

Understanding Fractions

Chapter 7: Fractions · Topic 1

Key Concept

Fractions can be classified as proper fractions (numerator smaller than denominator, like $\frac{3}{4}$, representing less than a whole), improper fractions (numerator equal to or larger than denominator, like $\frac{5}{4}$, representing one whole or more), and mixed numbers (a whole number combined with a proper fraction, like $1\frac{1}{4}$, an alternative way to express an improper fraction). Understanding these classifications helps in performing operations and converting between different fraction forms as needed.

Quick Revision Notes

- A fraction has a numerator (parts taken) and denominator (total equal parts).
- Proper fraction: numerator $<$ denominator (less than a whole).
- Improper fraction: numerator $\geq$ denominator (a whole or more).
- A mixed number combines a whole number and a proper fraction (an alternative form of an improper fraction).

Practice Questions

- 1 Shade $\frac{3}{5}$ of a given rectangle.
- 2 Convert the improper fraction $\frac{9}{4}$ into a mixed number.
- 3 Classify $\frac{7}{3}$, $\frac{2}{5}$, and $\frac{4}{4}$ as proper, improper, or equivalent to a whole number.