

Add and subtract unlike fractions

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Use the explanations to discuss the idea. A worked answer is one example; equivalent answers may also be valid.

1. Find $\frac{2}{3} - \frac{1}{2}$.

$\frac{1}{6}$

$$\frac{2}{3} - \frac{1}{2} = \frac{4}{6} - \frac{3}{6} = \frac{1}{6}.$$

$\frac{2}{3}$



$\frac{1}{2}$



2. Find $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{4}{8}$.

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$$\frac{1}{2} + \frac{4}{8} = \frac{4}{8} + \frac{4}{8} = 1.$$

$\frac{1}{2}$



$\frac{4}{8}$



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3. Find $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{6}{8}$.

$\frac{5}{4}$

$$\frac{1}{2} + \frac{6}{8} = \frac{4}{8} + \frac{6}{8} = \frac{5}{4} = 1 \frac{1}{4}.$$

$\frac{1}{2}$



$\frac{6}{8}$



4. Find $\frac{3}{6} + \frac{1}{4}$.

$\frac{3}{4}$

$$\frac{3}{6} + \frac{1}{4} = \frac{6}{12} + \frac{3}{12} = \frac{3}{4}.$$

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5. Find $\frac{3}{4} - \frac{2}{5}$.

$\frac{7}{20}$

$$\frac{3}{4} - \frac{2}{5} = \frac{15}{20} - \frac{8}{20} = \frac{7}{20}.$$

6. Find $\frac{3}{11} + \frac{2}{4}$. Which reason would help you solve this correctly?

Use denominator 44. Rename both fractions before adding.

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7. A jug holds $\frac{2}{6}$ liters. You pour out $\frac{2}{10}$ liters. How many liters remain?

$\frac{2}{15}$

$\frac{2}{6} - \frac{2}{10} = \frac{10}{30} - \frac{6}{30} = \frac{2}{15}$. The answer is in liters.

8. Is $\frac{2}{3} - \frac{2}{10}$ less than, equal to, or greater than $\frac{1}{2}$?

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$\frac{2}{3} - \frac{2}{10} = \frac{20}{30} - \frac{6}{30} = \frac{7}{15}$. This is less than $\frac{1}{2}$.