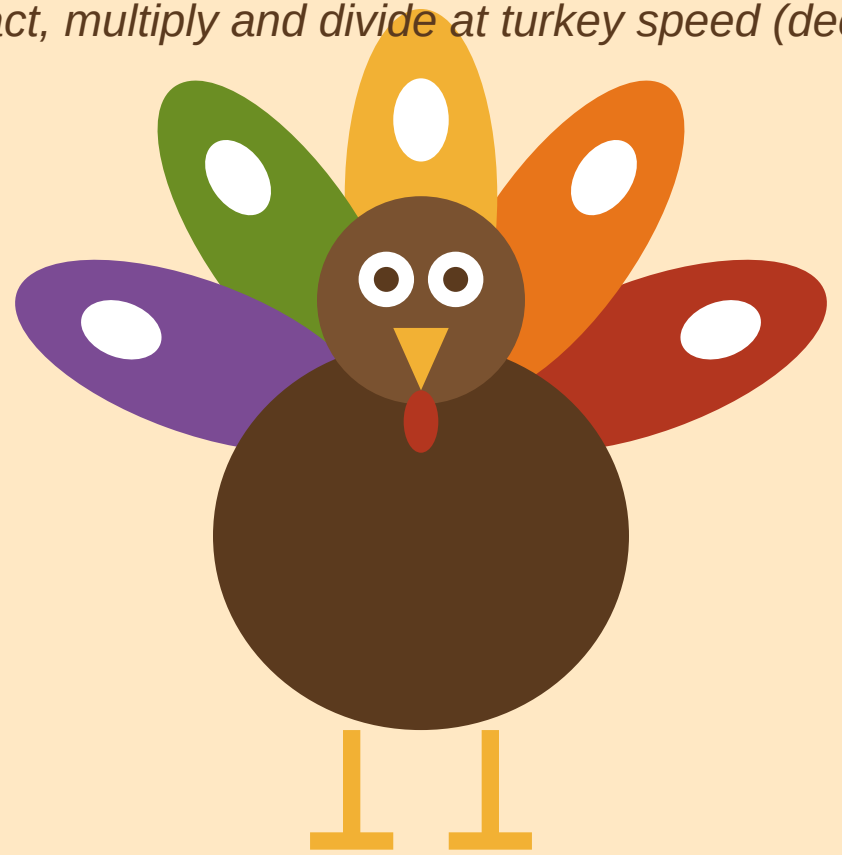
THE THANKSGIVING

Vedic Maths Feast

Add, subtract, multiply and divide at turkey speed (decimals too!)



Start the feast!

Today's Feast Menu (30 minutes)

TAP A COURSE

1. Starter: Get Ready

Time: 2 min

tap to jump here

2. Add

Time: 5 min

tap to jump here

3. Subtract

Time: 5 min

tap to jump here

4. Multiply

Time: 8 min

tap to jump here

5. Divide

Time: 6 min

tap to jump here

6. Speed Round

Time: 4 min

tap to jump here

Then: Cheat Sheet + 30 Homework Questions (tap below)

Cheat Sheet

Homework (30 Qs)

Starter: Get Ready!

WARM UP

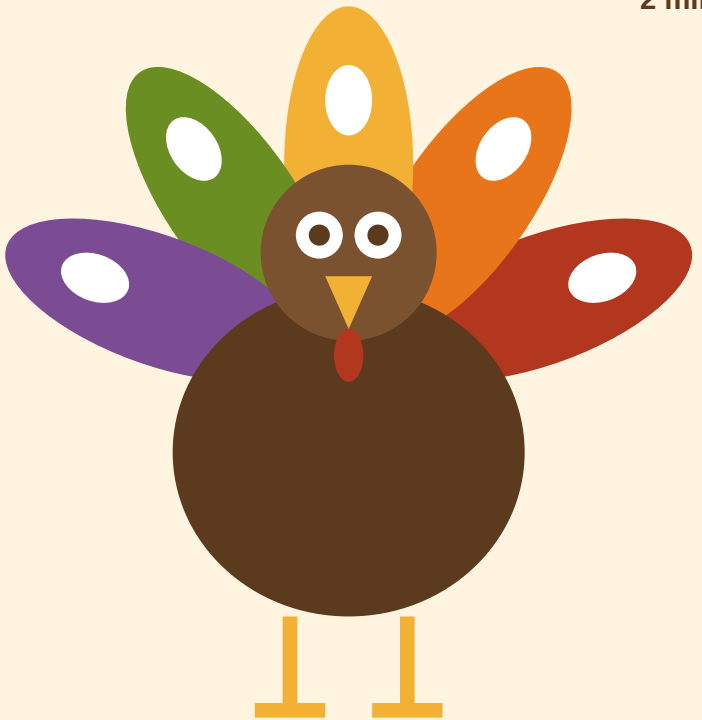
2 min

Golden Rules of the Feast

1. LOOK before you calculate. What is special about these numbers?
2. Pick a SHORTCUT. Round, double, halve, or use a pattern.
3. Do it in your HEAD. Write only the answer if you can.
4. CHECK it. Does the answer feel about the right size?

11+ secret: you get about 1 minute per question.
Shortcuts save seconds, and seconds win marks!

Tick when you are ready: ☐ **I'm ready, turkey!**



Warm-up: how many legs do 4 turkeys have?

ADD 1: Round It, Then Fix It

ADD

5 min total

THE TRICK

Make one number a friendly round number.

Add the round number.
Then fix the bit you moved:
too many added = take away,
too few added = add back.

Remember:
Look for numbers ending in 9, 8, 7
or .9, .98, .99. They are almost round!

47 + 38

1. 38 is just 2 less than 40
2. 47 + 40 = 87
3. We added 2 too many, so 87 - 2

Answer: **85**

6.9 + 4.8

1. 6.9 is 0.1 less than 7
2. 7 + 4.8 = 11.8
3. We added 0.1 too many: 11.8 - 0.1

Answer: **11.7**

ADD 2: Decimals, Left to Right

ADD

THE TRICK

Big chunks first, then the small bits.

Say the answer from the LEFT.
Wholes, then tenths, then hundredths.
Or use Round It, Fix It again!

Remember:
Always line up the decimal points
if you must write it down.

3.75 + 2.98

1. 2.98 is 0.02 less than 3
2. 3.75 + 3 = 6.75
3. Take away 0.02: 6.75 - 0.02

Answer: **6.73**

5.6 + 3.7

1. Wholes first: 5 + 3 = 8
2. Tenths next: 0.6 + 0.7 = 1.3
3. Put together: 8 + 1.3

Answer: **9.3**

Your Turn: Add

TRY IT

Type your answer in each box, then tap CHECK. Use the trick, not the long way!

1. 58 + 39 = ____

2. 7.9 + 5.6 = ____

3. 4.85 + 2.97 = ____

4. 6.99 + 3.5 = ____

Check my answers

Answers: Add

ANSWERS

1. **58 + 39 = 97**
   58 + 40 - 1

2. **7.9 + 5.6 = 13.5**
   8 + 5.6 - 0.1

3. **4.85 + 2.97 = 7.82**
   4.85 + 3 - 0.03

4. **6.99 + 3.5 = 10.49**
   7 + 3.5 - 0.01

Did you round and fix? Brilliant. On to Subtract!

SUBTRACT 1: All From 9, Last From 10

SUBTRACT

5 min total

THE TRICK

Taking away from 10, 100, 1000...?

Take every digit from 9,
but the LAST digit from 10.
Line up the places first.
(Vedic name: Nikhilam)

Remember:
Trailing zeros stay zeros:
1000 - 450 = 550 (9-4, 10-5, 0)

1000 - 357

1. 3: 9 - 3 = 6
2. 5: 9 - 5 = 4
3. 7 is last: 10 - 7 = 3

Answer: 643

100 - 46.8

1. Think 100.0 - 46.8
2. 4: 9 - 4 = 5 and 6: 9 - 6 = 3
3. 8 is last: 10 - 8 = 2

Answer: 53.2

SUBTRACT 2: Round, Subtract, Fix

SUBTRACT

THE TRICK

Or COUNT UP like a shopkeeper.

Round the number you take away.
Subtract it. Fix the little bit.
Too much taken = add it back.

Remember:
Counting up is fastest when the two numbers are close.

7.4 - 2.9

1. 2.9 is 0.1 less than 3
2. 7.4 - 3 = 4.4
3. Took 0.1 too much, add back: 4.5

Answer: **4.5**

12 - 8.6

1. Count up: 8.6 to 9 is 0.4
2. 9 to 12 is 3
3. Total jump: 0.4 + 3

Answer: **3.4**

Your Turn: Subtract

TRY IT

Type your answer in each box, then tap CHECK. Use the trick, not the long way!

1. 1000 - 284 = ____

2. 10 - 6.58 = ____

3. 6.3 - 2.8 = ____

4. 12.6 - 5.97 = ____

Check my answers

Answers: Subtract

ANSWERS

1. **1000 - 284 = 716**

   9-2, 9-8, 10-4

2. **10 - 6.58 = 3.42**

   9-6, 9-5, 10-8

3. **6.3 - 2.8 = 3.5**

   6.3 - 3 + 0.2

4. **12.6 - 5.97 = 6.63**

   12.6 - 6 + 0.03

Nikhilam is a real Vedic sutra. You just used it!

MULTIPLY 1: x5 and x25

MULTIPLY

8 min total

THE TRICK

5 is half of 10.
25 is a quarter of 100.

x5: times 10, then HALVE.
x25: times 100, then divide by 4 (halve twice).

Remember:
Ignore the decimal point while you work, then put it back by size.

7.2 × 5

1. 7.2 × 10 = 72
2. Half of 72

Answer: **36**

2.4 × 25

1. 2.4 × 100 = 240
2. 240 ÷ 4 (halve twice: 120, 60)

Answer: **60**

MULTIPLY 2: The x11 Trick

MULTIPLY

THE TRICK

Split the digits.
Add them.
Pop the sum in the middle.

23 × 11: 2 _ 3, 2 + 3 = 5
so the answer is 253.
If the sum is 10 or more,
carry 1 to the left digit.

Remember:
Carry example: 68 × 11 = 6,(14),8
= 7,4,8 = 748

3.4 × 11

1. Do 34 × 11: 3 _ 4
2. 3 + 4 = 7, so 374
3. One decimal place back: 37.4

Answer: **37.4**

7.8 × 11

1. Do 78 × 11: 7 _ 8
2. 7 + 8 = 15, carry 1: 7+1, 5, 8 = 858
3. One decimal place: 85.8

Answer: **85.8**

MULTIPLY 3: x9 and x99

THE TRICK

Times a bit LESS than a round number.

x9: times 10, subtract the number once.
x99: times 100, subtract once.
(x9 = x10 - x1)

Remember:
x19, x29 work too: x20 then take away once.

7.5 × 9

1. 7.5 × 10 = 75
2. Subtract 7.5 once: 75 - 7.5

Answer: 67.5

4.6 × 99

1. 4.6 × 100 = 460
2. Subtract 4.6 once: 460 - 4.6

Answer: 455.4

MULTIPLY 4: Squares Ending in 5

MULTIPLY

THE TRICK

Take the digit(s) before the 5.

Multiply it by the NEXT number up.
Then stick 25 on the end.
(Vedic name: Ekadhikena)

Remember:
$65^2 = 6 \times 7 = 42$, then 25 = 4225

35 × 35

1. Digit before 5 is 3, next up is 4
2. 3 × 4 = 12
3. Stick on 25: 1225

Answer: **1225**

7.5 × 7.5

1. Think 75 × 75: 7 × 8 = 56, then 25
2. That is 5625
3. Two decimal places back: 56.25

Answer: **56.25**

MULTIPLY 5: The Decimal Point Rule

MULTIPLY

Multiplying two decimals? Do it in 3 steps.

1 Ignore the points.

Multiply as whole numbers.

2 Count the decimal places.

Add up decimal places in BOTH numbers.

3 Put the point back.

Same number of places from the right.

0.3 × 0.4 — 3 × 4 = 12. Two places in total. Answer: 0.12

1.2 × 0.5 — 12 × 5 = 60. Two places in total. Answer: 0.60 = 0.6

0.2 × 0.2 × 5? — Try 2 × 2 × 5 = 20, three places: 0.020 = 0.02 !

Sense check: 0.3 of 0.4 must be SMALLER than both, so 0.12 makes sense.

Your Turn: Multiply

TRY IT

Type your answer in each box, then tap CHECK. Use the trick, not the long way!

1. $8.8 \times 5 =$ ____

2. $1.6 \times 25 =$ ____

3. $6.3 \times 11 =$ ____

4. $3.7 \times 9 =$ ____

5. $65 \times 65 =$ ____

6. $2.5 \times 2.5 =$ ____

Check my answers

Answers: Multiply

ANSWERS

1. **8.8 × 5 = 44**
   88 halved = 44

2. **1.6 × 25 = 40**
   160 ÷ 4

3. **6.3 × 11 = 69.3**
   6 (9) 3 = 693

4. **3.7 × 9 = 33.3**
   37 - 3.7

5. **65 × 65 = 4225**
   6 × 7 = 42, then 25

6. **2.5 × 2.5 = 6.25**
   2 × 3 = 6, then 25

Six for six? You are a multiplication turkey-legend!

DIVIDE 1: ÷5 and ÷25

DIVIDE

6 min total

THE TRICK

Dividing by 5 is the same as doubling, then ÷10.

÷5: double it, then ÷10.
(46 ÷ 5: 92 ÷ 10 = 9.2)
÷25: times 4, then ÷100.

Remember:
÷10 just slides the decimal point one place left.

2.7 ÷ 5

1. Double 2.7 = 5.4
2. 5.4 ÷ 10 (slide the point)

Answer: **0.54**

450 ÷ 25

1. 450 × 4 = 1800
2. 1800 ÷ 100

Answer: **18**

DIVIDE 2: Halve, Halve, Halve

DIVIDE

THE TRICK

÷4 is halving TWICE.
÷8 is halving THREE times.

Halving is easy with decimals too.
Say it out loud:
half of 7.2 is 3.6,
half of 3.6 is 1.8.

Remember:
Also: ÷16 = halve four times.

7.2 ÷ 4

1. Half of 7.2 = 3.6
2. Half of 3.6

Answer: **1.8**

5.6 ÷ 8

1. Half of 5.6 = 2.8
2. Half of 2.8 = 1.4, half of 1.4

Answer: **0.7**

DIVIDE 3: ÷0.5 and ÷0.25

THE TRICK

How many halves (or quarters) fit?

÷0.5: there are 2 halves in 1,
so DOUBLE the number.
÷0.25: 4 quarters in 1,
so TIMES BY 4.

Remember:
Think money: how many 25p coins are in 3.50 pounds? 14!

6.5 ÷ 0.5

1. How many halves in 6.5?
2. Double: 6.5 × 2

Answer: 13

3.5 ÷ 0.25

1. How many quarters in 3.5?
2. Times by 4: 3.5 × 4

Answer: 14

Your Turn: Divide

TRY IT

Type your answer in each box, then tap CHECK. Use the trick, not the long way!

1. 64 ÷ 5 =
2. 750 ÷ 25 =
3. 12.4 ÷ 4 =
4. 4.8 ÷ 8 =
5. 8.5 ÷ 0.5 =
6. 6.5 ÷ 0.25 =

Check my answers

Answers: Divide

ANSWERS

1. **64 ÷ 5 = 12.8**
   128 ÷ 10

2. **750 ÷ 25 = 30**
   3000 ÷ 100

3. **12.4 ÷ 4 = 3.1**
   6.2 then 3.1

4. **4.8 ÷ 8 = 0.6**
   2.4, 1.2, 0.6

5. **8.5 ÷ 0.5 = 17**
   double 8.5

6. **6.5 ÷ 0.25 = 26**
   6.5 × 4

Division done. Now the big finale!

Pumpkin Pie Speed Round!

2 MINUTES

4 min total

8 mixed questions. Pick the right trick for each one. Start the timer and GO!

4.9 + 3.8 =		100 - 64.2 =	
5.4 × 11 =		85 × 85 =	
18 ÷ 5 =		2.6 × 25 =	
9.2 - 4.9 =		14.8 ÷ 4 =	

Check my answers

Answers: Speed Round

ANSWERS

1. **4.9 + 3.8 = 8.7**
   5 + 3.8 - 0.1

2. **100 - 64.2 = 35.8**
   all from 9, last from 10

3. **5.4 × 11 = 59.4**
   5 (9) 4

4. **85 × 85 = 7225**
   8 × 9 = 72, then 25

5. **18 ÷ 5 = 3.6**
   36 ÷ 10

6. **2.6 × 25 = 65**
   260 ÷ 4

7. **9.2 - 4.9 = 4.3**
   9.2 - 5 + 0.1

8. **14.8 ÷ 4 = 3.7**
   7.4 then 3.7

7 or 8 out of 8: Thanksgiving Champion! 5 or 6: Great! Under 5: practise the Cheat Sheet.

The Thanksgiving Cheat Sheet

KEEP ME!

ADD

Round it, then fix it

47 + 38 = 47 + 40 - 2

Left to right for decimals

SUBTRACT

From 1000/100/10: 9s, last 10

Round, subtract, fix

Close numbers: count up

MULTIPLY

x5: x10 then halve

x25: x100 then ÷4

x11: split, add, pop in middle

x9/x99: x10/x100 minus once

Ends in 5: n(n+1) then 25

DIVIDE

÷5: double, ÷10

÷25: x4, ÷100

÷4, ÷8: halve 2 / 3 times

÷0.5: double

÷0.25: times 4

Decimals: ignore the point, solve, then put the point back by sense-checking the size.

Homework: The Great Harvest (30 Questions)

HOMEWORK

Your mission

Three pages of 10 questions. Use the TRICKS, not long methods.

Type each answer into its box (this PDF is fillable).

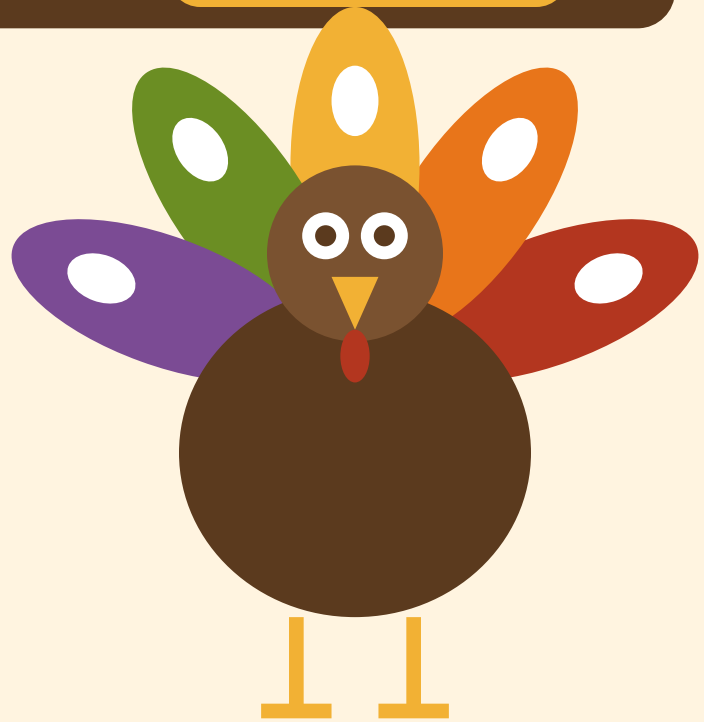
Time yourself: aim for under 20 minutes in total.

Stuck? Tap Cheat Sheet. Still stuck? Skip, then come back.

Sections: Add (1-7) Subtract (8-14)

Multiply (15-22) Divide (23-30)

Name: Time taken:



Cheat Sheet

Start Page 1

Homework Page 1 of 3 (Questions 1 to 10)

HOMEWORK

Q1 48 + 37 = _____
ADD

Q2 6.9 + 4.8 = _____
ADD

Q3 3.75 + 2.98 = _____
ADD

Q4 19.9 + 26.4 = _____
ADD

Q5 5.96 + 3.45 = _____
ADD

Q6 12.5 + 7.99 = _____
ADD

Q7 4.99 + 3.99 = _____
ADD

Q8 1000 - 462 = _____
SUBTRACT

Q9 100 - 37.5 = _____
SUBTRACT

Q10 10 - 4.26 = _____
SUBTRACT

Homework Page 2 of 3 (Questions 11 to 20)

HOMEWORK

Q11 9.3 - 3.9 =
SUBTRACT

Q12 15.3 - 7.98 =
SUBTRACT

Q13 20.5 - 9.9 =
SUBTRACT

Q14 10 - 0.35 =
SUBTRACT

Q15 3.6 × 5 =
MULTIPLY

Q16 24 × 11 =
MULTIPLY

Q17 4.2 × 11 =
MULTIPLY

Q18 6.5 × 9 =
MULTIPLY

Q19 45 × 45 =
MULTIPLY

Q20 8.5 × 8.5 =
MULTIPLY

Homework Page 3 of 3 (Questions 21 to 30)

HOMEWORK

Q21 $3.2 \times 25 =$ ____
MULTIPLY

Q22 $0.7 \times 99 =$ ____
MULTIPLY

Q23 $36 \div 5 =$ ____
DIVIDE

Q24 $4.5 \div 5 =$ ____
DIVIDE

Q25 $350 \div 25 =$ ____
DIVIDE

Q26 $8.4 \div 4 =$ ____
DIVIDE

Q27 $9.6 \div 8 =$ ____
DIVIDE

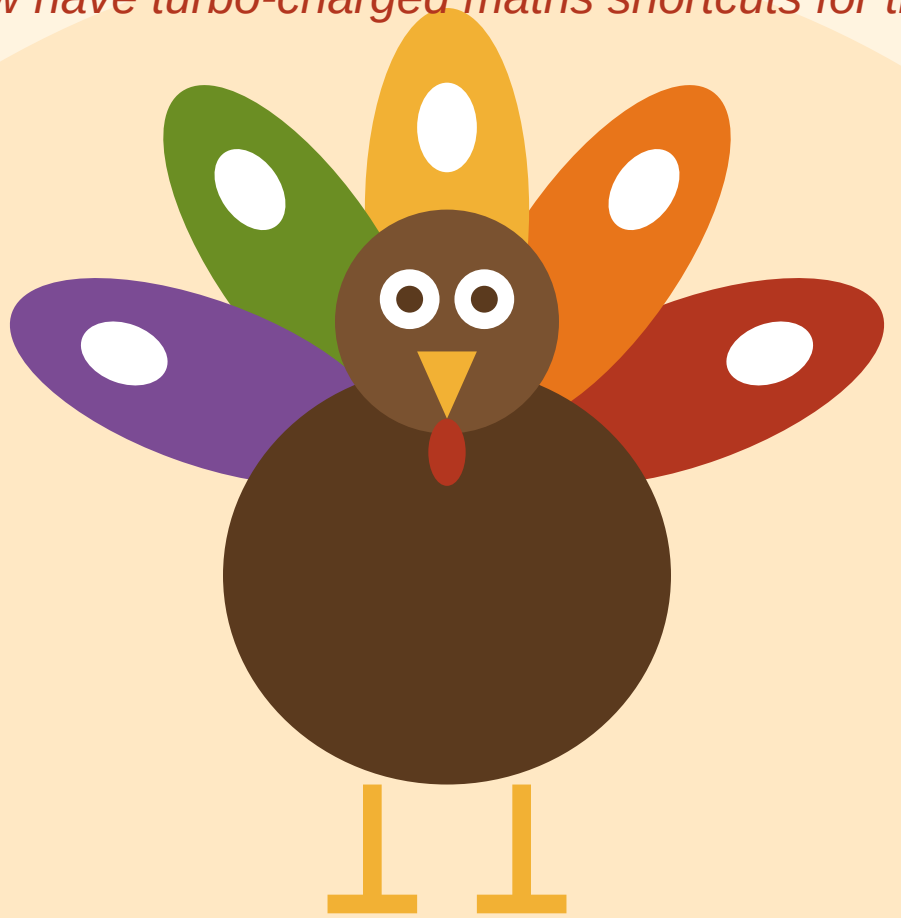
Q28 $7.5 \div 0.5 =$ ____
DIVIDE

Q29 $12.6 \div 0.5 =$ ____
DIVIDE

Q30 $9.5 \div 0.25 =$ ____
DIVIDE

Gobble Gobble! Well Done!

You now have turbo-charged maths shortcuts for the 11+.



Practise 10 minutes a day and these tricks will become automatic.

Back to the menu