

# Part 2 Fractions

## Unit 7 Introduction to Fractions

### 1. Definitions

- A. **Fractions** show the equal parts of a whole.
- B. The **numerator**, or top of a fraction, shows the parts of interest.
- C. The **denominator**, or the bottom of a fraction, shows the total number of parts.

### 2. Three ways of thinking about fractions

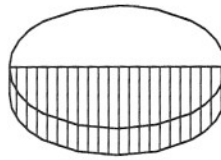
$\frac{\text{Parts of Interest}}{\text{Total Number of Parts}}$

$\frac{\text{Important Parts}}{\text{Whole Parts}}$

$\frac{\text{Numerator}}{\text{Denominator}}$

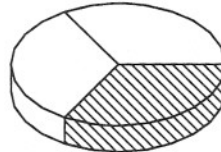
### 3. Examples

Cutting a pizza into 2 equal parts means each piece is **one-half** of a pizza.



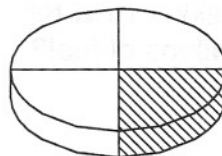
$$\frac{\text{Important Parts}}{\text{Whole Parts}} = \frac{1}{2}$$

Cutting a pizza into 3 equal parts means each piece is **one-third** of a pizza.



$$\frac{\text{Important Parts}}{\text{Whole Parts}} = \frac{1}{3}$$

Cutting a pizza into 4 equal parts means each piece is **one-fourth** of a pizza.



$$\frac{\text{Important Parts}}{\text{Whole Parts}} = \frac{1}{4}$$

**Note:** The larger the bottom number (denominator), the more parts there are in the whole. A large denominator means small whole parts.