

Approach: Independent

Level: Year 4 and year 8

Resources: None

Questions/instructions	% responses	
	y4	y8
$\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} =$	24	67
$\frac{2}{3} + \frac{2}{3} =$	7	44
$\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4} =$	7	45
$1 - \frac{1}{2} =$	27	-
$\frac{1}{4} + \frac{2}{3} =$		14
$\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{4} =$		46
$4 - \frac{1}{3} =$		33
$2\frac{1}{2} - \frac{3}{4} =$		34
$\frac{2}{3} - \frac{1}{2} =$		13
$5 \times \frac{1}{4} =$		48
$\frac{3}{4} \times 3 =$		32

	% responses	
	y4	y8
$\frac{2}{5} \times \frac{1}{2} =$		29
$2\frac{1}{4} \times 5 =$		30
$3 \times \frac{1}{2} =$		20
$\frac{1}{3} \div 2 =$		8
$\frac{1}{4} \div \frac{1}{2} =$		21
$2\frac{1}{4} \div \frac{1}{3} =$		2

Commentary

Year 4 students showed little capacity to handle tasks involving fractions other than $\frac{1}{2}$. Year 8 students were not highly successful with any of the tasks, but had particular difficulty with mixed denominators and division of fractions.