



## Reading scales with marked divisions

Temperature is measured on a **continuous scale**, so the reading is not always just on a **marked division**. In this case you can give the reading of the **nearest number** on the scale.

Look at these two thermometers. What are they reading?



The reading for A could be given as about  $7^{\circ}\text{C}$  and for B as about  $10^{\circ}\text{C}$ .

Now look at this thermometer:



Here the temperature is halfway between  $-6^{\circ}\text{C}$  and  $-4^{\circ}\text{C}$ . Because the temperature is halfway between  $-6^{\circ}\text{C}$  and  $-4^{\circ}\text{C}$ , we could **estimate** the temperature as  $-5^{\circ}\text{C}$ .

Take a look at the **Rounding and estimating** topic in the **Numbers** section for more ways to round up and down.