

The Three Percent Questions

6th Grade

Find the part, find the percent, or find the whole — one setup handles all three.

Every percent question fits one proportion. Fill in what you know and solve for what you do not.

$$\text{part} / \text{whole} = \text{percent} / 100$$

What is 15% of 80?

12

$$x/80 = 15/100.$$

12 is what percent of 80?

15%

$$12/80 = p/100.$$

12 is 15% of what?

80

$$12/w = 15/100.$$

Cross multiply

$$\text{part} \times 100 = \text{percent} \times \text{whole}$$

Same equation, rearranged three ways.

The whole comes after the word 'of'. Finding it in the sentence is most of the work.