

Fraction Mistakes Answer Key

- 1) Mistake: Added the numerators and denominators directly. / Correct answer: $\frac{5}{6}$
- 2) Mistake: Added the denominators instead of finding a common denominator. / Correct answer: $\frac{11}{12}$
- 3) Mistake: Added the numerators without rewriting the fractions with a common denominator. / Correct answer: $\frac{9}{10}$
- 4) Mistake: Did not rename $\frac{1}{4}$ as an equivalent fraction before adding. / Correct answer: $\frac{5}{8}$
- 5) Mistake: Added the denominators instead of using the least common denominator. / Correct answer: $\frac{17}{18}$
- 6) Mistake: Used different denominators when adding the numerators. / Correct answer: $1\frac{1}{12}$
- 7) Mistake: Used 28 as a denominator but did not rewrite the fractions as equivalent fractions first. / Correct answer: $\frac{15}{28}$
- 8) Mistake: Added the denominators instead of rewriting both fractions with a common denominator. / Correct answer: $\frac{19}{24}$

Teacher's Guide

- Review that fractions must be rewritten with a common denominator before adding.
- Encourage students to identify the specific step where the error occurred instead of only correcting the final answer.
- Remind students that denominators are not added when adding fractions.
- Support students by having them rewrite each problem correctly step by step before finding the sum.
- Let partners compare their explanations and discuss why the incorrect method does not work.
- Challenge advanced students to create an incorrect solution of their own for a classmate to analyze.
- Extend the activity by asking students to sort the mistakes into categories, such as "added denominators," "forgot equivalent fractions," or "did not simplify correctly."