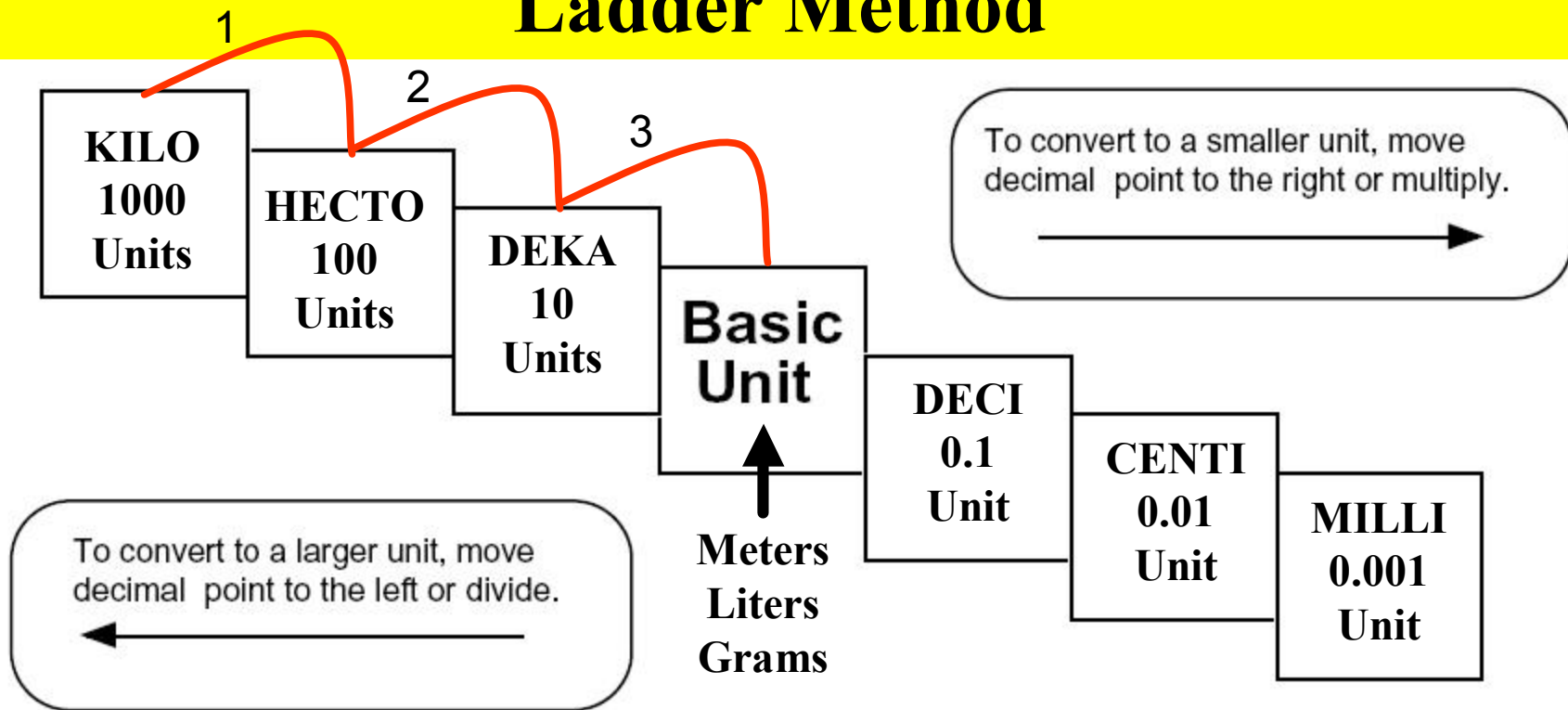


# Metric Mania



## Metric Conversions Ladder Method

# Ladder Method



## How do you use the “ladder” method?

1<sup>st</sup> – Determine your starting point.

2<sup>nd</sup> – Count the “jumps” to your ending point.

3<sup>rd</sup> – Move the decimal the same number of jumps in the same direction.

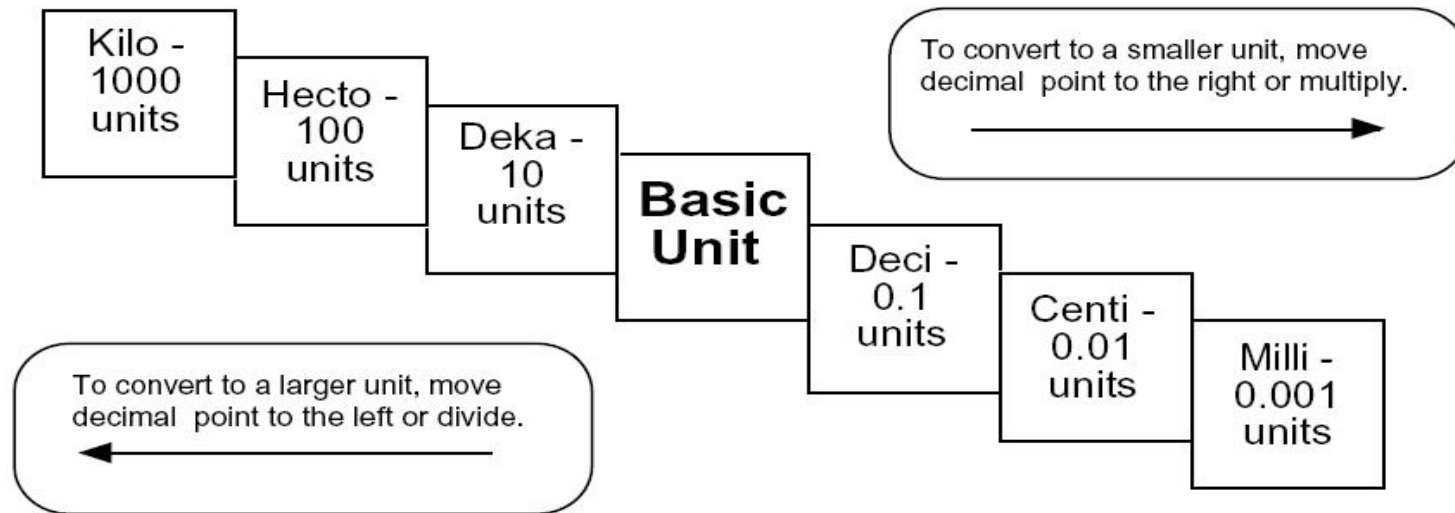
$$4 \text{ km} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \text{ m}$$

↑
↑  
 Starting Point      Ending Point

How many jumps does it take?

$$4.\overset{\cdot}{\underset{1}{\text{---}}}\overset{\cdot}{\underset{2}{\text{---}}}\overset{\cdot}{\underset{3}{\text{---}}}\overset{\cdot}{\text{---}} = 4000 \text{ m}$$

# Conversion Practice



Try these conversions using the ladder method.

$1000 \text{ mg} = 1 \text{ g}$

$1 \text{ L} = 1600 \text{ mL}$

$160 \text{ cm} = 1600 \text{ mm}$

$14 \text{ km} = 14000 \text{ m}$

$109 \text{ g} = .109 \text{ kg}$

$250 \text{ m} = .250 \text{ km}$

Compare using  $<$ ,  $>$ , or  $=$ .

$56 \text{ cm} < 6 \text{ m}$

$7 \text{ g} > 698 \text{ mg}$

# Metric Conversion Challenge

Write the correct abbreviation for each metric unit.

1) Kilogram **kg**

4) Milliliter **ml**

7) Kilometer **km**

2) Meter **m**

5) Millimeter **mm**

8) Centimeter **cm**

3) Gram **g**

6) Liter **L**

9) Milligram **mg**

Try these conversions, using the ladder method.

10) 2000 mg = **2g**

15) 5 L = **5000 mL**

20) 16 cm = **160 mm**

11) 104 km = **104000m**

16) 198 g = **.198 kg**

21) 2500 m = **2.5 km**

12) 480 cm = **4.8 m**

17) 75 mL = **.075 L**

22) 65 g = **65000 mg**

13) 5.6 kg = **5600 g**

18) 50 cm = **.5 m**

23) 6.3 cm = **63 mm**

14) 8 mm = **.8 cm**

19) 5.6 m = **560 cm**

24) 120 mg = **.12 g**

**Compare using <, >, or =.**

25) 63 cm ○ 6 m

27) 5 g ○ 508 mg

29) 1,500 mL ○ 1.5 L

26) 536 cm ○ 53.6 dm

28) 43 mg ○ 5 g

30) 3.6 m ○ 36 cm

**1) <**

**2) >**

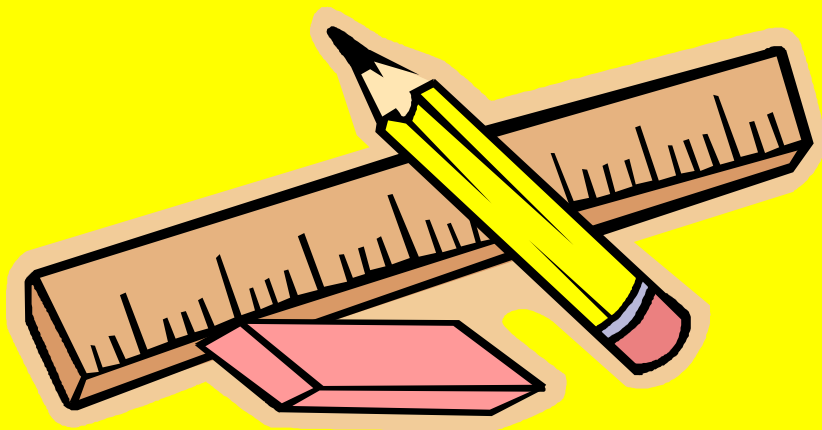
**3) =**

**4) =**

**5) <**

**6) >**

# Metric Mania

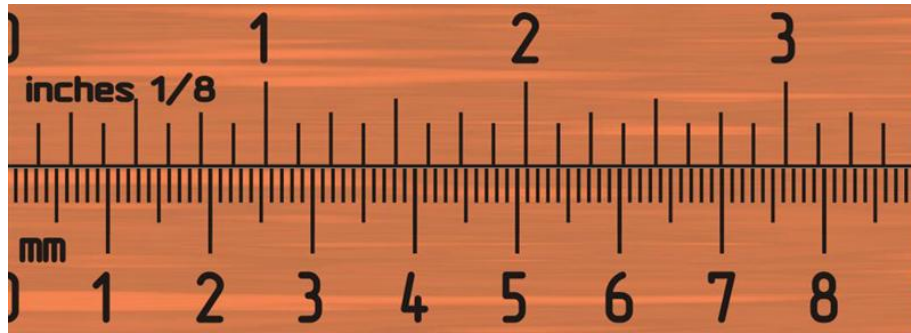
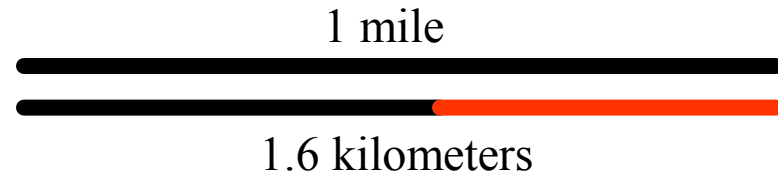


## Lesson 1: Length

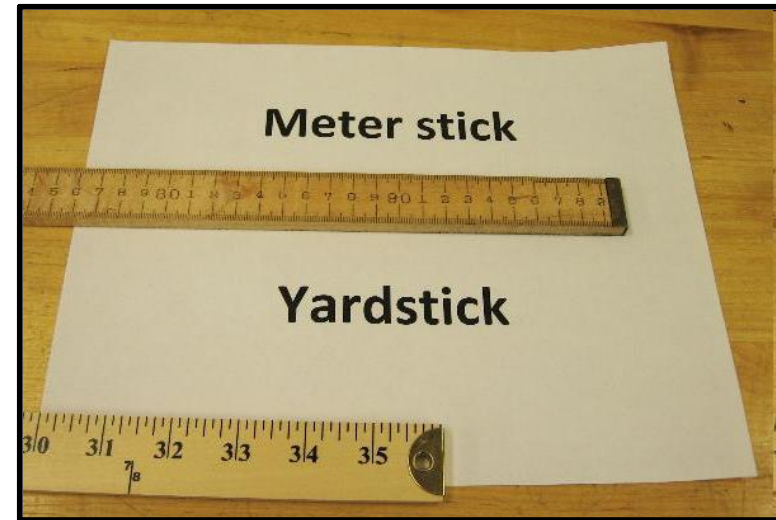
# English vs. Metric Units

Which is longer?

- A. 1 mile or 1 kilometer
- B. 1 yard or 1 meter
- C. 1 inch or 1 centimeter



1 inch = 2.54 centimeters



1 yard = 0.9444 meters

km

m

## Metric Units

cm

mm

The basic unit of length in the metric system is the **meter** and is represented by a lowercase **m**.

### Metric Units

1 Kilometer (km) = 1000 meters

1 Meter = 100 Centimeters (cm)

1 Meter = 1000 Millimeters (mm)

Click the image to  
watch a short video  
about the meter.



### Which is larger?

A. 1 meter or 105 centimeters

B. 4 kilometers or 4400 meters

C. 12 centimeters or 102 millimeters

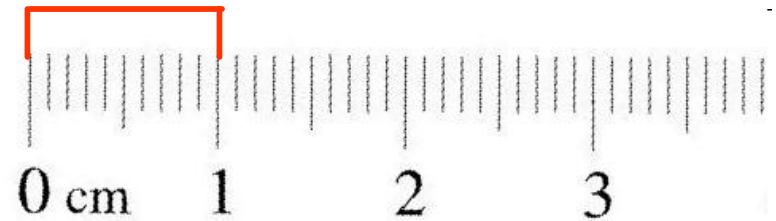
D. 1200 millimeters or 1 meter



# Measuring Length

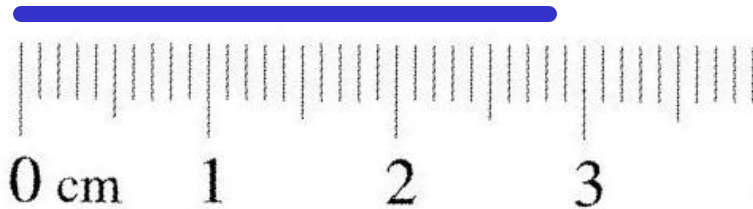
How many millimeters are in 1 centimeter?

1 centimeter = 10 millimeters



What is the length of the line in centimeters? \_\_\_\_\_ cm

What is the length of the line in millimeters? \_\_\_\_\_ mm



What is the length of the line to the nearest centimeter? \_\_\_\_\_ cm

HINT: Round to the nearest centimeter – no decimals.

# Metric Mania

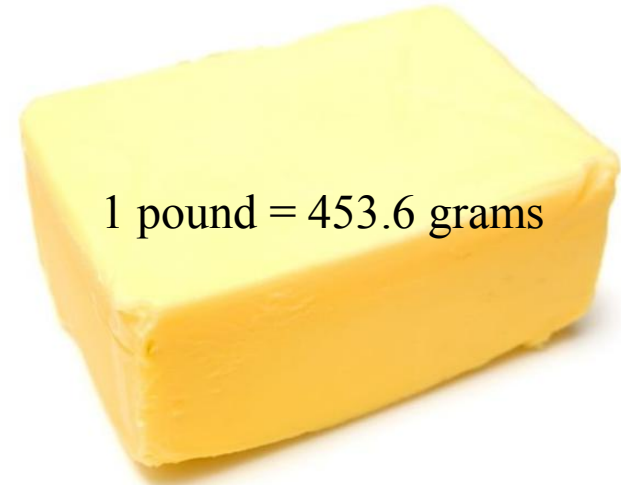


## Lesson 2: Mass

# English vs. Metric Units

Which is larger?

1. 1 Pound or 100 Grams
2. 1 Kilogram or 1 Pound
3. 1 Ounce or 1000 Milligrams



1 pound = 453.6 grams



1 ounce of gold =  
28,349.5 milligrams



100 kilogram =  
220 pounds

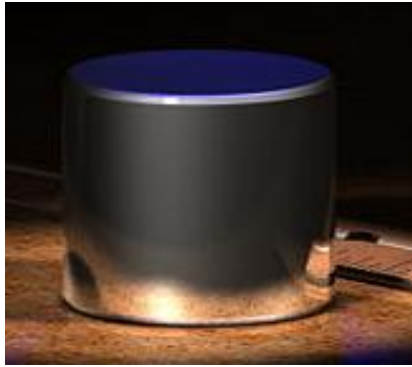
kg

g

## Metric Units

cg

mg



Kilogram Prototype

**Mass** refers to the amount of matter in an object.

The base unit of mass in the metric system is the **gram (g)**

### Metric Units

1 Kilogram (kg) = 1000 Grams (g)

1 Gram (g) = 1000 Milligrams (mg)

Click the image to watch a short video about mass.



### Which is larger?

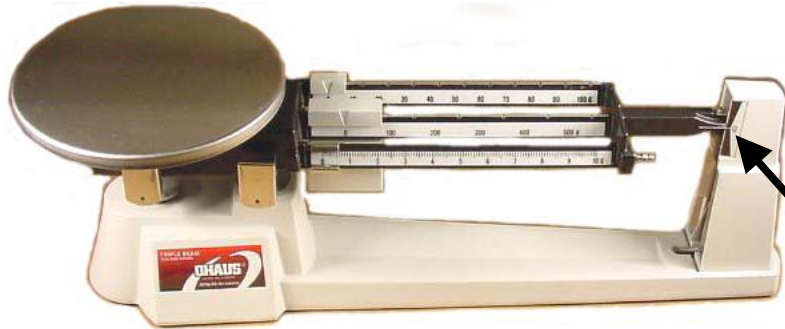
A. 1 kilogram or 1500 grams

C. 12 milligrams or 12 kilograms

B. 1200 milligrams or 1 gram

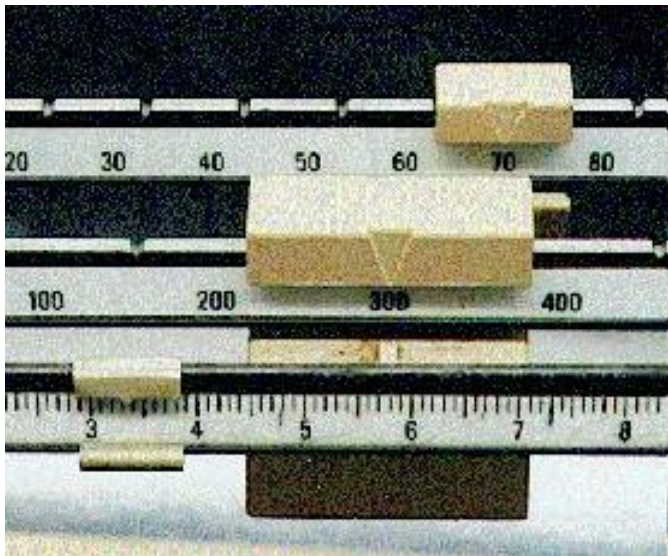
D. 4 kilograms or 4500 grams

# Measuring Mass



We will be using **triple-beam balances** to find the mass of various objects.

The objects are placed on the scale and then you move the weights on the beams until you get the lines on the right-side of the scale to match up.



Once you have balanced the scale, you add up the amounts on each beam to find the total mass.

What would be the mass of the object measured in the picture?

$$\underline{300} + \underline{70} + \underline{3.4} = \underline{373.4} \text{ g}$$

Top Image: [http://www.southwestscales.com/Ohaus\\_Triple\\_Beam\\_750-SO.jpg](http://www.southwestscales.com/Ohaus_Triple_Beam_750-SO.jpg)

Bottom Image: <http://www.regentsprep.org/Regents/biology/units/laboratory/graphics/triplebeambalance.jpg>

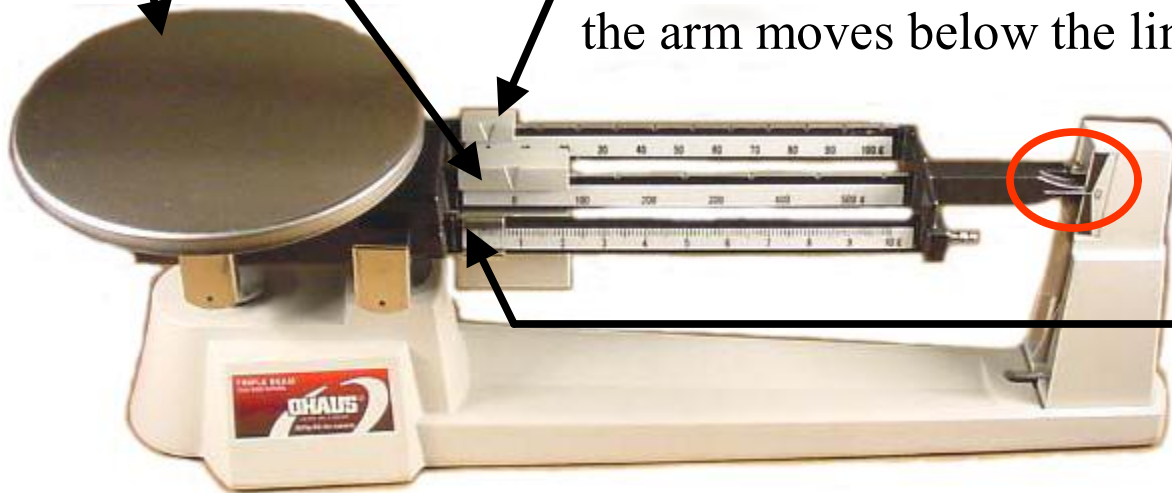
# Measuring Mass – Triple-Beam Balance

1<sup>st</sup> – Place the film canister on the scale.

2<sup>nd</sup> – Slide the large weight to the right until the arm drops below the line. Move the rider back one groove. Make sure it “locks” into place.

3<sup>rd</sup> – Repeat this process with the top weight. When the arm moves below the line, back it up one groove.

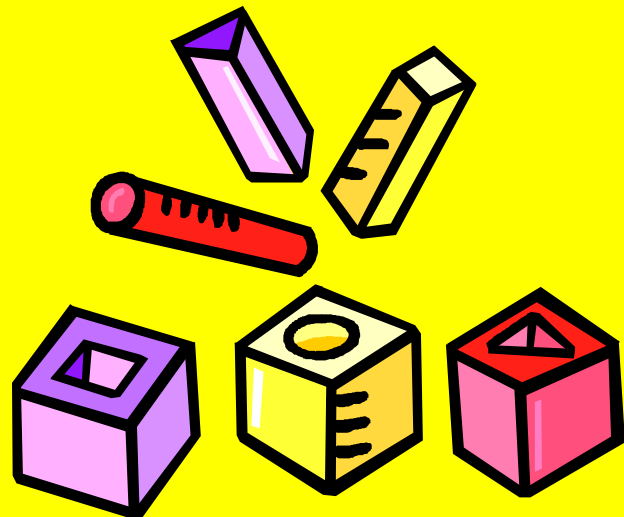
4<sup>th</sup> – Slide the small weight on the front beam until the lines match up.



5<sup>th</sup> – Add the amounts on each beam to find the total mass to the nearest tenth of a gram.

[Click here to try an online activity.](#)

# Metric Mania



## Lesson 3: Volume

# English vs. Metric Units

Which is larger?

A. 1 liter or 1 gallon

B. 1 liter or 1 quart

C. 1 milligram or 1 fluid ounce



1 fl oz = 29.573 ml

1 12-oz can of soda  
would equal  
approximately 355 ml.

1 gallon = 3.79 liters



It would take approximately  $3 \frac{3}{4}$   
1-liter bottles to equal a gallon.

1 quart = 0.946 liters





**KL****L**

# Metric Units

**CL****mL**

**Volume** is the amount of space an object takes up.

The base unit of volume in the metric system is the **liter** and is represented by **L** or **l**.

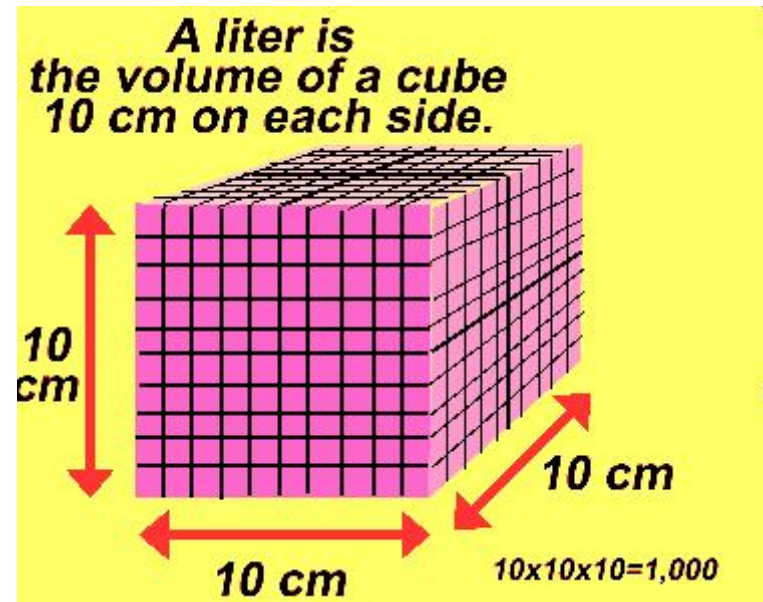
## Metric Units

1 liter (L) = 1000 milliliters (mL)

1 milliliter (mL) = 1 cm<sup>3</sup> (or cc) = 1 gram\*

**Which is larger?**

- A. 1 liter or 1500 milliliters
- B. 200 milliliters or 1.2 liters
- C. 12 cm<sup>3</sup> or 1.2 milliliters\*

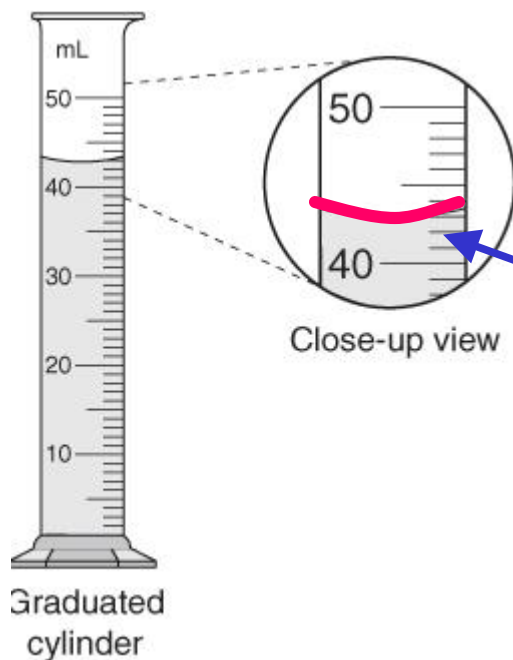


\* When referring to water

Liter Image: <http://www.dmtturner.org/Teacher/Pictures/liter.gif>

# Volume of Liquids

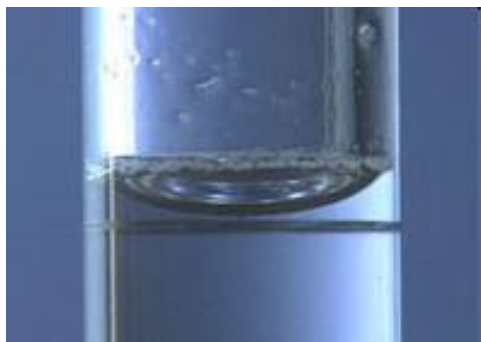
We will be using **graduated cylinders** to find the volume of liquids and other objects.



Read the measurement based on the bottom of the **meniscus** or curve.

**HINT:** make sure you are **eye-level** with the level of the water.

What is the volume of water in the cylinder? 43 mL



## What causes the meniscus?

A concave meniscus occurs when the molecules of the liquid attract those of the container. The glass attracts the water on the sides.

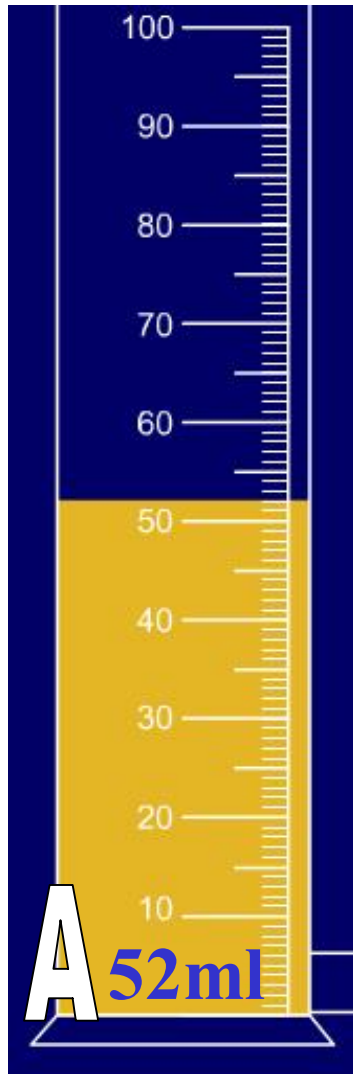
Top Image: <http://www.tea.state.tx.us/student.assessment/resources/online/2006/grade8/science/images/20graphicaa.gif>

Bottom Image: <http://morrisonlabs.com/meniscus.htm>

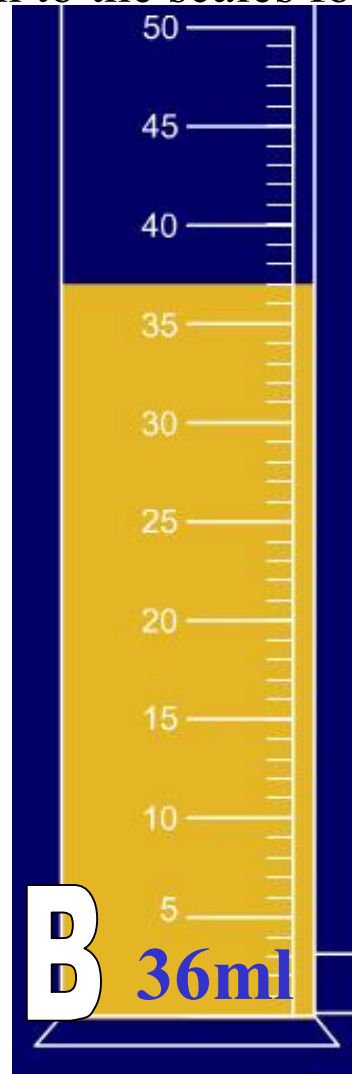
# Measuring Liquid Volume

What is the volume of water in each cylinder?

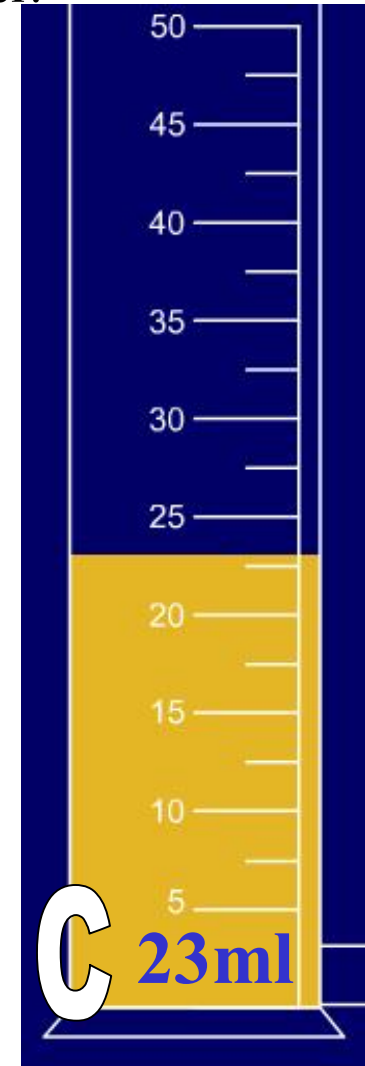
Pay attention to the scales for each cylinder.



Units of 10

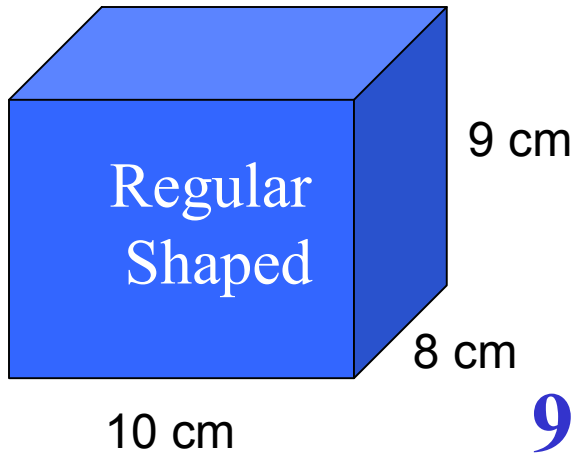


Units of 5



Units of 5

# Measuring Solid Volume



We can measure the volume of **regular object** using the formula **length x width x height**.

$$\underline{9} \times \underline{8} \times \underline{10} = \underline{720\text{cm}^3}$$

We can measure the volume of **irregular object** using **The Water Displacement Method**.

$$\text{Amount of H}_2\text{O with object} = \underline{275}$$

$$\text{Amount of H}_2\text{O without object} = \underline{200}$$

$$\text{Difference} = \text{Volume} = \underline{75\text{ml}}$$

