



## SKILL 13: Using Mental Math to Find a Percent of a Number

Some fraction, decimal, and percent conversions that are frequently used are shown in the table.

You can use these percents to find others.

$$3 \times 25\% = 75\%, \text{ so } 75\% = 3 \times \frac{1}{4} = \frac{3}{4}.$$

| Fraction       | Decimal           | Percent           |
|----------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| $\frac{1}{2}$  | 0.5               | 50%               |
| $\frac{1}{3}$  | $0.33\frac{1}{3}$ | $33\frac{1}{3}\%$ |
| $\frac{1}{4}$  | 0.25              | 25%               |
| $\frac{1}{5}$  | 0.2               | 20%               |
| $\frac{1}{8}$  | $0.12\frac{1}{2}$ | $12\frac{1}{2}\%$ |
| $\frac{1}{10}$ | 0.1               | 10%               |

### Example 1

**Find 25% of 28.**

Think:  $25\% = \frac{1}{4}$ .  $\frac{1}{4} \times 28 = \frac{28}{4} = 7$ ,  
so 25% of 28 = 7.

### Example 2

**Find 60% of 80.**

Think:  $10\% \times 80 = \frac{1}{10} \times 80 = 8$ . Since 60% is  $6 \times 10\%$ , multiply the result by 6.  
 $6 \times 8 = 48$ , so 60% of 80 = 48.

### Example 3

**Find  $33\frac{1}{3}\%$  of 240.**

Think:  $33\frac{1}{3}\% = \frac{1}{3}$ .  $\frac{1}{3} \times 240 = \frac{240}{3} = 80$ , so  $33\frac{1}{3}\%$  of 240 = 80.

## Guided Practice

Use mental math to find each percent.

1. Find 50% of 300.

Think:  $50\% = \frac{1}{2}$ .  $\frac{1}{2} \times 300 = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$ , so 50% of 300 =  $\underline{\hspace{2cm}}$ .

2. Find  $12\frac{1}{2}\%$  of 24.

Think:  $12\frac{1}{2}\% = \frac{1}{8}$ .  $\frac{1}{8} \times 24 = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$ , so  $12\frac{1}{2}\%$  of 24 =  $\underline{\hspace{2cm}}$ .

3. Find  $33\frac{1}{3}\%$  of 15.

Think:  $33\frac{1}{3}\% = \frac{1}{3}$ .  $\frac{1}{3} \times 15 = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$ , so  $33\frac{1}{3}\%$  of 15 =  $\underline{\hspace{2cm}}$ .

4. Find 87% of 10.

Think: 87% of 10 = 10% of 87 =  $\underline{\hspace{2cm}}$ .

5. 20% of 45 =  $\underline{\hspace{2cm}}$

6.  $66\frac{2}{3}\%$  of 90 =  $\underline{\hspace{2cm}}$

7. 10% of 53 =  $\underline{\hspace{2cm}}$

8. 75% of 16 =  $\underline{\hspace{2cm}}$

9. 100% of 93 =  $\underline{\hspace{2cm}}$

10. 44% of 50 =  $\underline{\hspace{2cm}}$

**SKILL 13: Practice**

Use mental math to find each percent of 400.

1. 50% \_\_\_\_\_      2. 25% \_\_\_\_\_      3.  $37\frac{1}{2}\%$  \_\_\_\_\_      4. 5% \_\_\_\_\_  
 5. 1% \_\_\_\_\_      6. 20% \_\_\_\_\_      7. 80% \_\_\_\_\_      8. 30% \_\_\_\_\_

Use mental math to find each percent.

9. 50% of 420 = \_\_\_\_\_      10. 75% of 80 \_\_\_\_\_      11. 10% of 57 \_\_\_\_\_  
 12. 83% of 10 = \_\_\_\_\_      13.  $33\frac{1}{3}\%$  of 48 \_\_\_\_\_      14. 100% of 35 \_\_\_\_\_  
 15.  $12\frac{1}{2}\%$  of 40 = \_\_\_\_\_      16. 20% of 500 \_\_\_\_\_      17.  $66\frac{2}{3}\%$  of 120 \_\_\_\_\_  
 18. 42% of 50 = \_\_\_\_\_      19. 50% of 1,800 \_\_\_\_\_      20. 32% of 25 \_\_\_\_\_

Solve each problem, using mental math.

21. A 20% down payment is required on the purchase of a new car. What is the amount of the down payment needed to buy a \$21,000 car? \_\_\_\_\_
22. Jason has a 25% discount coupon for an amusement park ticket. How much will he save on a ticket that normally costs \$32? \_\_\_\_\_
23. Marvin earned \$800 one summer. He saved 75% of his earnings. How much money did Marvin save? \_\_\_\_\_
24. Eighty percent of the 300 students at Taft School ride the school bus. How many students is this? \_\_\_\_\_
25. Mabelle's food bill at a restaurant was \$20. She decided to leave a 15% tip. How much tip did she leave? \_\_\_\_\_

**TEST PREP**

26. Find 40% of 30.

- A 6                      C 75  
B 12                     D 120

Skill 13

27. Write  $\frac{11}{25}$  as a percent.

- F 44                     H 44%  
G 0.44%                J 11%

Skill 11