

# Adding Fractions with Unlike Denominators

Danisha ate  $\frac{2}{3}$  cup of yogurt at breakfast. She ate  $\frac{1}{4}$  cup of yogurt at lunch. How much yogurt did she eat today?

You can add fractions with unlike denominators.

**Step 1:** Find the least common denominator of the two fractions.

**multiples of 3:** 3, 6, 9, 12, 15

**multiples of 4:** 4, 8, 12, 16, 20

$$\frac{2}{3} = \frac{8}{12} \text{ and } \frac{1}{4} = \frac{3}{12}$$

**Step 2:** Once you have equivalent fractions with the same denominator, add the numerators.

$$8 + 3 = 11$$

$$\text{So, } \frac{8}{12} + \frac{3}{12} = \frac{11}{12}$$

**Step 3:** Place the sum over the common denominator and simplify your fraction if possible.

Danisha ate  $\frac{11}{12}$  cup of yogurt today.

For **1** through **5**, find each sum. Simplify if possible.

$$\begin{array}{r} 1. \quad \frac{3}{5} \\ + \frac{1}{6} \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 2. \quad \frac{2}{9} \\ + \frac{2}{6} \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 3. \quad \frac{3}{8} \\ + \frac{3}{12} \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$4. \quad \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{6} + \frac{3}{4} =$$

$$5. \quad \frac{2}{9} + \frac{1}{9} + \frac{1}{6} =$$

6. Kevin and some friends baked different loaves of bread and cut them into different numbers of slices. They ate  $\frac{1}{4}$  of one loaf,  $\frac{1}{4}$  of another,  $\frac{5}{12}$  of another, and  $\frac{1}{12}$  of another. Did they eat the equivalent of a whole loaf?
- \_\_\_\_\_

7. Cathy wakes up at 7:00 A.M. each morning. She spends  $\frac{1}{10}$  hour making her bed,  $\frac{1}{5}$  hour eating breakfast, and  $\frac{1}{2}$  hour getting ready for school. How long does Cathy spend doing these things each morning?
- \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

# Adding Fractions with Unlike Denominators

Find each sum. Simplify if necessary.

1.  $\frac{2}{9} + \frac{1}{3}$  \_\_\_\_\_      2.  $\frac{1}{7} + \frac{3}{21}$  \_\_\_\_\_      3.  $\frac{2}{3} + \frac{1}{5}$  \_\_\_\_\_

4.  $\frac{1}{4} + \frac{2}{3}$  \_\_\_\_\_      5.  $\frac{1}{12} + \frac{4}{6}$  \_\_\_\_\_      6.  $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{2}{5}$  \_\_\_\_\_

7.  $\frac{1}{6} + \frac{5}{12}$  \_\_\_\_\_      8.  $\frac{4}{6} + \frac{1}{3}$  \_\_\_\_\_      9.  $\frac{1}{5} + \frac{1}{8}$  \_\_\_\_\_

10.  $\frac{3}{4} + \frac{1}{9}$  \_\_\_\_\_      11.  $\frac{6}{12} + \frac{1}{3}$  \_\_\_\_\_      12.  $\frac{4}{8} + \frac{1}{2}$  \_\_\_\_\_

Jeremy collected nickels for one week. He is making stacks of his nickels to determine how many he has. The thickness of one nickel is  $\frac{1}{16}$  inch.

13. How tall is a stack of 16 nickels?

\_\_\_\_\_

14. What is the combined height of 3 nickels, 2 nickels, and 1 nickel?

\_\_\_\_\_

15. What is the sum of  $\frac{5}{30} + \frac{4}{6}$ ?

**A**  $\frac{5}{6}$

**B**  $\frac{7}{9}$

**C**  $\frac{2}{3}$

**D**  $\frac{9}{12}$

16. How do you rename  $\frac{2}{5}$  so you can add it to  $\frac{11}{25}$ ? What is the sum?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_