Comparing Costs by Using Unit Rate

When you peruse the aisles of any grocery store, the number of choices can be overwhelming. And once you finally choose exactly what cereal or soda you want, you still have choices of size or sale. Which option is really the best deal?

To find the best price, use *unit rate*. By reducing your various options to the rate of a single unit, you can more easily compare their cost.

EXAMPLE: You want to buy a box of your favorite cereal. One box offers 22 ounces for \$2.49. A bigger 32-ounce box of cereal is on sale for \$3.79. Well, which is the better deal?

- The 22-ounce box costs \$2.49 for every 22 ounces.
- Divide \$2.49 by 22 to get a *unit rate* of 11.3¢ per ounce.
- The 32-ounce box costs \$3.79 for every 32 ounces, so the *unit rate* is 11.8¢ per ounce.

The 22-ounce box is the better deal.

So even though the bigger box is on sale, the smaller box is a better deal, and *unit rate* helped us learn that!

Practice

1.	Cereal	<i>Wheatems</i> 22-ounce box for \$2.79	or	<i>Mega-Os</i> 32-ounce box for \$3.50	
2.	Juice	Apple Farms 3 cans for \$0.98	or	Happy Co. Juice 12 cans for \$4.14	
3.	Chips	AwesomeCrunch! 4 bags for \$2.39	or	Telly's Chips 10 bags for \$5.49	
4.	Yogurt	<i>Telly's Yogurt</i> 10 4-ounce cups for \$4.75	or	<i>Happy Co. Yogurt</i> 2 5.5-ounce cups for \$1.19	
5.	Apples	<i>Sunshine Orchards</i> 3 pounds for \$3.79	or	<i>Nature's Love</i> \$1.29 per pound	
6.	Milk	Al & Al's Farm 1 gallon for \$3.35	or	Old Bessie Milk \$1.29 for a quart	

Comparing Costs by Using Unit Rate (continued)

7.	Soda	<i>ViperDrink</i> 6 12-ounce cans for \$2.19	or	<i>Totally Soda</i> 4 16-ounce bottles for \$2.19
8.	Candy	Real Co. Candy 5 candy bars for \$2.49	or	<i>Elegant Chocolate</i> 20 candy bars for \$8.79
9.	Movies	Yourfilmsnow.com 4 movies for \$4.89	or	<i>Source Flix</i> 9 movies for \$10
10.	Books	<i>Major Publications</i> 9 books for \$39.95	or	<i>AlphaBook Deals</i> 12 books for \$55.00
11.	Music	<i>Go-go Tunes</i> 2 songs for \$1.89	or	Omega Sound 25 songs for \$22.25
12.	Texting	<i>National Mobile</i> 300 texts for \$9.99	or	<i>Airtime</i> 500 texts for \$17.99
13.	Pens	<i>EverWrite</i> 12 pens for \$6.99	or	<i>Inkerz</i> \$3.00 for a 5-pack
14.	Paper	Yes Pulp Paper 500 sheets for \$6.05	or	North Paper Co. 10,000 sheets for \$139.99

Why Learn about Unit Rate?

To answer that question, write the first letter of the correct answer's company names in order on the line below.



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Practice



Comparing Costs by Using Unit Rate (continued)

7.	Soda	<i>ViperDrink</i> 6 12-ounce cans for \$2.19 3.0¢ per ounce	or	<i>Totally Soda</i> 4 16-ounce bottles for \$2.19 3.4¢ per ounce
8.	Candy	<i>Real Co. Candy</i> 5 candy bars for \$2.49 49.8¢ per bar	or	<i>Elegant Chocolate</i> 20 candy bars for \$8.79 44¢ per bar
9.	Movies	Yourfilmsnow.com 4 movies for \$4.89 \$1.22 per movie	or	Source Flix 9 movies for \$10 \$1.11 per movie
10.	Books	Major Publications 9 books for \$39.95 \$4.44 per book	or	AlphaBook Deals 12 books for \$55.00 \$4.58 per book
11.	Music	<i>Go-go Tunes</i> 2 songs for \$1.89 94.5¢ per song	or	Omega Sound 25 songs for \$22.25 89¢ per song
12.	Texting	National Mobile 300 texts for \$9.99 3.3¢ per text	or	<i>Airtime</i> 500 texts for \$17.99 3.6¢ per text
13.	Pens	<i>EverWrite</i> 12 pens for \$6.99 58.3¢ per pen	or	<i>Inkerz</i> \$3.00 for a 5-pack 60¢ per pen
14.	Paper	Yes Pulp Paper 500 sheets for \$6.05 1.2¢ per sheet	or	<i>North Paper Co.</i> 10,000 sheets for \$139.99 <i>1.4¢ per sheet</i>

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Μ	Α	Т	Н	S	Α	V	Ε	S	M	0	Ν	Ε	Y
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14