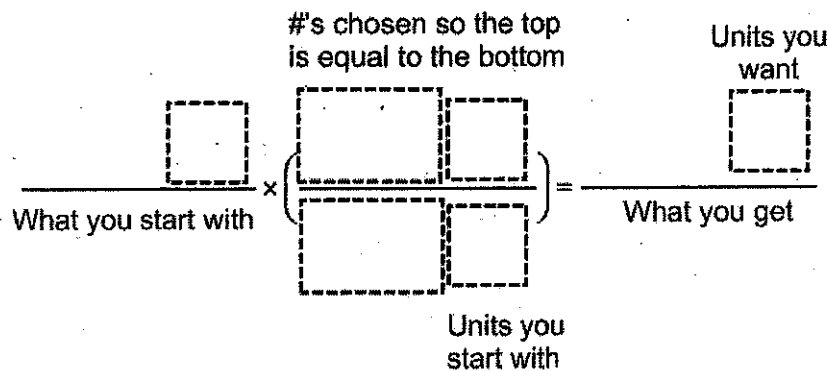


Date _____

Guided Notes: Dimensional Analysis

Dimensional Analysis

A method used to make unit conversions



Mount Everest, the tallest mountain on the Earth, is 29,028 ft high. What is its height in miles? Round to the nearest thousandths.

$$29,028 \frac{\cancel{\text{ft}}}{1} \times \left(\frac{1 \text{ mi}}{5280 \cancel{\text{ft}}} \right) = \frac{\text{mi}}{1}$$

What is its height in meters?

1 ft → .305 m

$$29,028 \frac{\cancel{\text{ft}}}{1} \times \left(\frac{.305 \text{ m}}{1 \cancel{\text{ft}}} \right) = \frac{\text{m}}{1}$$

7.3 m = _____ cm

(1 m = 100 cm)

$$7.3 \frac{\text{m}}{1} \times \left(\frac{100 \text{ cm}}{1 \text{ m}} \right) = \frac{\text{cm}}{1}$$

Convert 200 lbs to kg
(Round to the nearest tenth.)
(1 kg = 2.2 lbs)

$$\frac{200 \cancel{\text{lbs}}}{1} \times \left(\frac{1 \text{ kg}}{2.2 \cancel{\text{lbs}}} \right) = 90.9 \text{ kg}$$

Convert \$50 into ¥ (yen)
(\$1 = 90¥)

$$\frac{50 \cancel{\$}}{1} \times \left(\frac{90 \text{ ¥}}{1 \cancel{\$}} \right) = 4500 \text{ ¥}$$

One-Step Conversions

1. Houston Rockets basketball player, Yao Ming, is about 7.5 feet tall. How tall is he in inches?

$$\frac{7.5 \cancel{\text{ft}}}{1} \times \frac{12 \text{ in}}{1 \cancel{\text{ft}}} = 90 \text{ in}$$

2. Using the height in inches from problem 1, convert Yao's height to centimeters.

$$\frac{90 \cancel{\text{in}}}{1} \times \frac{2.54 \text{ cm}}{1 \cancel{\text{in}}} = 228.6 \text{ cm}$$

1 in → 2.54 cm

Multi-Step Conversions

*Each of the calculations in Problems 1 and 2 were single-step conversions. We can combine these two problems to make one multi-step problem.

3. Use the following multi-step setup to convert Yao Ming's height from feet to centimeters. (What units should be at the beginning? What units should be at the end?)

$$\text{---} \cdot \left(\text{---} \right) \cdot \left(\text{---} \right) = \text{---}$$

Unit Conversions Homework

- 5280 feet = one mile
- 0.034 ounces = one milliliter
- 0.454 kg = one pound
- 1.6 kilometers = one mile
- 63 gallons = 2 barrels
- 1.06 quarts = one liter
- 4 quarts = one gallon

Do the following one-step unit conversions:

- 1) Convert 23 miles to feet.

$$\frac{23 \text{ mi}}{1} \times \frac{5280 \text{ ft}}{1 \text{ mi}} = \boxed{121,440 \text{ ft}}$$

- 2) Convert 120 lbs to kilograms.

$$\frac{120 \text{ lbs}}{1} \times \frac{0.454 \text{ kg}}{1 \text{ lbs}} = \boxed{54.48 \text{ kg}}$$

- 3) Convert 451 mL to ounces.

$$\frac{451 \text{ mL}}{1} \times \frac{0.034 \text{ oz}}{1 \text{ mL}} = \boxed{15.334 \text{ oz}}$$

- 4) Convert 6 feet to miles.

$$\frac{6 \text{ ft}}{1} \times \frac{1 \text{ mi}}{5280 \text{ ft}} = \boxed{0.00136 \text{ miles}}$$

- 5) Convert 4 quarts to liters.

$$\frac{4 \text{ quarts}}{1} \times \frac{1 \text{ L}}{1.05 \text{ quarts}} = \boxed{3.81 \text{ L}}$$

- 6) Convert .045 barrels to gallons.

$$\frac{0.045 \text{ b}}{1} \times \frac{63 \text{ g}}{18 \text{ 2 b}} = \boxed{1.4175 \text{ g}}$$