Guide to: FDP

maths Links

Explanation:

Percent (%) means "out of 100". To convert a decimal to a percentage, multiply by 100; to convert a percentage to a decimal, divide by 100. To convert a decimal to a fraction, use the place value of the last digit (tenths $\frac{1}{10}$, hundredths $\frac{1}{100}$, thousandths $\frac{1}{1000}$) and simplify.

To turn a fraction into a percentage, scale the denominator to 100 if it is a factor of 100 (2, 4, 5, 10, 20, 25, 50). Otherwise, divide the numerator by the denominator using short division to get a decimal first.

Example 1:

(a) Write $\frac{17}{25}$ as a percentage.

(b) Write $\frac{3}{8}$ as a decimal and as a percentage.

Solution:

(a) Multiply top and bottom by 4 to make 100:

• $\frac{17 \times 4}{25 \times 4} = \frac{68}{100} =$ **68%**

(b) Divide 3 by 8: 3.000 ÷ 8 = **0.375** = **37.5%**

Example 2:

(a) Write **0.24** as a fraction in its simplest form.

(b) Write **3.5%** as a decimal and a simplified fraction.

Solution:

(a) 0.24 = $\frac{24}{100}$ (divide by 4) → $\frac{\mathbf{6}}{\mathbf{25}}$

(b) 3.5% ÷ 100 = **0.035**

• Fraction: $\frac{35}{1000}$ (divide by 5) → $\frac{\mathbf{7}}{\mathbf{200}}$

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