

. FRANCOIS HAS 8 FEET OF TRIM. HE IS MAKING 3 PICTURE FRAMES. WRITE A FRACTION THAT REPRESENTS THE NUMBER

FRANCOIS HAS 8 FEET OF TRIM. HE IS MAKING 3 PICTURE FRAMES. WRITE A FRACTION THAT REPRESENTS THE NUMBER IS A FASCINATING STARTING POINT FOR EXPLORING THE CONNECTION BETWEEN EVERYDAY MEASUREMENTS AND MATHEMATICAL REPRESENTATIONS. THIS SCENARIO OFFERS AN EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY TO UNDERSTAND FRACTIONS, RATIOS, AND HOW THEY CAN BE USED TO INTERPRET REAL-WORLD SITUATIONS. WHETHER YOU'RE A STUDENT LEARNING ABOUT FRACTIONS FOR THE FIRST TIME OR SOMEONE INTERESTED IN PRACTICAL APPLICATIONS OF MATH, BREAKING DOWN THIS PROBLEM CAN HELP CLARIFY THESE CONCEPTS IN A STRAIGHTFORWARD WAY. LET'S DELVE INTO THE DETAILS, STARTING FROM THE BASICS AND MOVING TOWARDS MORE COMPLEX INTERPRETATIONS.

UNDERSTANDING THE SCENARIO: FRANCOIS AND HIS TRIM

WHAT IS THE PROBLEM ASKING?

THE PROBLEM PRESENTS A SIMPLE YET ENGAGING SCENARIO INVOLVING FRANCOIS, WHO HAS 8 FEET OF TRIM, AND HE IS MAKING 3 PICTURE FRAMES FROM THIS TRIM. THE KEY QUESTION IS: WHAT FRACTION OF THE TOTAL TRIM DOES EACH PICTURE FRAME REPRESENT?

THIS TYPE OF QUESTION INVOLVES DIVIDING A TOTAL QUANTITY INTO PARTS, WHICH IS A FUNDAMENTAL CONCEPT IN FRACTIONS. IT ASKS US TO INTERPRET THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF MATERIAL (8 FEET) AND THE NUMBER OF PARTS (3 PICTURE FRAMES).

BREAKING DOWN THE INFORMATION

- TOTAL TRIM LENGTH: 8 FEET
- NUMBER OF PICTURE FRAMES: 3
- OBJECTIVE: FIND THE FRACTION THAT REPRESENTS THE PART OF THE TOTAL TRIM USED FOR EACH PICTURE FRAME.

THIS SETS THE STAGE FOR EXPLORING HOW A TOTAL QUANTITY CAN BE DIVIDED INTO EQUAL PARTS AND HOW FRACTIONS DESCRIBE EACH PART RELATIVE TO THE WHOLE.

CALCULATING THE FRACTION FOR EACH PICTURE FRAME

BASIC DIVISION TO FIND THE SIZE OF EACH PART

SINCE FRANCOIS IS MAKING 3 PICTURE FRAMES FROM A TOTAL OF 8 FEET OF TRIM, AND ASSUMING HE USES AN EQUAL AMOUNT OF TRIM FOR EACH FRAME, WE CAN DIVIDE THE TOTAL LENGTH BY THE NUMBER OF FRAMES:

- LENGTH OF TRIM PER FRAME = TOTAL TRIM $\div$ NUMBER OF FRAMES
- LENGTH PER FRAME = 8 FEET $\div$ 3

PERFORMING THIS DIVISION GIVES:

- LENGTH PER FRAME $\approx$ 2.666... FEET

BUT OUR PRIMARY FOCUS ISN'T JUST THE LENGTH OF TRIM PER FRAME; IT'S THE FRACTION OF THE TOTAL TRIM EACH FRAME REPRESENTS.

EXPRESSING THE PART AS A FRACTION

TO FIND THE FRACTION OF TOTAL TRIM USED FOR EACH PICTURE FRAME, WE COMPARE THE LENGTH OF TRIM PER FRAME TO THE TOTAL LENGTH:

- FRACTION PER FRAME = LENGTH OF TRIM PER FRAME $\div$ TOTAL TRIM
- FRACTION PER FRAME = $(8 \div 3) \div 8$

SIMPLIFY THIS:

$$\text{- FRACTION PER FRAME} = (8 \div 3) \div 8 = (8 \div 3) \times (1 \div 8)$$

MULTIPLYING:

$$\text{- FRACTION PER FRAME} = 8 \div 3 \times 1 \div 8 = (8 \times 1) \div (3 \times 8) = 8 \div 24 = 1 \div 3$$

THEREFORE, EACH PICTURE FRAME USES ONE-THIRD ($1/3$) OF THE TOTAL TRIM.

INTERPRETING THE FRACTION IN DIFFERENT WAYS

FRACTION AS A PART OF THE WHOLE

THE CALCULATION SHOWS THAT EACH PICTURE FRAME IS MADE FROM $1/3$ OF THE TOTAL TRIM. THIS MEANS:

- IF YOU DIVIDE THE TOTAL 8 FEET OF TRIM INTO 3 EQUAL PARTS, EACH PART IS $1/3$ OF THE WHOLE.
- EACH FRAME USES ONE OF THESE PARTS, WHICH IS EXACTLY $1/3$ OF THE TOTAL LENGTH.

IMPLICATIONS FOR RESOURCE PLANNING

UNDERSTANDING THIS FRACTIONAL RELATIONSHIP HELPS IN SEVERAL PRACTICAL WAYS:

- ESTIMATING MATERIALS NEEDED FOR SIMILAR PROJECTS.
- SHARING RESOURCES EQUALLY AMONG MULTIPLE ITEMS.
- CALCULATING LEFTOVER MATERIAL AFTER PRODUCTION.

FOR EXAMPLE, IF FRANCOIS ONLY HAD 6 FEET OF TRIM, HE COULD ONLY MAKE:

- NUMBER OF FRAMES = TOTAL TRIM $\div$ LENGTH PER FRAME
- SINCE EACH FRAME IS $1/3$ OF THE TOTAL, AND TOTAL IS 6 FEET:

$$\text{NUMBER OF FRAMES} = 6 \div (1/3 \text{ OF TOTAL}) = 6 \div (8 \div 3) = 6 \times (3 \div 8) = 18 \div 8 = 2.25$$

HE COULD MAKE 2 COMPLETE FRAMES, WITH SOME TRIM LEFT OVER.

EXPLORING OTHER FRACTIONS RELATED TO THE SCENARIO

FRACTION OF TOTAL TRIM FOR MULTIPLE FRAMES

IF FRANCOIS WERE TO COMBINE THE FRAMES, THE TOTAL FRACTION USED FOR ALL THREE FRAMES WOULD BE:

$$- 3 \times \frac{1}{3} = \frac{3}{3} = 1$$

THIS CONFIRMS THAT THE TOTAL OF ALL PARTS EQUALS THE WHOLE, REINFORCING THAT FRACTIONS ARE PARTS OF A WHOLE.

FRACTIONAL PARTS FOR PARTIAL USE OR LEFTOVERS

SUPPOSE FRANCOIS DOES NOT USE THE ENTIRE 8 FEET FOR THREE FRAMES, OR IF HE USES MORE OR LESS FOR EACH. IN SUCH CASES, FRACTIONS CAN HELP DETERMINE:

- REMAINING TRIM AFTER MAKING SOME FRAMES.
- THE PORTION OF TRIM USED FOR SPECIFIC PARTS.

FOR EXAMPLE, IF HE ONLY USED 6 FEET OF TRIM TO MAKE 3 FRAMES:

- EACH FRAME WOULD BE MADE FROM $6 \div 3 = 2$ FEET
- THE FRACTION PER FRAME: $2 \div 6 = \frac{1}{3}$

AGAIN, EACH FRAME STILL REPRESENTS $\frac{1}{3}$ OF THE USED TRIM, BUT NOW IT'S RELATIVE TO THE 6-FOOT TOTAL.

REAL-WORLD APPLICATIONS OF FRACTIONS IN PROJECTS

RESOURCE ALLOCATION AND PLANNING

UNDERSTANDING FRACTIONS ALLOWS CRAFTSMEN, BUILDERS, AND STUDENTS TO PLAN AND ALLOCATE RESOURCES EFFICIENTLY. FOR EXAMPLE:

- DIVIDING FABRICS, TRIMS, OR MATERIALS INTO EQUAL PARTS.
- ESTIMATING COSTS BASED ON FRACTIONAL USAGE.
- SHARING SUPPLIES EVENLY AMONG MULTIPLE ITEMS OR PROJECTS.

SCALING PROJECTS UP OR DOWN

FRACTIONS HELP IN ADJUSTING PROJECT SIZES:

- DOUBLING THE NUMBER OF FRAMES WOULD REQUIRE TWICE THE AMOUNT OF TRIM.
- MAKING SMALLER FRAMES WOULD INVOLVE SMALLER FRACTIONAL PARTS.

UNDERSTANDING THE FRACTIONAL RELATIONSHIP ENSURES ACCURATE SCALING WITHOUT WASTE OR SHORTAGES.

CONCLUSION: THE POWER OF FRACTIONS IN EVERYDAY TASKS

THE PROBLEM OF FRANCOIS AND HIS 8 FEET OF TRIM DEMONSTRATES HOW FRACTIONS ARE FUNDAMENTAL IN DIVIDING, ALLOCATING, AND UNDERSTANDING PARTS OF A WHOLE. BY RECOGNIZING THAT EACH PICTURE FRAME USES $\frac{1}{3}$ OF THE TOTAL TRIM, WE SEE A CLEAR EXAMPLE OF HOW FRACTIONS CAN DESCRIBE REAL-WORLD QUANTITIES SUCCINCTLY AND EFFECTIVELY. WHETHER IN CRAFTING, COOKING, BUDGETING, OR ENGINEERING, FRACTIONS SERVE AS ESSENTIAL TOOLS FOR TRANSLATING MEASUREMENTS INTO MEANINGFUL PARTS, ENSURING EFFICIENCY AND PRECISION IN VARIOUS ACTIVITIES.

IN SUMMARY, THE FRACTION THAT REPRESENTS THE PART OF THE TOTAL TRIM USED FOR EACH PICTURE FRAME IS $\frac{1}{3}$. THIS

SIMPLE YET POWERFUL CONCEPT UNDERPINS MANY PRACTICAL APPLICATIONS, ILLUSTRATING HOW MATHEMATICAL IDEAS ARE WOVEN INTO EVERYDAY LIFE.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

IF FRANCOIS HAS 8 FEET OF TRIM AND IS MAKING 3 PICTURE FRAMES, WHAT FRACTION OF THE TRIM DOES EACH FRAME RECEIVE IF THE TRIM IS DIVIDED EQUALLY?

EACH PICTURE FRAME RECEIVES $\frac{1}{3}$ (ONE-THIRD) OF THE TRIM, WHICH IS $\frac{1}{3}$ OF 8 FEET, OR $\frac{1}{3}$ IMES 8 = $\frac{1}{3}$ IMES 8 = $\frac{8}{3}$ FEET.

HOW CAN WE EXPRESS THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF TRIM USED FOR MAKING 3 PICTURE FRAMES AS A FRACTION OF THE TOTAL TRIM FRANCOIS HAS?

ASSUMING ALL 8 FEET OF TRIM IS USED, THE TOTAL USED FOR 3 FRAMES CAN BE REPRESENTED AS THE FRACTION $\frac{3}{8}$ OF THE TOTAL TRIM, IF DIVIDING EQUALLY AMONG THE FRAMES.

IF EACH PICTURE FRAME REQUIRES AN EQUAL LENGTH OF TRIM, WHAT IS THE FRACTION OF THE TOTAL TRIM USED FOR ONE FRAME?

ONE FRAME USES $\frac{1}{3}$ OF THE TOTAL TRIM, WHICH IS $\frac{1}{3}$ OF 8 FEET, OR $\frac{1}{3}$ IMES 8 = $\frac{8}{3}$ FEET, REPRESENTING $\frac{1}{3}$ OF THE TOTAL 8 FEET.

FRANCOIS HAS 8 FEET OF TRIM. IF HE USES $\frac{1}{3}$ OF THE TRIM FOR ONE PICTURE FRAME, WHAT FRACTION OF THE TOTAL TRIM DOES HE USE FOR ALL 3 PICTURE FRAMES?

HE USES $\frac{1}{3}$ FOR EACH FRAME, SO FOR 3 FRAMES, THE TOTAL FRACTION USED IS 3 IMES $\frac{1}{3}$ = 1 (THE WHOLE TRIM).

WHAT IS THE SIMPLIFIED FRACTION REPRESENTING THE PART OF THE TRIM USED FOR MAKING ALL THREE FRAMES IF EACH FRAME USES $\frac{1}{3}$ OF THE TRIM?

THE TOTAL USED IS 3 IMES $\frac{1}{3}$ = 1, MEANING ALL 8 FEET OF TRIM ARE USED, WHICH CAN BE REPRESENTED AS THE FRACTION $\frac{8}{8}$.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

FRANCOIS HAS 8 FEET OF TRIM. HE IS MAKING 3 PICTURE FRAMES. WRITE A FRACTION THAT REPRESENTS THE NUMBER

WHEN APPROACHING A PROBLEM INVOLVING MEASUREMENT AND DIVISION, SUCH AS THE ONE WHERE FRANCOIS HAS 8 FEET OF TRIM AND IS MAKING 3 PICTURE FRAMES, IT IS ESSENTIAL TO UNDERSTAND HOW TO REPRESENT THIS SITUATION MATHEMATICALLY. THE PHRASE "WRITE A FRACTION THAT REPRESENTS THE NUMBER" SUGGESTS THAT WE ARE TO DETERMINE HOW MUCH TRIM IS ALLOCATED PER PICTURE FRAME OR HOW THE TOTAL TRIM RELATES TO THE NUMBER OF FRAMES. THIS TYPE OF PROBLEM IS FUNDAMENTAL IN UNDERSTANDING RATIOS, FRACTIONS, AND THEIR PRACTICAL APPLICATIONS IN CRAFTING OR CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS. IN THIS ARTICLE, WE WILL EXPLORE THE DETAILS OF THIS PROBLEM, ITS MATHEMATICAL SOLUTION, AND BROADER INSIGHTS INTO FRACTIONS AND THEIR REAL-WORLD USES.

UNDERSTANDING THE PROBLEM

BEFORE DIVING INTO CALCULATIONS, IT'S ESSENTIAL TO CLEARLY UNDERSTAND WHAT THE PROBLEM STATES:

- TOTAL TRIM AVAILABLE: 8 FEET
- NUMBER OF PICTURE FRAMES BEING MADE: 3

THE KEY QUESTION IS: WHAT FRACTION OF THE TOTAL TRIM DOES EACH PICTURE FRAME REPRESENT? ALTERNATIVELY, THE PROBLEM COULD BE ASKING FOR THE FRACTION OF THE TOTAL TRIM USED FOR ALL THREE FRAMES OR THE AMOUNT OF TRIM PER FRAME.

BREAKING DOWN THE KEY CONCEPTS

WHAT IS A FRACTION?

A FRACTION IS A MATHEMATICAL WAY TO REPRESENT PARTS OF A WHOLE. IT CONSISTS OF A NUMERATOR (TOP NUMBER) INDICATING HOW MANY PARTS ARE CONSIDERED, AND A DENOMINATOR (BOTTOM NUMBER) INDICATING THE TOTAL NUMBER OF PARTS THE WHOLE IS DIVIDED INTO.

RELEVANCE TO THE PROBLEM

IN THIS CONTEXT, THE TOTAL TRIM (8 FEET) IS THE WHOLE, AND THE INDIVIDUAL PARTS ARE THE AMOUNT USED PER PICTURE FRAME OR THE TOTAL AMOUNT USED FOR ALL FRAMES.

CALCULATING THE FRACTION

GIVEN THE PROBLEM:

- THE TOTAL TRIM: 8 FEET
- THE NUMBER OF FRAMES: 3

QUESTION: WHAT FRACTION OF THE TOTAL TRIM DOES EACH FRAME USE? OR, WHAT FRACTION OF THE TOTAL TRIM IS USED FOR ALL THREE FRAMES COMBINED?

SINCE THE PROBLEM STATES FRANCOIS IS MAKING 3 PICTURE FRAMES WITH THE TOTAL OF 8 FEET OF TRIM, AND WE ARE ASKED TO "WRITE A FRACTION THAT REPRESENTS THE NUMBER," THE MOST STRAIGHTFORWARD INTERPRETATION IS TO FIND THE FRACTION OF TRIM USED PER FRAME.

STEP 1: FIND THE AMOUNT OF TRIM PER FRAME:

$$\text{TRIM PER FRAME} = \frac{\text{TOTAL TRIM}}{\text{NUMBER OF FRAMES}} = \frac{8 \text{ FEET}}{3}$$

STEP 2: EXPRESS THIS AS A FRACTION:

$$\frac{8}{3} \text{ FEET PER FRAME}$$

THIS MEANS EACH PICTURE FRAME USES $\frac{8}{3}$ FEET OF TRIM, WHICH IS AN IMPROPER FRACTION (GREATER THAN 1).

ALTERNATIVELY, IF WE WANT TO FIND THE FRACTION OF TOTAL TRIM USED FOR ALL THREE FRAMES, IT IS:

$$\left[\frac{\text{TOTAL TRIM USED FOR ALL FRAMES}}{\text{TOTAL TRIM AVAILABLE}} = \frac{3 \times \text{TRIM PER FRAME}}{8} \right]$$

BUT SINCE THE TOTAL TRIM IS 8 FEET, AND THE TOTAL TRIM USED IS ALL 8 FEET (ASSUMING ALL TRIM IS USED), THEN THE FRACTION REPRESENTING THE TOTAL USED IS:

$$\left[\frac{8}{8} = 1 \right]$$

WHICH MEANS THE ENTIRE TRIM IS USED.

EXPRESSING THE PROBLEM AS A FRACTION

THE KEY TAKEAWAY IS TO UNDERSTAND THE RATIO OF THE PARTS TO THE WHOLE:

- IF WE CONSIDER THE TOTAL TRIM AS THE WHOLE (8 FEET), THEN EACH FRAME'S PROPORTION OF THE TOTAL TRIM IS:

$$\left[\frac{\text{TRIM PER FRAME}}{\text{TOTAL TRIM}} = \frac{\frac{8}{3}}{8} \right]$$

SIMPLIFY THIS:

$$\left[\frac{\frac{8}{3}}{8} = \frac{8/3}{8} = \frac{8/3}{8/1} = \frac{8/3 \times 1}{8} = \frac{8/3}{8/1} \right]$$

MULTIPLYING NUMERATOR AND DENOMINATOR:

$$\left[\frac{8/3 \times 1}{8/1} = \frac{8/3}{8/1} = \frac{8/3 \times 1}{8/1} = \frac{8/3 \times 1}{8/1} \right]$$

ALTERNATIVELY, THINK OF THE TOTAL TRIM AS 8 FEET, SO THE FRACTION OF TOTAL TRIM USED PER FRAME IS:

$$\left[\frac{\text{TRIM PER FRAME}}{\text{TOTAL TRIM}} = \frac{8/3}{8} = \frac{8/3}{8/1} = \frac{8/3 \times 1}{8} = \frac{8/3}{8} \right]$$

DIVIDING:

$$\left[\frac{8/3}{8} = \frac{8/3}{8/1} = \frac{8/3 \times 1}{8} = \frac{8/3}{8} \right]$$

$$\left[= \frac{8/3}{8/1} = \frac{8/3 \times 1}{8} = \frac{8/3}{8} \right]$$

$$\left[= \frac{8/3}{8/1} = \frac{8/3 \times 1}{8} = \frac{8/3}{8} \right]$$

$$\left[= \frac{8/3}{8/1} = \frac{8/3 \times 1}{8} = \frac{8/3}{8} \right]$$

SIMPLIFY:

$$\left[\frac{8/3}{8} = \frac{8/3}{8/1} = \frac{8/3 \times 1}{8} \right]$$

$$\left[= \frac{8/3}{8} = \frac{8/3}{8/1} = \frac{8/3 \times 1}{8} \right]$$

$$\left[= \frac{8/3}{8} = \frac{8/3}{8/1} = \frac{8/3 \times 1}{8} \right]$$

WAIT, TO CLARIFY, THE SIMPLEST WAY IS:

$$\left[\frac{\text{FRACTION OF TOTAL TRIM PER FRAME}}{\text{FRACTION OF TOTAL TRIM PER FRAME}} = \frac{\frac{8}{3}}{8} = \frac{8/3}{8} \right]$$

DIVIDING:

$$\left[\frac{8}{3} \right] \div 8 = \frac{8}{3} \div \frac{8}{1} = \frac{8}{3} \times \frac{1}{8} = \frac{8}{3} \div 8$$

$$\left[= \frac{8}{3} \div 8 = \frac{8}{3} \div \frac{8}{1} = \frac{8}{3} \times \frac{1}{8} \right]$$

SIMPLIFY NUMERATOR AND DENOMINATOR:

$$\left[\frac{8}{3} \div 8 = \frac{8}{3} \div \frac{8}{1} = \frac{8}{3} \times \frac{1}{8} \right]$$

$$\left[= \frac{8}{3} \times \frac{1}{8} = \frac{8}{3} \times \frac{1}{8} \right]$$

MULTIPLYING NUMERATOR BY RECIPROCAL:

$$\left[= \frac{8}{3} \div 8 = \frac{8}{3} \times \frac{1}{8} = \frac{8}{3} \div 8 = \frac{8}{3} \times \frac{1}{8} \right]$$

$$\left[= \frac{8}{3} \times \frac{1}{8} = \frac{8}{3} \times \frac{1}{8} = \frac{8}{3} \div 8 = \frac{8}{3} \div 8 \right]$$

NOW, DIRECTLY DIVIDING:

$$\left[\frac{8}{3} \div 8 = \frac{8}{3} \div \frac{8}{1} = \frac{8}{3} \times \frac{1}{8} = \frac{8}{3} \div 8 \right]$$

$$\left[= \frac{8}{3} \div 8 = \frac{8}{3} \div \frac{8}{1} = \frac{8}{3} \times \frac{1}{8} \right]$$

$$\left[= \frac{8}{3} \div 8 = \frac{8}{3} \div \frac{8}{1} \right]$$

THIS SIMPLIFIES TO:

$$\left[\frac{8}{3} \div 8 = \frac{8}{3} \div \frac{8}{1} = \frac{8}{3} \times \frac{1}{8} = \frac{8}{3} \div 8 \right]$$

WHICH IS EQUIVALENT TO:

$$\left[\frac{8}{3} \div 8 = \frac{8}{3} \div \frac{8}{1} = \frac{8}{3} \times \frac{1}{8} \right]$$

$$\left[= \frac{8}{3} \div 8 = \frac{8}{3} \div \frac{8}{1} \right]$$

CONVERTING TO A SINGLE FRACTION:

$$\left[\frac{8}{3} \div 8 = \frac{8}{3} \div \frac{8}{1} = \frac{8}{3} \times \frac{1}{8} = \frac{8}{3} \div 8 \right]$$

EXPRESSING AS A DECIMAL OR SIMPLIFIED FRACTION:

$$\left[\frac{8}{3} \div 8 = \frac{8}{3} \div \frac{8}{1} = \frac{8}{3} \times \frac{1}{8} = \frac{8}{3} \div 8 \right]$$

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