

# **SKILL 7: PROBLEM SOLVING: Solving Proportions**

## **Example**

Ron found that a dripping faucet filled 4 cups every hour. At this rate, how many cups of water would drip from the faucet in one day?



Read Each hour, 4 cups of water drip from the faucet.

Plan One ratio is  $\frac{4 \text{ cups}}{1 \text{ h}}$ . So, two equal ratios that form a proportion are  $\frac{4 \text{ cups}}{1 \text{ hour}}$  and  $\frac{x \text{ cups}}{24 \text{ hours}}$ .

$$\frac{\text{cups}}{1} \rightarrow \frac{4}{1} = \frac{n}{24}$$



**Solve** Find the cross products.

$$4 \times 24 = 1 \times n$$
$$96 = n$$

So, in one day, 96 cups of water would drip from the faucet.

**Look Back** 4 cups per hour is 40 cups in 10 hours, or 80 cups in 20 hours. The answer makes sense.

#### **Guided Practice**

- 1. How many quarts is 96 cups of water?
  - a. How many cups are there in one quart?
  - **b.** Write a proportion. cups  $\rightarrow \boxed{ }$  =  $\boxed{ }$  quarts  $\rightarrow \boxed{ }$
  - c. Find the missing value in the proportion.
- 2. Lea found she walked 10 feet in 6 steps. At this rate, how many steps would she need to walk one mile? (There are 5,280 feet in a mile.)
- steps  $\rightarrow$  \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_
- a. Write a proportion you can use to find the answer.
- b. How many steps would Lea need to walk one mile?

#### **SKILL 7: Practice**

### Use a proportion to find each missing number.

- 1. 91 days = \_\_\_\_ weeks
- **2.** 9 dozen items = \_\_\_\_\_ items
- **3.** 2400 minutes = \_\_\_\_ hours
- **4.** 3 tons = \_\_\_\_\_ pounds

#### Solve each problem.

- 5. Kurt gets an \$800 paycheck every 2 weeks. At this rate, how much does he earn in 1 year (52 weeks)? \_\_\_\_\_\_
- **6.** A newborn baby's heart beats about 7 times every 3 seconds. At this rate, how many times does a baby's heart beat in 60 seconds?
- 7. During a test, 3 out of 100 cars selected at random were found to be defective. Use this ratio to estimate the number of defective cars if 1,500 cars are tested.
- 8. At Super Stores a 12-exposure roll of film costs \$2.34 and a 20-exposure roll costs \$3.80. Which roll of film costs less per exposure?
- 9. Sleeping 8 hours a day is the same as sleeping about 10 days a month.
  - a. About how many days is this per year?
  - b. About how many days in this in a 75-year lifetime?

10. Four quarts of water weighs about8 pounds. About how much does2 quarts of water weigh?

Skill 7

- **A** 1 lb
- **C** 16 lb
- **B** 4 lb
- **D** 2 lb

- 11. Which ratio is **not** equal to  $\frac{3}{15}$ ?
  - $F = \frac{6}{30}$
- $H \frac{1}{5}$
- **G**  $\frac{30}{150}$
- $J = \frac{45}{9}$