

## The Winning EQUATION

A HIGH QUALITY MATHEMATICS PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM FOR TEACHERS IN GRADES 4 THROUGH ALGEBRA II

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Demonstrate, explain, question Help, do, practice Assess, demonstrate, apply

**STRAND:** NUMBER SENSE: Fractions and Decimals

#### MODULE TITLE: PRIMARY CONTENT MODULE VI

**MODULE INTENTION:** The intention of this module is to inform and instruct participants in the underlying mathematical content in the areas of fractions and decimals.

#### THIS ENTIRE MODULE MUST BE COVERED IN-DEPTH.

The presentation of these Primary Content Modules is a departure from past professional development models. The content here, is presented for individual teacher's depth of content in mathematics. Presentation to students would, in most cases, not address the general case or proof, but focus on presentation with numerical examples.

In addition to the underlying mathematical content provided by this module, the facilitator should use the classroom connections provided within this binder and referenced in the facilitator's notes.

#### **TIME:** 2 hours

#### **PARTICIPANT OUTCOMES:**

- Demonstrate understanding of fractions and decimals.
- Demonstrate understanding of the relationships of fractions and decimals.
- Demonstrate how to convert fractions to decimals and decimals to fractions for repeating and non-repeating decimals.



$$10 100 1000$$
$$= \frac{4}{10} + \frac{2}{100} + \frac{8}{1000}$$
$$= \frac{4}{10} \frac{100}{100} + \frac{2}{100} \frac{10}{10} + \frac{8}{1000}$$
$$= \frac{428}{1000}$$

One representation of .428 in fractional form is  $\frac{428}{1000}$ . In order to reduce this fraction to lowest terms, we note that GCD(428, 1000) = 4. Dividing top and bottom by 4 we obtain a fraction in simplified form.

$$428 = \frac{107}{250}$$

Have participants do H-1 for practice converting decimals to fractions.

**H-1** 



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Primary Content Module VI

NUMBER SENSE: Fractions and Decimals

T-2	<b>Fractions Into Decimals:</b> One way of obtaining " $\frac{3}{4} = 0.75$ " is by long		
	division. Recalling that one interpretation of the fraction $\frac{a}{b}$ is "the		
	answer to the division problem $a \div b$ ." We carry out the division process $3 \div 4$ as follows:		
	.75 4) <u>3.00</u>		
	$\frac{28}{20}$		
	<u>20</u>		
	0		
H-2	Have participants do H-2 for practice converting fractions to decimals.		
Т-3	But why does dividing numerator by denominator give the correct decimal? When converting a fraction into a decimal by dividing numerator by denominator, we essentially find an equivalent fraction whose denominator is a power of 10, i.e. a fraction of the form:		
Т-4	$\frac{N}{10^n}$ In the case of $\frac{3}{4}$ , we are to find $\frac{3}{4} = \frac{N}{10^2}$ (i.e, N=2), or $\frac{3}{4} = \frac{N}{100}$		
	(How do we know to use 100 for the searched equivalent fraction? We'll come back to this question.) Solve N, we use cross multiplication.		
	$4N = 3 \cdot 100 = 300$ $N = \frac{300}{4} = \frac{300 \div 4}{4 \div 4} = \frac{300 \div 4}{1} = 300 \div 4$		
	Then using long division, we obtain N=75. Long division shows $\frac{3}{4} = \frac{75}{100} = .75$		
Т-5	Note, however, not all fractions may have an equivalent fraction whose denominator is a power of 10. Fractions like $\frac{2}{5} = \frac{4}{10^1} = \frac{4}{10} = .4$ $\frac{1}{16} = \frac{625}{10^4} = \frac{625}{10000} = .0625$		
	have corresponding terminating decimal forms.		



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Primary Content Module VI

NUMBER SENSE: Fractions and Decimals

	Other fractions can only be converted into decimals with an infinite number of decimal places.		
	$\frac{1}{3} = .3333 = .\overline{3}$		
	$\frac{3}{11} = .272727 = .27$		
<b>T-6</b>	How can we tell if a fraction can convert into a terminating decimal?		
	Answer: For any fraction $\frac{a}{b}$ that is written in the lowest terms, it ca		
	be shown that the corresponding decimal terminates <b>only</b> when $b = 2^m \cdot 5^n$ for m, n = 0, 1, 2, Note: m or n could be zero.		
	As shown above, a terminating fraction equals a fraction whose denominator is a power of 10. Also recall that $(cd)^n = a^n b^n$ from Module 1. Therefore, $10^n = (2 \cdot 5)^n = 2^n \cdot 5^n$ . This means that the only prime factors of $10^n$ are 2 and 5.		
Т-7	In order for $\frac{a}{b} = \frac{N}{b}$ , we must multiply <b>a</b> and <b>b</b> by some whole		
	$b = 10^n$ number, let's say, $k$ so that the answer is $bk = 10^n$ . Since $bk = 10^n = (2 \cdot 5)^n = 2^n \cdot 5^n$ , we can conclude, that $b$ (as well as $k$ ) has only prime factors of 2 and/or 5.		
	For example, $\frac{1}{8} = \frac{1 \cdot 125}{8 \cdot 125} = \frac{125}{1000}$		
	or $\frac{1}{8} = \frac{1}{2^3} = \frac{1 \cdot 5^3}{2^3 \cdot 5^3} = \frac{125}{1000}$		
	$\frac{3}{40} = \frac{3 \cdot 25}{40 \cdot 25} = \frac{75}{1000}$		
	or $\frac{3}{40} = \frac{3}{2^3 \cdot 5} = \frac{3 \cdot 5^2}{(2^3 \cdot 5) \cdot 5^2} = \frac{3 \cdot 5^2}{2^3 \cdot 5^3} = \frac{75}{1000}$		
Т-8	This also explains why, in the case of $\frac{3}{4}$ , we chose to convert it to $\frac{N}{10^2} = \frac{N}{100}$ because $\frac{3}{4} = \frac{3}{2^2} = \frac{3 \cdot 5^2}{2^2 \cdot 5^2} = \frac{75}{100}$		



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Primary Content Module VI

NUMBER SENSE: Fractions and Decimals

T-9	<b>Fractions Into Repeating Decimals:</b> The second method described above made use of the fact that, when written in lowest terms, the	
	denominators of $\frac{1}{16}$ , $\frac{3}{8}$ , $\frac{1}{50}$ , and $\frac{12}{75} = \frac{4}{25}$ all have prime	
	factorizations consisting only of 2s and 5s. For fractions such as $\frac{1}{3}$ ,	
	$\frac{4}{13}$ , $\frac{5}{12}$ , it is impossible to transform them into terminating decimal form.	
	It is possible to use long division to relate such fractions to a repeating form in decimal notation. Here we use long division to show that	
	$\frac{1}{3} = .3333 \dots = .\overline{3}$ by	
	.3333 3)1.0000	
	$\frac{9}{10}$	
	$\frac{9}{10}$ etc.	
<b>T-10</b>	Indeed, long division shows that it is possible to convert <b>any</b> fraction	
	$\frac{a}{b}$ into a terminating or a repeating decimal. Regarding $\frac{a}{b}$ as the	
	solution of a division problem of the form $a \div b$ , we note that long division eventually involves "bringing down zeros." These zeros are appended to remainders that are whole numbers smaller than the divisor <i>b</i> . Thus, in the course of at most <i>b</i> divisions we must have a remainder that appeared before. When this occurs, we fall into a repeating pattern that leads to a repeating decimal representation for $a \div b$ .	
	By way of example, $\frac{3}{11}$ corresponds to the long division problem	
	.2727 11) <u>3.0000</u> 22	
	$\frac{22}{80}$	
	$\frac{77}{30}$	
	$\frac{22}{8}$ etc.	
	The fact that we alternate between remainders of 8 and 3 shows that $\frac{1}{2}$	
	the pattern .272727 will repeat indefinitely and that $\frac{3}{11} = .\overline{27}$ .	



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Primary Content Module VI NUMBER SENSE: Fractions and Decimals

T-11	Ask participants to find the decimal for $\frac{1}{7}$ and explain why it must		
Н-3	have a repeating block. The repeating decimal pattern corresponding		
	to $\frac{4}{12}$ is not revealed by the first eight digits of its decimal expansion.		
	13 However, even without knowing what the repeating decimal is, long		
T-12	division assures the existence of a pattern of length at most 12.		
	.3076 13)4.0000 39		
	90 78 etc		
	The reason is that in applying the long division algorithm, the dividend 4 is written with an unending string of zeros to the right of the decimal point. Each time we apply the algorithm to obtain a new digit in the quotient, we obtain a remainder that is less than 13. Since the numbers 0 through 12 are the only possible remainders, 12 applications of the division process are sure to lead either to a remainder of zero (in which case we have a terminating decimal), or else to a positive remainder that has occurred previously. Since we are always bringing down zeros, a repeated remainder leads to an operation identical with one that has occurred before. As a result, this operation is followed by a pattern that will repeat indefinitely. This gives us the following point to consider.		
H-3A	A Point to Consider: The number of places in a repeating pattern is, <u>at</u> <u>most</u> , 1 less than the divisor.		
	Have participants do worksheet H-3A on repeating decimals.		
	We have seen that reduced fractions of the form $\frac{a}{b}$ correspond to		
	terminating decimals whenever b has prime factorization of the form $2^m 5^n$ . For fractions whose decimal expansion fails to terminate, long		
T-13	division assures that $\frac{a}{t}$ corresponds to a repeating decimal. By		
	regarding terminating decimals as a special kind of repeating decimal; i.e., one whose repeating pattern consists of zeros - one can assert that <b>all</b> fractions correspond to repeating decimals.		



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Primary Content Module VI

NUMBER SENSE: Fractions and Decimals

T-14	<b>Repeating Decimals into Fractions:</b> If you didn't already know that		
	$\overline{.3} = \frac{1}{3}$ , how could you deduce it?		
	J		
	Let: $x = .333$		
	10x = 3.333		
	10x = 3.333		
	-x =333		
	9x = 3		
	or $x = \frac{3}{9} = \frac{1}{3}$		
T-15	This technique works for longer repeating patterns as well. For example, to evaluate $x = .2373737 \dots = .237$ , we note that		
	100x = 23.73737		
	$\frac{-x =23/3/}{99x = 23.5}$		
	$x = \frac{235}{000} = \frac{47}{100}$		
790 190			
	An easier way to do this might be to consider having only the repeating portion to the right of the decimal, then when you subtract, you will always get a whole number for the numerator.		
	1000x = 237.3737		
	$\frac{-10x = -2.3737}{990x = 235}$		
	$x = \frac{235}{235} = \frac{47}{47}$		
	990 198		
H-4	Have participants do worksheet H-4 to convert these decimals to fraction form: .888 ; .232323 ; .311311311 ; .763545454		
T-16	Theorem		
T-17	<b>Irrational Numbers:</b> The fact that fractions correspond to terminating or repeating decimals and vice-versa has profound consequences. Non-repeating decimals such as .101001000100001000001 correspond to numbers that are not rational. Conversely, "irrational" numbers such as $\sqrt{2}$ correspond to decimals that fail to repeat		
	numbers such as $\sqrt{2}$ correspond to decimars that ran to repeat.		



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Primary Content Module VI

NUMBER SENSE: Fractions and Decimals

T-18	The fact that a number is rational if and only if its decimal representation has a repeating block can also be used to show that the irrational numbers are "dense" in the following sense: Given any two rational numbers, there exists an irrational number between them. For	
	example, an irrational number between $\frac{1}{4}$ and .26 is given by	
	.2501001000100001	
Н-5	Have participants do worksheet H-5 to find an irrational number	
	between $\frac{1}{2}$ and .5001. One of many possible answers is:	
	0.500 01 001 0001 000001	
	While a full discussion of such "irrational numbers" is not called for in the standards, the study of long division and the correspondence between decimals and fractions sets the stage for an understanding of this profoundly important part of mathematics.	
T-19	Show the chart on T-19.	
	Administer the post-test.	

#### Pre-Post-Test

Convert each fraction to a decimal:

1.  $\frac{1}{4} =$  2.  $\frac{3}{5} =$ 

3. 
$$\frac{7}{16} =$$
 4.  $\frac{4}{11} =$ 

Convert each decimal to a fraction:

5. .75 = 6. .3 =

7. .5625 8. .6666... =

9. .232323... =

#### Pre- Post-Test Answer Key

1.	0.25	2.	0.6
3.	0.4375	4.	0.3636
5.	$\frac{3}{4}$	6.	$\frac{3}{10}$
7.	$\frac{9}{16}$	8.	$\frac{2}{3}$
9.	$\frac{23}{99}$		

### **Decimals to Fractions**

Recall:

$$428 = 4 \bullet 10^2 + 2 \bullet 10^1 + 8 \bullet 10^0$$

We can use this same process to change .428 to a fraction

$$.428 = 4 \cdot 10^{-1} + 2 \cdot 10^{-2} + 8 \cdot 10^{-3}$$
$$.428 = 4 \cdot \frac{1}{10} + 2 \cdot \frac{1}{100} + 8 \cdot \frac{1}{1000}$$
$$= \frac{4}{10} + \frac{2}{100} + \frac{8}{1000}$$
$$= \frac{4}{10} \frac{100}{100} + \frac{2}{100} \frac{10}{10} + \frac{8}{1000}$$
$$= \frac{400}{1000} + \frac{20}{1000} + \frac{8}{1000}$$
$$= \frac{428}{1000}$$

This can be reduced using GCD(428, 1000) = 4 .428 =  $\frac{428}{1000} = \frac{107}{250}$ 

#### Worksheet

## Convert these decimals to fraction form:

.6 =

.415 =

#### .503 =

# The fraction $\frac{a}{b}$ is

"the answer to the division problem  $a \div b$ ."

So  $\frac{3}{4}$  can be converted to its decimal equivalent by dividing 3 by 4.

$$\begin{array}{r} .75 \\
 4)3.00 \\
 \underline{28} \\
 20 \\
 \underline{20} \\
 0
 \end{array}$$

Worksheet

Convert these fractions to decimal form:

 $\frac{3}{8} =$  $\frac{1}{50} =$  $\frac{12}{75} =$ 

Why does dividing numerator by denominator give the correct decimal?

When converting a fraction into a decimal by dividing numerator by denominator, we essentially find an equivalent fraction whose denominator is a power of 10, i.e., a fraction of the form:

$$\frac{N}{10^n}$$
  
In the case of  $\frac{3}{4}$ , we choose n = 2. Thus,  
$$\frac{3}{4} = \frac{N}{10^2} = \frac{N}{100}$$

Why does dividing numerator by denominator give the correct decimal?

To find an equivalent fraction for  $\frac{3}{4}$ , set

$$\frac{3}{4} = \frac{N}{100}$$

Use cross multiplication:

$$4N = 3 \cdot 100 = 300$$
$$N = \frac{300}{4} = \frac{300 \div 4}{4 \div 4} = \frac{300 \div 4}{1} = 300 \div 4$$

Then use long division to obtain N = 75. That is,

$$\frac{3}{4} = \frac{75}{100}$$

This is why long division yields

$$\frac{3}{4} = \frac{75}{100} = 0.75$$

But, how do we know which power of 10 to use in the denominator, e.g.  $10^2$  for  $\frac{3}{4}$ ?

Not all fractions may have an equivalent fraction whose denominator is a power of 10. Fractions like:

$$\frac{3}{4} = \frac{75}{10^2} = \frac{75}{100} = .75$$
$$\frac{2}{5} = \frac{4}{10^1} = \frac{4}{10} = .4$$
$$\frac{1}{16} = \frac{625}{10^4} = \frac{625}{10000} = .0625$$

have corresponding terminating decimal forms.

But other fractions can only be converted into decimals with an infinite number of decimal places.

$$\frac{1}{3} = .3333... = 0.\overline{3}$$
$$\frac{3}{11} = .272727... = 0.\overline{27}$$

etc.

Question: How can we tell if a fraction can be converted into a terminating decimal?

Answer: A fraction  $\frac{a}{b}$  that is written in the lowest terms can be converted into a terminating decimal if and only if  $b = 2^m \cdot 5^n$  for m, n = 0, 1, 2, ... In other words, if and only if the prime factors of b are 2 and/or 5.

Rationale: As shown above, a terminating decimal is a fraction whose denominator is a power of 10. That is,

$$\frac{a}{b} = \frac{N}{10^n}$$

Recall that  $(cd)^n = c^n d^n$  from Module I. Therefore,

$$10^{n} = (2 \bullet 5)^{n} = 2^{n} \bullet 5^{n}$$

This means that the only prime factors of  $10^{n}$  are 2 and 5.

In order for  $\frac{a}{b} = \frac{N}{10^n}$  we must multiply *a* and *b* by some whole number *k* so that ak = N and  $bk=10^n$ . That is,  $\frac{ak}{bk} = \frac{N}{10^n}$ 

Since  $bk = 10^n = 2^n \cdot 5^n$ , we conclude that *b* (as well as *k*) has only prime factors of 2 and/or 5. For example,

$$\frac{1}{8} = \frac{1 \cdot 125}{8 \cdot 125} = \frac{125}{1000}$$
or
$$\frac{1}{8} = \frac{1}{2^3} = \frac{1 \cdot 5^3}{2^3 \cdot 5^3} = \frac{125}{(2 \cdot 5)^3} = \frac{125}{1000}$$

$$\frac{3}{40} = \frac{3 \cdot 25}{40 \cdot 25} = \frac{75}{1000}$$
or
$$\frac{3}{40} = \frac{3}{2^3 \cdot 5} = \frac{3 \cdot 5^2}{(2^3 \cdot 5) \cdot 5^2} = \frac{75}{(2 \cdot 5)^3} = \frac{75}{1000}$$

$$\frac{3}{4} = \frac{75}{100}$$
 Revisited

In the argument that  $\frac{3}{4} = .75$ , using long division, we wrote  $\frac{3}{4} = \frac{N}{10^2}$  Why 10<sup>2</sup>?

Answer: 
$$\frac{3}{4} = \frac{3}{2^2} = \frac{3 \cdot 5^2}{2^2 \cdot 5^2} = \frac{3 \cdot 25}{10^2} = \frac{75}{100}$$

Since  $4 = 2^2$ , we needed a factor of 5 to the same power.

Note: Any higher power of 10 would also work,

$$\frac{3}{4} = \frac{750}{1000} = \frac{750}{10^3}$$

$$\frac{3}{4} = \frac{3}{2^2} = \frac{3 \cdot 2 \cdot 5^3}{2^2 \cdot 2 \cdot 5^3} = \frac{3 \cdot 2 \cdot 5^3}{2^3 \cdot 5^3} = \frac{750}{10^3} = \frac{750}{1000}$$
This may be reduced to  $\frac{75}{100}$ .

## **Fractions Into Repeating Decimals**

Long division converts some fractions to repeating decimals.

 $\frac{1}{3} = .3333 \dots = .\overline{3}$  by doing long division for  $1 \div 3$ 



 $\frac{4}{13}$  and  $\frac{5}{12}$  also have infinite decimals because the denominators have prime factors other than 2 and 5.

#### Example:

# Converting $\frac{3}{11}$ to a decimal corresponds to



#### Assignment

Use long division to find the decimal for  $\frac{1}{7}$ . Be prepared to explain why the decimal has a repeating block to the other teachers here today.

What feature of the standard long division algorithm is crucial to your argument?

$$\frac{1}{7} = ?$$
  
7)1.000000

What is the maximum number of digits in a repeating block in relation to the divisor?

A calculator will not show  $\frac{4}{13}$  as a repeating decimal. Long division determines the repeating pattern.

.3076	
13)4.0000	
<u>39</u>	
100	
_91	
90	
78	etc.

#### Worksheet

Continue the long division problem. At which point does it repeat?

.3076 13)4.0000... <u>39</u> 100 <u>\_91</u> 90 <u>78</u>

Is  $\frac{5}{17}$  a repeating or terminating decimal? Show how you determined your answer.

## **Terminating Decimals**

Terminating decimals can be regarded as a special kind of repeating decimal

with a repeating pattern of zeros.

Converting  $\frac{3}{4}$  to a decimal using long division 4) $\frac{.7500...}{3.0000...}$  means  $\frac{3}{4} = .75$   $\frac{28}{20}$  20 20 000...

So, all fractions correspond to repeating decimals.

#### **Repeating Decimals to Fractions**

If you didn't already know that  $.333... = \frac{1}{3}$ , how could you deduce it?

Let 
$$x = .333... = .\overline{3}$$

Then 10x = 3.333...

Subtract x from both sides.

$$\begin{array}{rcl}
10x & = & 3.333....\\
- x & = & -.333....\\
9x & = & 3\\
x = \frac{3}{9} = \frac{1}{3}\\
\end{array}$$

For more complicated decimals, this also works:

Evaluate 
$$x = .2373737 \dots = .2\overline{37}$$

$$100x = 23.73737...$$
  
$$- x = -.23737...$$
  
$$99x = 23.5$$
  
$$x = \frac{235}{990} = \frac{47}{198}$$

An easier way is to consider having only the repeating portion to the right of the decimal.

$$1000x = 237.3737...$$
  
$$-10x = -2.3737...$$
  
$$990x = 235$$
  
$$x = \frac{235}{990} = \frac{47}{198}$$

#### Worksheet

#### Convert these decimals to fraction form:

= ... 888...

.232323 ... =

#### .311311311 ... =

.763545454 ... =

#### Theorem

Combining the algebraic method for converting repeating decimals to fractions with the long division argument gives this important result:

Theorem – Any fraction is equal to a decimal with a repeating block, and any decimal with a repeating block is equal to a fraction.

What about infinite decimals without repeating blocks?

### Irrational Numbers

Not all decimals have repeating blocks. Look carefully at

.101001000100001...

This decimal has no repeating block. It is an example of an

Irrational Number

An irrational number is an infinite decimal which has no repeating block. Another example is

## $\sqrt{2}$

but it requires a careful argument to show this.

## Real Numbers

The set of real numbers is the set of all rational numbers together with the set of all irrational numbers.

Between any two different real numbers is a rational number and an irrational number.

Example: One irrational number between  $\frac{1}{4}$  and .26 is: .250100100010001...

A rational number between  $\frac{1}{4} = .25$  and .26 is .255 or  $\frac{255}{1000}$ .

#### Worksheet

# Find an irrational number between $\frac{1}{2}$ and .5001.

#### Sets of numbers

$$N \quad W \quad Z \quad Q \quad R$$
$$(Q \quad Ir) = R$$

- N: natural numbers (counting numbers)
- W: whole numbers (natural numbers and 0)
- Z: integers
- Q: R: rational numbers
- real numbers
- irrational numbers Ir:



Pre-Post-Test Answer Key

1. 
$$\frac{1}{4} = 0.25$$
 2.  $\frac{3}{5} = 0.6$ 

3. 
$$\frac{7}{16} = 0.4375$$
 4.  $\frac{4}{11} = 0.\overline{36}$ 

5. 
$$.75 = \frac{3}{4}$$
 6.  $.3 = \frac{3}{10}$ 

7. 
$$.5625 = \frac{9}{16}$$
 8.  $.6666 = \frac{2}{3}$ 

9. 
$$.232323... = \frac{23}{99}$$

Worksheet Answer Key

$$.6 = \frac{6}{10} = \frac{3}{5}$$

$$.415 = \frac{415}{1000} = \frac{3}{5}$$

$$.503 = \frac{503}{1000}$$

Worksheet Answer Key

$$\frac{3}{8} = 0.375$$
  
 $\frac{1}{50} = 0.02$   
 $\frac{12}{75} = 0.16$ 

## Assignment

Answer Key

$$\frac{1}{7} = ?$$

<u>0.142857</u> 7)1.000000		
7		
30		
<u>28</u>		
20		
<u>14</u>		
60		
<u>56</u>		
40		
<u>35</u>		
50		
<u>49</u>		
1		

#### **Fractions and Decimals** Worksheet Answer Key

1.	2.
.3076923	.2941176470588235
13)4.0000000	17) 5.000000000000000000000000000000000000
39	34
100	1 60
<u>_91</u>	<u>1 53</u>
90	70
<u>78</u>	<u>68</u>
120	20
<u>117</u>	<u>17</u>
30	30
<u>26</u>	<u>17</u>
4	130
	<u>119</u>
	110
	<u>102</u>
	80
	<u>68</u>
	120
	<u>119</u>
	100
	<u>85</u>
	150
	<u>130</u>
	140
	<u>130</u>
	40
	<u>54</u> 60
	51
	<u>91</u> 90
	85
	5

Worksheet Answer Key

$$.888... = \frac{8}{9}$$

$$.232323... = \frac{23}{99}$$

$$.311311311... = \frac{311}{999}$$

$$.763545454... = \frac{75591 \div 9}{99000 \div 9} = \frac{8399}{11000}$$

Worksheet Answer Key

$$\frac{1}{2}$$
 = .5000

For instance, .50001010010001