

Lesson 36: Quiz 1 - Add and Subtract Fractions with Unlike Denominators

Addition and subtraction of fractions with unlike denominators.

Solve the following problems involving addition and subtraction of fractions with unlike denominators. Add or subtract and reduce the answer to lowest terms.

Example: You want to add the fractions $\frac{1}{3}$ and $\frac{1}{15}$. This is how you set it up:

$$\begin{array}{r} \frac{1}{3} \times \frac{5}{5} = \frac{5}{15} \\ + \frac{1}{15} = \frac{1}{15} \\ \hline \end{array}$$

Note: This answer needed to be **reduced** to lowest terms.

$$\frac{6}{15} = \frac{2}{5}$$

Remember to use the slash key (/) to separate the numerator and denominator for your answer. For our example you would record your answer as 2/5.

Remember that you did increase the numerator and denominator by multiplying by 1 whole

$$\frac{1}{3} \times \frac{5}{5} = \frac{5}{15}$$

Then you completed adding both fractions.

For your answer to be correct, you will need to reduce your answer to lowest terms. This means reducing the higher number values of your fraction to the lowest number possible. You reverse your steps by dividing the numerator and denominator by one whole.

$$\text{Example: } \frac{6}{15} \div \frac{3}{3} \text{ (1 whole)} = \frac{2}{5}$$

Your answer is now at its lowest term.



1) $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} =$ _____

2) $\frac{2}{5} + \frac{1}{10} =$ _____

3) $\frac{5}{6} - \frac{3}{7} =$ _____

4) $\frac{1}{6} + \frac{2}{8} =$ _____

5) Carlos has a recipe that needs $\frac{1}{3}$ of a cup of beef and $\frac{2}{5}$ a cup of chicken.

In all, how much meat does he need for this recipe?

Answer: _____

6) Shanna has $\frac{9}{10}$ of a cup of milk. She uses $\frac{1}{2}$ of a cup. How much does she have left to drink?

Answer: _____