



higher education
& training

Department:
Higher Education and Training
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



SUBJECT: MATHEMATICAL LITERACY

LEVEL: 3

MODULE 1: NUMBERS

RATIO

After completing this topic, you will be able to:

- *Solve problems that involve ratio/proportion (linear and inverse) and/or rate and/or percentage. (LO: 1.2,1.4,1.6,2.1) (AS: 1.2.2 problems dealing with ratio/ proportion, rate and percentage are solved).*

Numbers: Ratio

Content

In this lesson we will look at what ratio is and how we use it in daily activities.

- A ratio compares two or more quantities of the same kind.
- Ratio is often used in the same breath as proportion and/or rate
- In words (a to b)
- With a colon....(a : b)
- As a fraction ... $\frac{a}{b}$

Ratios do not have units as we compare quantities of the same kind.

Methods and worked examples:

	Gravel	Sand	Cement
Low strength	6	3	1
Medium strength	4	2	1

The ratios are given with no units. The builder will therefore choose a unit that suits him. He could mix a low strength concrete by using 6 wheelbarrows of gravel; 3 wheelbarrows of sand; and 1 wheelbarrow of concrete or if he wanted only a small amount, he could mix 6 buckets of gravel; 3 buckets of sand; and 1 bucket of cement.

CLASS ACTIVITIES

1. Bokamoso's recipe for shortbread requires 1 kg flour, 375 g butter and 250 g sugar.
 - 1.1 Determine the ratio flour: butter: sugar according to mass, in the recipe. Give the ratio in its simplest form.
 - 1.2. What is the total mass of the ingredients needed?
 - 1.3. What fraction is the total mass of the ingredients is due to butter?
 - 1.4. If Bokamoso wants to use 480 g butter to make shortbread, how many grams of flour and grams of sugar will Bokamoso need?



Solution

- $1.1 \text{ kg} = 1\,000\text{g}$

\therefore flour :butter: sugar

$$1\,000 : 375 : 250$$

$$8:3:2 \quad (\text{each number is divided by } 125)$$

1.2 Total mass of ingredients

$$= 1\,000 + 375 + 250$$

$$= 1\,625\text{ g} \quad \text{or} \quad (1,625\text{ kg})$$

1.3 Butter is $\frac{375}{1\,625} = \frac{3}{13}$ of the total mass of ingredients.

1.4 if 480 g is 3 parts, then $\frac{480}{3} = 160$ is one part.

Amount of flour required: $8 \times 160 = 1\,280\text{ g}$

Amount of sugar required: $2 \times 160 = 320\text{ g}$

Bokamoso needs 1,28 kg flour and 0,32 kg sugar to make shortbread

