

GCSE - Numeracy and Mathematics

Topic: Converting units (metric & imperial)

Tier: Intermediate

Grade:

D



Starter:

1. Convert 25cm to metres
2. Convert 26g to kg
3. Convert 3 miles to km
4. Convert 20 pints to litres

Top Tips!

- “Cent” means $1/100^{\text{th}}$ of a unit
- “Kilo” means 1000
- 8km = 5 miles (or 1.6km = 1 mile)
- 1kg = 2.2lb
- 1litre = 1.75 pints (“a litre of water is a pint and three quarters”)
- 1 litre = 1000cm^3
- When converting units, always look at the conversion rate and decide carefully whether to multiply or divide by the conversion rate.

Skills:

1. Osian is selling drinks at a local charity fundraiser. He has brought with him 12 litres of lemonade and plans to serve them in half-pint glasses. Roughly how many lemonade drinks can he sell?

2. Sioned is shopping for a new car and finds one that can go 50 miles per gallon of petrol. If a litre of petrol costs £1.10, how much would it cost her per mile?

Examination Question:

2014 January Link Applications U2 Higher Q5

(a) Eleri spent £1220.18 on diesel for her car last year. Given the information below, calculate how many miles Eleri travelled in her car last year. Give your answer correct to 3 significant figures.

- 1 gallon is approximately 4.55 litres.
- The average cost of diesel last year was £1.69 per litre.
- On average, Eleri’s car does 42.9 miles per gallon. [5]

(b) The fuel tank in Dewi’s car holds 80 litres. What is the capacity of Dewi’s fuel tank in m^3 ? [3]

Assessment for Learning

Video / QR code

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Starter:

1. Convert 25cm to metres
0.25m
2. Convert 26g to kg
0.026kg
3. Convert 3 miles to km
 $3 \times 1.6 = 4.8\text{km}$
4. Convert 20 pints to litres
 $20 \div 1.75 = 11.4 \text{ pints}$

Top Tips!

- “Cent” means $1/100^{\text{th}}$ of a unit
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- 8km = 5 miles (or 1.6km = 1 mile)
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- 1litre = 1.75 pints (“a litre of water is a pint and three quarters”)
- 1 litre = 1000cm^3
- When converting units always look at the conversion rate and decide carefully whether to multiply or divide by the conversion rate

Skills:

1. Osian is selling drinks at a local charity fundraiser. He has brought with him 12 litres of lemonade and plans to serve them in half-pint glasses. Roughly how many lemonade drinks can he sell?
Convert litres to pints
 $12 \times 1.75 = 21 \text{ pints}$
1 pint makes 2 glasses, so number of glasses:
 $21 \times 2 = 42 \text{ glasses}$
2. Sioned is shopping for a new car and finds one that can go 50 miles per gallon of petrol. If a litre of petrol costs £1.10, how much would it cost her per mile?
1 gallon = 4.5 litres
50 miles on 4.5 litres of petrol.
On 1 litre of petrol she can travel
 $50 \div 4.5 = 11.1 \dots \text{miles}$
1 mile costs: $\pounds 1.10 \div 11.1 \dots$
= $\pounds 0.099$ (10p to nearest p)

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- 1 gallon is approximately 4.55 litres.
- The average cost of diesel last year was £1.69 per litre.
- On average, Eleri’s car does 42.9 miles per gallon. [5]

(b) The fuel tank in Dewi’s car holds 80 litres. What is the capacity of Dewi’s fuel tank in m^3 ? [3]

(a) Litres used = $1220.18 \div 1.69 = 722$
Gallons used = $722 \div 4.55 = 158.681319 \dots$
Miles travelled = $158.681319 \dots \times 42.9 = 6807.4285 \dots$
Correct to 3 significant figures = 6810 miles

(b) 1 litre = 1000cm^3
80 litres = 80000cm^3
 $1\text{m}^3 = 100 \times 100 \times 100 \text{cm}^3$
 $1\text{m}^3 = 1000000\text{cm}^3$
 $1\text{cm}^3 = 0.000001\text{m}^3$
 $80000\text{cm}^3 = 0.08\text{m}^3$

Assessment for Learning

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