


CHAPTER 5: PROBABILITY AND SOLVING WORD PROBLEMS

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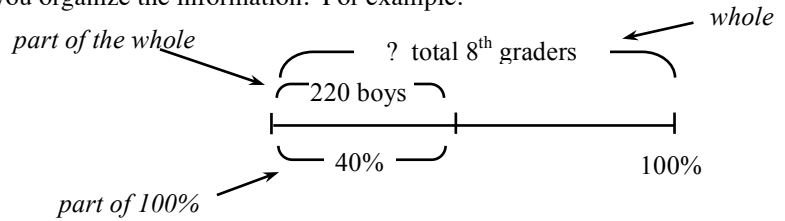
Notes:

PART-TO-WHOLE RELATIONSHIPS



Percentages, fractions, and decimals are all different ways to represent a portion of a whole or a number. Portion-whole relationships can also be described in words.

You can represent a part-to-whole relationship with a linear model like the one below. To solve a percentage problem described in words, you must first identify three important quantities: the percent, the whole, and the part of the whole. One of the quantities will be unknown. A diagram can help you organize the information. For example:



Once the parts have been identified, you can use reasoning to extend the part to the whole. For example, if 220 students are 40% of eighth graders, then 10% must be $220 \div 4 = 55$. Then 100% must be $55 \cdot 10 = 550$ students. Another way to solve the problem is to find the ratio of 220 boys to the whole (all students) and compare that ratio to 40% and 100%. This could be written:

$$\frac{40}{100} \cdot \frac{?}{?} = \frac{220}{?}, \text{ then } \frac{40}{100} \cdot \frac{5.5}{5.5} = \frac{220}{?}$$

You can see above that the total number of 8th graders is 550.

To remember how to rewrite decimals or fractions as percents, and to rewrite percents as fractions or decimals, refer to the Math Notes box at the end of Lesson 1.3.1.

INDEPENDENT AND DEPENDENT EVENTS



Two events are **independent** if the outcome of one event does not affect the outcome of the other event. For example, if you draw a card from a standard deck of playing cards but replace it before you draw again, the outcomes of the two draws are independent.

Two events are **dependent** if the outcome of one event affects the outcome of the other event. For example, if you draw a card from a standard deck of playing cards and do not replace it for the next draw, the outcomes of the two draws are dependent.

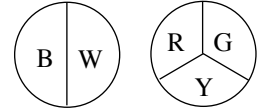
Notes:

PROBABILITY MODELS FOR MULTIPLE EVENTS



To determine all possible outcomes for multiple events when *both* one event *and* the other occur, there are several different models you can use to help organize the information.

Consider spinning each spinner at right once.



If you use a plan or a pattern to find all of the outcomes in an event, you are making a **systematic list**. For example, assume that you first spin B on spinner 1. Then, list all of the possible outcomes on spinner 2. Next, assume that your first spin is W on spinner 1, and complete the list.

Systematic List

- BR WR
- BG WG
- BY WY

A **probability table** can also organize information if there are exactly two events. The possibilities for each event are listed on the sides of the table as shown, and the combinations of outcomes are listed inside the table. In the example at right, the possible outcomes for spinner 1 are listed on the left side, and the possible outcomes for spinner 2 are listed across the top.

Probability Table

	R	G	Y
B	BR	BG	BY
W	WR	WG	WY

The possible outcomes of the two events are shown inside the rectangle. In this table, the top and side are divided evenly because the outcomes are equally likely. Inside the table you can see the possible combinations of outcomes.

A **probability tree** is another method for organizing information. The different outcomes are organized at the end of branches of a tree. The first section has B and W at the ends of two branches because there are two possible outcomes of spinner 1, namely B and W. Then the ends of three more branches represent the possible outcomes of the second spinner, R, G, and Y. These overall possible outcomes of the two events are shown as the six branch ends.

Probability Tree

