Name: _____ Date: _____

Unit Prices and Better Buys

Circle group

At the grocery store, two boxes of the same cereal sit on the shelf. One is small. One is large. Each has a different price. Which is the better buy? Math can answer. You use the unit price.

A unit price is the cost of one unit. A unit can be one ounce, one pound, or one item. To find it, divide the total price by the amount you get. Say a 12-ounce box costs 2 dollars and 40 cents. Divide 240 cents by 12. You get 20 cents per ounce. Now say a 20-ounce box costs 3 dollars and 40 cents. Divide 340 cents by 20. You get 17 cents per ounce. The big box is the better buy. Each ounce costs less.

Many stores print the unit price on the shelf label. It is in small type near the name. Shoppers can compare fast. It works for different brands too. The units must match. You cannot compare a price per ounce with a price per pound. First convert one of them.

The lowest unit price is not always the smartest choice. A giant package is no bargain if half the food spoils. Good shoppers compare unit prices. They also think about what they will use.

Questions

1. What is a unit price?

_____

_____

2. How do you find a unit price?

_____

_____

3. In the example, which box is the better buy, and what is its unit price?

_____

_____

4. Why can't you compare a price per ounce with a price per pound right away?

_____

_____

5. Why is the lowest unit price not always the smartest choice?

_____

_____

Words to know

unit: one single part, such as one ounce or one item
divide: to split a number into equal parts by math
convert: to change from one kind of unit to another
bargain: something that costs less than it is worth
brands: the names companies give to their products
compare: to look at two things to see how they differ

Talk together (every group has these)

1. Find one fact that every group read. How did your sheet say it?
2. What did your sheet tell you that you think another group's did not? Ask them.
3. What is one question about this topic that none of the sheets answered?

Name: _____ Date: _____

Unit Prices and Better Buys

Triangle group

At the grocery store, two boxes of the same cereal sit side by side on the shelf. One is small and one is large, and each has a different price. Which one is the better buy? Math can answer that question with a tool called the unit price.

A unit price is the cost of a single unit, such as one ounce, one pound, or one item. To find it, you divide the total price by the amount you get. Suppose a 12-ounce box costs 2 dollars and 40 cents. Dividing 240 cents by 12 gives 20 cents per ounce. Now suppose a 20-ounce box costs 3 dollars and 40 cents. Dividing 340 cents by 20 gives 17 cents per ounce. The larger box is the better buy, because each ounce costs less.

Many stores print the unit price on the shelf label, in small type near the product name, so shoppers can compare quickly. It works for different brands too, as long as the units match. You cannot compare a price per ounce with a price per pound until you convert one of them.

The lowest unit price is not always the smartest choice, however. A giant package is no bargain if half the food spoils before your family can eat it. Good shoppers compare unit prices and also think about what they will really use.

Questions

1. What is a unit price?

_____

_____

2. How do you find a unit price?

_____

_____

3. In the example, which box is the better buy, and what is its unit price?

_____

_____

4. Why can you not compare a price per ounce with a price per pound right away?

_____

_____

5. Why is the lowest unit price not always the smartest choice?

_____

_____

Words to know

unit: one single part, such as one ounce or one item
divide: to split a number into equal parts by math
convert: to change from one kind of unit to another
bargain: something that costs less than it is worth
brands: the names companies give to their products
compare: to look at two things to see how they differ

Talk together (every group has these)

1. Find one fact that every group read. How did your sheet say it?
2. What did your sheet tell you that you think another group's did not? Ask them.
3. What is one question about this topic that none of the sheets answered?

Name: _____ Date: _____

Unit Prices and Better Buys

Square group

At the grocery store, two boxes of the very same cereal sit side by side on the shelf. One is small and the other is large, and each carries a different price. Which one is the better buy? Mathematics can settle the question with a tool known as the unit price.

A unit price is the cost of a single unit, such as one ounce, one pound, or one individual item. To calculate it, you divide the total price by the quantity you receive. Suppose a 12-ounce box costs 2 dollars and 40 cents. Dividing 240 cents by 12 gives 20 cents per ounce. Now suppose a 20-ounce box costs 3 dollars and 40 cents. Dividing 340 cents by 20 gives 17 cents per ounce. The larger box is the better buy, because every ounce costs less.

Many stores print the unit price on the shelf label, in small type near the product name, so that shoppers can compare options quickly. The method works for different brands as well, provided that the units match. You cannot directly compare a price per ounce with a price per pound until you convert one of them into the other.

The lowest unit price is not necessarily the wisest choice, however. A gigantic package is no bargain if half of the food spoils before your family is able to eat it. Thoughtful shoppers compare unit prices and also consider what they will realistically use.

Questions

1. What is a unit price?

_____

_____

2. How do you calculate a unit price?

_____

_____

3. In the example, which box is the better buy, and what is its unit price?

_____

_____

4. Why can you not directly compare a price per ounce with a price per pound?

_____

_____

5. Why is the lowest unit price not necessarily the wisest choice?

_____

_____

Words to know

unit: one single part, such as one ounce or one item
divide: to split a number into equal parts by math
convert: to change from one kind of unit to another
bargain: something that costs less than it is worth
brands: the names companies give to their products
compare: to look at two things to see how they differ

Talk together (every group has these)

1. Find one fact that every group read. How did your sheet say it?
2. What did your sheet tell you that you think another group's did not? Ask them.
3. What is one question about this topic that none of the sheets answered?

For the teacher: Unit Prices and Better Buys

Each student sheet carries a shape, not a level. The same topic and facts, written three ways.

Circle: Unit Prices and Better Buys

Easier · 197 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 1.6

1. The cost of one unit, like one ounce, one pound, or one item.
2. Divide the total price by the amount you get.
3. The 20-ounce box, at 17 cents per ounce.
4. The units do not match, so you must convert one first.
5. A big package is no bargain if some food spoils before you eat it.

Triangle: Unit Prices and Better Buys

This passage · 217 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 4.5

1. The cost of a single unit, such as one ounce, one pound, or one item.
2. Divide the total price by the amount you get.
3. The 20-ounce box, at 17 cents per ounce.
4. The units do not match, so you must convert one of them first.
5. A big package is no bargain if some of the food spoils before it can be eaten.

Square: Unit Prices and Better Buys

Harder · 230 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 6.4

1. The cost of a single unit, such as one ounce, one pound, or one individual item.
2. Divide the total price by the quantity you receive.
3. The 20-ounce box, at 17 cents per ounce.
4. The units do not match, so one must be converted into the other first.
5. A gigantic package is no bargain if some of the food spoils before it can be eaten.