

*The Common Denominator*  
*A Family Math Newsletter*  
*Mathematics 6 GT Unit 1: Reading and Writing Numbers*

Unit at a Glance:

Suggested Length of Unit: 15 days (45 minutes), 7.5 days (90 minutes)

- Numbers in Everyday Use
- Positive and Negative Numbers
- Rational Numbers and Their Uses
- Powers of Ten and Other Numbers
- More Powers of Ten
- Order of Operations
- Other Grouping Symbols
- Scientific Notation
- Plotting Points on Coordinate Graphs
- Graphing Data on a Calculator

Resources

- Textbook Resource: Viktora, Steven S, et al. Transition Mathematics. Wright Group/McGraw-Hill, 2008, pp. 1 – 67.
- Homework Help/Online book (teacher-provided code needed): [Online Textbook Portal](#)

Exploring Chapter 1

This chapter discusses rational numbers in some of the most common ways in which they are written. The first three lessons, 1-1 to 1-3, introduce numbers and their main uses.

The next five lessons, 1-4 to 1-8, discuss powers, the order of operations, and scientific notation.

The last two lessons, 1-9 and 1-10, involve reading and drawing graphs on the coordinate plane, first with paper and pencil, then with technology. For this course, students will use a graphing calculator.

Although much of this chapter will be review for many students, it acclimates the students to a style of writing, more technical vocabulary, and the notation of mathematics.

Quote

You can watch basketball hundreds of times on television. Still, to learn how to play basketball, you must have a ball in your hand and practice dribbling, shooting, and passing. Mathematics is no different. You cannot learn much mathematics just by watching other people do it. You must participate in mathematics.

“Mathematics is not a spectator sport!”

- George Polya