

Word Problems on Fractions

Chapter 8: Working with Fractions · Topic 2

Key Concept

For example, 'If $\frac{2}{5}$ of a class of 30 students are girls, find the number of girls' translates to the multiplication $\frac{2}{5} \times 30 = 12$ girls, since 'of' indicates finding a fractional part of a total quantity. Practicing fraction word problems in realistic contexts — recipes, sharing food, dividing time — helps build the practical reasoning skills needed to apply fraction operations correctly in everyday situations, not just abstract calculations.

Quick Revision Notes

- Identify the correct operation from the word problem's context (e.g., 'of' often means multiplication).
- Example: $\frac{2}{5}$ of 30 students = $\frac{2}{5} \times 30 = 12$ students.
- Word problems build practical reasoning for applying fraction operations.
- Common contexts: recipes, sharing food, dividing time or quantities.

Practice Questions

- 1 Solve: A recipe needs $\frac{3}{4}$ cup of sugar for one batch. How much is needed for 2 batches?
- 2 If $\frac{3}{8}$ of a 40-page book is read, how many pages remain?
- 3 Explain how to identify whether a fraction word problem requires multiplication or division.