



## Fractions, decimals and percentages glossary

### Percent

Percent means '**out of 100**'. It is a fraction with 100 as the **denominator**. The % sign is used as a short way of writing percent.

For example: 20% means 20 percent. This is 20 out of 100 and is written as  $\frac{20}{100}$

### Fraction

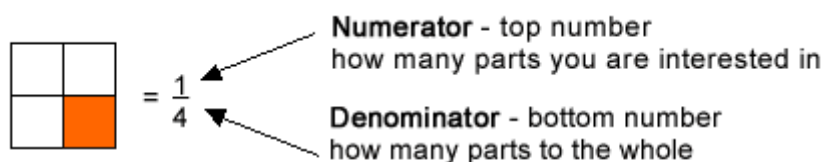
A fraction is a **part** or proportion of a whole. A fraction is also a number in its own right. For example  $\frac{2}{3}$  is a number between 0 and 1. In this case,  $\frac{2}{3}$  represents the result of dividing 2 by 3.

### Decimal

'Decimal' means **relating to 'base 10'**. It can be used to refer to numbers or fractions. Decimal fractions are fractions with a denominator of 10, 100, 1,000 etc. The number of tenths, hundredths, thousandths etc are represented as digits following a decimal point. The decimal point is placed at the right of the units column.

### Numerator and denominator

In the notation of common fractions, the numerator is the number written **above the line** and the denominator is the number written **below the line**.



To remember which is which:  
nUmerator Up and Denominator down

### Decimal places

Each column after the decimal point is a **decimal place**. For example, 10.948 has three decimal places (written as 3 d.p.).

### Compare

When you compare fractions, decimals or percentages, you need to put them in order of **size**.

To find out more about maths words look in the **Skillswise Glossary**.