

Percents

What are the components of a typical percent problem?

Any percent problem has three components:

Base: The whole quantity.

Part: Is a simply a portion of the base.

Rate: Is the percent.

The major skill used in solving percents is to know how to identify the numbers you are working with.

Here are some examples where all three components are present. While there is nothing to compute, *our concern here is to practice identifying the components of a problem.*

Example

Tom took a 50 question test and got 42 problems correct. His score is 84%.

Base: 50 (this amount represents the whole test)

Part: 42 (the amount correct is a portion of the whole test)

Rate: 84% (the number with the percent symbol is the rate)

Example

On a \$75 purchase, Janet owes \$4.50 in tax since the tax rate is 6%.

Base: \$75 (the total of the merchandise purchased)

Part: \$4.50 (tax paid is a portion of the purchase price)

Rate: 6%

Example

Ryan's village has a budget of \$2,000,000. 12% of the budget, or \$240,000 is reserved for the Parks and Recreation Department.

Base: \$2,000,000 (the total budget)

Part: \$240,000 (Park & Rec.'s share is just a portion of the entire budget)

Rate: 12%

Example

Try this one on your own: Sales were \$120,000 for the Roadside Diner last year. This years sales are up by \$25,000 which is about a 20.8% increase.

Base: _____

Part: _____

Rate: _____