

Unit 1: Review – Integers & Rationals [NO CALCULATORS]

1.4 Rationals: Adding & Subtracting

To add or subtract we must have a common denominator. To make calculations the simplest use the LOWEST common denominator (LCD).

Ex. Evaluate:

$$a) \frac{1}{2} + \frac{3}{2}$$

$$= \frac{4}{2}$$

$$= \boxed{2}$$

$$b) \frac{5}{3} - \frac{1}{3}$$

$$= \boxed{\frac{4}{3}}$$

$$\text{OR } \boxed{1\frac{1}{3}}$$

$$c) \frac{1}{2} + \frac{2}{3}$$

$$= \frac{3}{6} + \frac{4}{6}$$

$$= \boxed{\frac{7}{6}}$$

$$\text{OR } \boxed{1\frac{1}{6}}$$

$$d) \frac{5}{8} - \frac{1}{6}$$

$$= \frac{15}{24} - \frac{4}{24}$$

$$= \boxed{\frac{11}{24}}$$

What about mixed numbers?

We can + or - in mixed number form OR improper form

Ex. Evaluate:

$$a) 3\frac{1}{4} + 2\frac{2}{5}$$

Mixed Numbers

$$3 + 2 \quad \frac{1}{4} + \frac{2}{5}$$

$$5 \quad \frac{5}{20} + \frac{8}{20}$$

$$= \boxed{5\frac{13}{20}}$$

Improper

$$\frac{13}{4} + \frac{12}{5}$$

$$\frac{65}{20} + \frac{48}{20}$$

$$= \boxed{\frac{113}{20}}$$

$$b) 6\frac{1}{2} - 5\frac{1}{3}$$

Mixed Numbers

$$6 - 5 \quad \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{3}$$

$$1 \quad \frac{3}{6} - \frac{2}{6}$$

$$= \boxed{1\frac{1}{6}}$$

Improper

$$\frac{13}{2} - \frac{16}{3}$$

$$\frac{39}{6} - \frac{32}{6}$$

$$= \boxed{\frac{7}{6}}$$

$$c) 1\frac{3}{4} - 2 + 3\frac{1}{6}$$

$$= \boxed{1 - 2 + 3} \quad \frac{3}{4} + \frac{1}{6}$$

$$= 2 \quad \frac{9}{12} + \frac{2}{12}$$

$$= \boxed{2\frac{11}{12}}$$

When using mixed numbers be sure that your answers are in **PROPER** mixed number form.

Ex. Evaluate:

a) $2\frac{2}{3} + 3\frac{1}{2}$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= 2 + 3 \quad \frac{2}{3} + \frac{1}{2} \\
 &= 5 \quad \frac{4}{6} + \frac{3}{6} \\
 &= 5 \frac{7}{6} \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} \text{improper} \\ \text{inside} \\ \text{a mixed} \end{array} \right\} \times \\
 &= 5 + 1\frac{1}{6} \\
 &= \boxed{6\frac{1}{6}}
 \end{aligned}$$

b) $3\frac{1}{3} - 1\frac{4}{5}$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= 3 - 1 \quad \frac{1}{3} - \frac{4}{5} \\
 &= 2 \quad \frac{5}{15} - \frac{12}{15} \\
 &= \boxed{2 \frac{-7}{15}} \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} \text{negative} \\ \text{on the} \\ \text{fraction} \\ \text{part of mixed} \end{array} \right\} \times \\
 &= \frac{2}{1} - \frac{7}{15} \quad \text{or} \quad \frac{2 \cdot 15 + (-7)}{15} \\
 &= \frac{30}{15} - \frac{7}{15} \\
 &= \boxed{\frac{23}{15}} \\
 &= \frac{30 + (-7)}{15} \\
 &= \boxed{\frac{23}{15}}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\text{or} \\
 &\quad 2 - \frac{7}{15} \\
 &\quad 1 + 1 - \frac{7}{15} \\
 &\quad \downarrow \\
 &\quad 1 \quad \frac{15}{15} - \frac{7}{15} \\
 &\quad \boxed{1 \frac{8}{15}}
 \end{aligned}$$