



Adding and Subtracting Fractions with Unlike Denominators

Name: _____

Date: _____

Grade: Grade 5

Part A: Fix the Sentence

Each sentence has an error. Rewrite it correctly on the line.

1. Fix the sentence: $To\ add\ \frac{2}{5} + \frac{1}{4},\ the\ LCD\ is\ 10\ so\ the\ answer\ is\ \frac{4}{10} + \frac{2}{10} = \frac{6}{10}.$

Rewrite: _____

2. Fix the sentence:

$\frac{3}{8} - \frac{1}{6}$ equals $\frac{2}{2}$, which is 1, because you subtract both the top and bottom numbers.

Rewrite: _____

3. Fix the sentence: $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{3}{10} = \frac{4}{10} + \frac{3}{10} = \frac{7}{10}$, but $\frac{7}{10}$ simplifies to $\frac{7}{5}$.

Rewrite: _____

Part B: Fill in the Blank

Write the missing word or number on each line.

1. The least common denominator of $\frac{1}{3}$ and $\frac{1}{8}$ is _____.

2. $\frac{2}{7} + \frac{1}{2} = \frac{4}{14} + \frac{7}{14} =$ _____.

3. To subtract $\frac{5}{6} - \frac{1}{9}$, rewrite $\frac{5}{6}$ as $\frac{\quad}{18}$.

4. $\frac{3}{4} - \frac{2}{8} = \frac{6}{8} - \frac{2}{8} =$ _____ in simplest form.

Part C: Short Answer

Answer each question in one or two complete sentences.

1. What is $\frac{3}{5} + \frac{1}{4}$? Show each step and give your answer in simplest form.

2. Why is the least common denominator usually better to use than any common denominator?

Answer Key • Adding and Subtracting Fractions with Unlike Denominators • Grade: Grade 5

Part A: Fix the Sentence

Each sentence has an error. Rewrite it correctly on the line.

1. Fix the sentence: $\boxed{\text{To add } \frac{2}{5} + \frac{1}{4}, \text{ the LCD is } 10 \text{ so the answer is } \frac{4}{10} + \frac{2}{10} = \frac{6}{10} .}$

Rewrite: _____

2. Fix the sentence:

$$\boxed{\frac{3}{8} - \frac{1}{6} \text{ equals } \frac{2}{2}, \text{ which is } 1, \text{ because you subtract both the top and bottom numbers.}}$$

Rewrite: _____

3. Fix the sentence: $\boxed{\frac{1}{2} + \frac{3}{10} = \frac{4}{10} + \frac{3}{10} = \frac{7}{10}, \text{ but } \frac{7}{10} \text{ simplifies to } \frac{7}{5} .}$

Rewrite: _____

Part B: Fill in the Blank

Write the missing word or number on each line.

1. The least common denominator of $\frac{1}{3}$ and $\frac{1}{8}$ is 24 .

2. $\frac{2}{7} + \frac{1}{2} = \frac{4}{14} + \frac{7}{14} = \frac{11}{14}$.

3. To subtract $\frac{5}{6} - \frac{1}{9}$, rewrite $\frac{5}{6}$ as $\frac{15}{18}$.

4. $\frac{3}{4} - \frac{2}{8} = \frac{6}{8} - \frac{2}{8} = \frac{1}{2}$ in simplest form.

Part C: Short Answer

Answer each question in one or two complete sentences.

1. What is $\frac{3}{5} + \frac{1}{4}$? Show each step and give your answer in simplest form.

2. Why is the least common denominator usually better to use than any common denominator?
