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ACTIVITY 5.7 WORKED EXAMPLES FOR RATIOS AND PROPORTIONS

As described in Part 1, correctly worked examples and partially solved worked examples help students make sense of a strategy, while incorrectly worked examples help students notice and avoid common errors. Common errors and challenges include:

- Using additive reasoning when the situation requires multiplicative reasoning. For example, when comparing \$6 for 10 pens or \$8 for 12 pens, thinking the ratios are the same because of the common difference (Canada et al., 2008; Dougherty et al., 2016).
- Understanding the whole in a part-to-part ratio. For example, if the ratio is 4 parts sugar to 1 part water, understanding that the whole is 5 parts (I, Martinez, & Dougherty, 2018).
- Not attending to covariation. For example, in looking at a ratio table, students may only look at the pattern from one column (or row) to the next without thinking about how two quantities vary together (Carlson, Jacobs, Coe, Larsen, & Hsu, 2002; Dougherty et al., 2016).

Questions to support student thinking for each type include:

CORRECTLY WORKED EXAMPLES	PARTIALLY WORKED EXAMPLES	INCORRECTLY WORKED EXAMPLES
What did _____ do? Why does it work? Is this a good method for this problem?	Why did _____ start the problem this way? What does _____ need to do to finish the problem?	What did _____ do? What mistake does _____ make? How can this mistake be fixed?

Worked examples are found throughout this module. A sampling of additional ideas is provided in the following table.

WORKED EXAMPLES															
TYPE OF EXAMPLE	COMPARING RATIOS EXAMPLES	MISSING VALUE PROPORTIONS EXAMPLES													
Correctly Worked Example	<p>Analesia is comparing these two recipes to see which option is more chocolatey:</p> <p>2 cups milk 3 cups milk 3 tablespoons chocolate 5 tablespoons chocolate</p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <tr> <td>m</td><td>m</td><td>c</td><td>c</td><td>c</td> </tr> <tr> <td>m</td><td>m</td><td>m</td><td>c</td><td>c</td><td>c</td><td>c</td><td>c</td> </tr> </table> <p>The second option is more chocolatey</p>	m	m	c	c	c	m	m	m	c	c	c	c	c	<p>$\frac{18}{16} = \frac{27}{n}$</p> <p>Ben solution:</p> $\frac{18}{16} = \frac{27}{n}$ $\frac{9}{8} = \frac{27}{n}$ $\frac{9}{8} \times 3 = \frac{27}{n}$ $n = 24$
m	m	c	c	c											
m	m	m	c	c	c	c	c								

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WORKED EXAMPLES		
TYPE OF EXAMPLE	COMPARING RATIOS EXAMPLES	MISSING VALUE PROPORTIONS EXAMPLES
Partially Worked Example	<p>Jaena is working to figure out which is the better deal, 8 markers for \$1.50 or 12 markers for \$2.00:</p> $\frac{8}{1.5} = \frac{24}{4.50}$ <p style="text-align: center;">(Diagram: 8 is multiplied by 3 to get 24, and 1.5 is multiplied by 3 to get 4.50)</p>	<p><i>Problem:</i> Kiwi are on sale, 5 for \$2.00. What is the cost to buy 12 kiwi?</p> <p>Sam sets up an equation:</p> $Y = \frac{5}{2} X$
Incorrectly Worked Example	<p>Patrick was comparing these prices, \$6 for 10 pens or \$8 for 12:</p> <p>Both prices are the same. For both you get 4 more pens than the cost.</p>	<p><i>Problem:</i> In a classic cake recipe, the ratio of eggs to flour is 4:3. With $4\frac{1}{2}$ cups of flour, how many eggs are needed?</p> $\frac{4}{3} = \frac{4.5}{X}$ $4X = 13.5$ $X = 3.375$

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