}$

c Express the answer to $\frac{7}{10} + \frac{5}{100}$ as a fraction: **$\frac{75}{100}$ OR $\frac{3}{4}$**

2 Sara's teacher gave the class this problem: $\frac{1}{4} - \frac{3}{20}$.

a Sara says it's better to think about a clock face rather than money to help solve this problem. Do you agree? Explain your answer.

Sara is incorrect. Explanations will vary.

Fourths work for both clocks & money, but twentieths are better suited to money since $\frac{1}{20}$ of a dollar is a nickel or 5¢. $\frac{1}{4}$ of a dollar is a quarter or 25¢.

b Solve $\frac{1}{4} - \frac{3}{20}$. Show your work.

Work will vary.

$\frac{1}{4} = 1$ quarter or 25¢; $\frac{3}{20} = 3$ nickels or 15¢

$25 - 15 = 10$ ¢; 10¢ is $\frac{10}{100}$ or $\frac{1}{10}$ of a dollar

$\frac{1}{4} - \frac{3}{20} = \frac{5}{20}$ (5 nickels) - $\frac{3}{20}$ (3 nickels) = $\frac{2}{20}$ or $\frac{1}{10}$

c Express the answer to $\frac{1}{4} - \frac{3}{20}$ as a fraction: **$\frac{10}{100}$ OR $\frac{2}{20}$ OR $\frac{1}{10}$**

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Fractions Work Sample page 2 of 2**3** Here is another problem: $\frac{2}{3} + \frac{1}{4}$.

- a** Is it better to think about a clock face or money to help solve this problem? Explain your answer.

A clock is better suited for this problem. Explanations will vary. Fourths work for both clocks & money, but thirds are more suited to clocks. $\frac{1}{3}$ of a clock is 20 minutes; $\frac{2}{3}$ is 40 minutes. $\frac{1}{4}$ of a clock is 15 minutes.

- b** Solve $\frac{2}{3} + \frac{1}{4}$. Show your work.
Work will vary.

$$\frac{2}{3} = 40 \text{ min}; \frac{1}{4} = 15 \text{ min}$$

$$40 + 15 = 55 \text{ minutes or } \frac{55}{60} \text{ or } 1\frac{11}{12} \text{ of an hour}$$

$$\frac{2}{3} + \frac{1}{4} = \frac{8}{12} + \frac{3}{12} = \frac{11}{12}$$

- c** Express the answer to $\frac{2}{3} + \frac{1}{4}$ as a fraction: **$\frac{55}{60}$ OR $1\frac{11}{12}$**

4 Here is one more problem: $2\frac{5}{6} - \frac{3}{4}$.

- a** Is it better to think about a clock face or money to help solve this problem? Explain your answer.

A clock is better suited for this problem. Explanations will vary. Fourths work for both clocks & money, but sixths are better suited to clocks. $\frac{1}{6}$ of a clock is 10 minutes; $\frac{5}{6}$ is 50 minutes. $\frac{1}{4}$ of a clock is 15 minutes; $\frac{3}{4}$ of a clock is 45 minutes.

- b** Solve $2\frac{5}{6} - \frac{3}{4}$. Show your work.
Work will vary.

$$2\frac{5}{6} = 2 \text{ hr } 50 \text{ min}; \frac{3}{4} = 45 \text{ min}$$

$$2 \text{ hr } 50 \text{ min} - 45 \text{ min} = 2 \text{ hr } 5 \text{ min or } 2\frac{5}{60} \text{ or } 2\frac{1}{12} \text{ hour}$$

$$2\frac{5}{6} - \frac{3}{4} = 2\frac{5}{60} \text{ or } 2\frac{1}{12}$$

- c** Express the answer to $2\frac{5}{6} - \frac{3}{4}$ as a fraction: **$2\frac{5}{60}$ OR $2\frac{1}{12}$**