

Key Vocabulary

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|-----------------|---|
| Metric system | Units based on multiples of 10, 100, 1,000, e.g. metre, litre |
| Imperial system | Old system based on physical objects e.g. foot, stone |
| “centi-“ | Prefix meaning one hundredth |
| “milli-“ | Prefix meaning one thousandth |
| “kilo-“ | Prefix meaning one thousand |
| Analogue clock | A clock with an hour, minute and sometimes a second hand. |
| Digital clock | A clock with a display showing the time |
| am / pm | am is an abbreviation of ante meridiem which means before midday. pm is post meridiem, after midday |
| Angle | A measure of turn, usually given in degrees. Measured with a protractor |
| Acute angle | An angle less than 90° |
| Right angle | An angle of 90°, marked with a little square in the corner of the angle |
| Obtuse angle | An angle greater than 90° but less than 180° |
| Straight line | 180° |
| Reflex angle | An angle greater than 180° |
| Full turn | 360° |

Key facts / Diagrams

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| Abbreviations of key units: | | | |
| mm | millimetre | cm | centimetre |
| m | metre | km | kilometre |
| l | litre | ml | millilitre |
| cl | centilitre | mg | milligram |
| g | gram | kg | kilogram |
| lb | pound | oz | ounce |
| Key metric conversions: | | | |
| 10mm = 1cm | 100cm = 1m | | |
| 1,000m = 1km | 1,000mg = 1g | | |
| 1,000g = 1kg | 1,000kg = 1 tonne | | |
| 1,000ml = 1l | 100cl = 1l | | |
| Key imperial conversions: | | | |
| 12 inches = 1 foot | 3 feet = 1 yard | | |
| 8 pints = 1 gallon | | | |
| 16 ounces = 1 pound | 14 pounds = 1 stone | | |
| Key metric and imperial comparisons: | | | |
| 1 inch ≈ 2.5cm | 1 foot ≈ 30cm | | |
| 1 mile ≈ 1.6km | 5 miles ≈ 8 km | | |
| 1 pint ≈ ½ l | 1 gallon ≈ 4 ½ l | | |
| 1 pound ≈ ½ kg | | | |
| Units of time: | | | |
| 60 seconds = 1 minute | 60 minutes = 1 hour | | |
| 24 hours = 1 day | 365 days in a year | | |
| 12 hour clock – am for morning, pm for afternoon | | | |
| 12 pm is midday or noon | | | |
| 12 am is midnight | | | |
| 1:00 pm in 12 hour time = 13:00 in 24 hour time | | | |
| 11:00 pm in 12 hour time = 23:00 in 24 hour time | | | |

Common misconceptions

- Seeing an answer of £3.5 and getting confused and thinking this is £3.05 rather than the correct answer of £3.50
- Thinking that there are 100 minutes in an hour. So 2.5 hours is seen as 2 hours and 50 minutes rather than the correct answer of 2 ½ hours = 2 hours and 30 minutes
- Errors when converting 24 hour time to 12 hour time, e.g. thinking 15:00 is 5pm
- Using the wrong scale on a protractor and thinking a 60° angle as 120°
- Many students these days have limited experience of reading time from an analogue clock and may need extra practice

Worked examples

1. 100 minutes. 1 hour is 60 minutes, so 100 minutes = 1 hour 40 minutes
2. 250cm to m. 250 ÷ 100 = 2.5. So 250cm = 2.5m
3. 2.3kg to grams. 2.3 X 1,000 = 2,300. 2.3kg = 2,300g
4. 30 inches. Each foot is 12 inches, therefore 2 feet = 24 inches. 30 inches = 2 foot 6 inches
5. 20:30 in 12 hour clock time. As the hour is > 12 this is a pm time. 20-12 = 8. 20:30 = 8:30pm
6. 8:45 in 24 hour clock time = 08:45