Adding and Subtracting Fractions with Unlike Denominators

Name: _____ Date: _____ Grade: Grade 5

Part A: Fix the Sentence

Each sentence has an error. Rewrite it correctly on the line.

1. Fix the sentence: $\frac{4}{9} + \frac{1}{6} = \frac{8}{18} + \frac{3}{18} = \frac{11}{18}$, *and* $\frac{11}{18}$ *simplifies to* $\frac{1}{2}$.

   Rewrite: _____

2. Fix the sentence: *To subtract* $\frac{5}{8} - \frac{1}{6}$, *you can use any denominator, so* $\frac{5}{16} - \frac{1}{16} = \frac{4}{16}$.

   Rewrite: _____

3. Fix the sentence: *The sum* $\frac{1}{3} + \frac{2}{9} = \frac{3}{9} + \frac{2}{9} = \frac{5}{9}$, *and this equals* $\frac{1}{2}$ *in simplest form.*

   Rewrite: _____

Part B: Fill in the Blank

Write the missing word or number on each line.

1. The LCD of $\frac{1}{5}$ and $\frac{1}{7}$ is _____.

2. $\frac{3}{10} + \frac{1}{4} = \frac{6}{20} + \frac{5}{20} =$ _____.

3. To add $\frac{1}{6} + \frac{3}{8}$, rewrite $\frac{1}{6}$ as $\frac{\_\_\_\_}{24}$.

4. $\frac{5}{6} - \frac{3}{4} = \frac{10}{12} - \frac{9}{12} =$ _____ in simplest form.

Part C: Short Answer

Answer each question in one or two complete sentences.

1. How can you tell whether a fraction answer needs to be simplified?

2. What is $\frac{7}{10} - \frac{2}{15}$? Show your work and simplify if possible.

Answer Key · Adding and Subtracting Fractions with Unlike Denominators · Grade: Grade 5

Part A: Fix the Sentence

Each sentence has an error. Rewrite it correctly on the line.

1. Fix the sentence: $\frac{4}{9} + \frac{1}{6} = \frac{8}{18} + \frac{3}{18} = \frac{11}{18}$, *and* $\frac{11}{18}$ *simplifies to* $\frac{1}{2}$.

   Rewrite: $\frac{4}{9} + \frac{1}{6} = \frac{8}{18} + \frac{3}{18} = \frac{11}{18}$, and $\frac{11}{18}$ is already in simplest form.

2. Fix the sentence: *To subtract* $\frac{5}{8} - \frac{1}{6}$, *you can use any denominator, so* $\frac{5}{16} - \frac{1}{16} = \frac{4}{16}$.

   Rewrite: To subtract $\frac{5}{8} - \frac{1}{6}$, use the LCD of 24 to get $\frac{15}{24} - \frac{4}{24} = \frac{11}{24}$.

3. Fix the sentence: *The sum* $\frac{1}{3} + \frac{2}{9} = \frac{3}{9} + \frac{2}{9} = \frac{5}{9}$, *and this equals* $\frac{1}{2}$ *in simplest form.*

   Rewrite: The sum $\frac{1}{3} + \frac{2}{9} = \frac{3}{9} + \frac{2}{9} = \frac{5}{9}$, and $\frac{5}{9}$ is already in simplest form.

Part B: Fill in the Blank

Write the missing word or number on each line.

1. The LCD of $\frac{1}{5}$ and $\frac{1}{7}$ is **35**.

2. $\frac{3}{10} + \frac{1}{4} = \frac{6}{20} + \frac{5}{20} =$ **11/20**.

3. To add $\frac{1}{6} + \frac{3}{8}$, rewrite $\frac{1}{6}$ as $\frac{4}{24}$.

4. $\frac{5}{6} - \frac{3}{4} = \frac{10}{12} - \frac{9}{12} =$ **1/12** in simplest form.

Part C: Short Answer

Answer each question in one or two complete sentences.

1. How can you tell whether a fraction answer needs to be simplified?

   > *Check if the numerator and denominator share a common factor greater than 1. If they do, divide both by that factor.*

2. What is $\frac{7}{10} - \frac{2}{15}$? Show your work and simplify if possible.