# Like and Unlike Fractions

## **Understanding Notes**

- Like fractions are fractions that have the same denominator
  - **Example:**  $\frac{1}{5}, \frac{2}{5}, \frac{4}{5}$  are like fractions because the denominator is 5 in all
- Like fractions show parts of the same-sized whole
- Unlike fractions are fractions that have different denominators

**Example:**  $\frac{1}{3}, \frac{2}{5}, \frac{5}{6}$  are unlike fractions because their denominators are different

- Like fractions are easy to add and subtract because their parts are the same size
- Unlike fractions must be changed into like fractions before comparing, adding, or subtracting
- We can use models or pictures to understand like and unlike fractions better
- It is important to check the denominator before solving any fraction problem
- Learning to identify like and unlike fractions helps in solving many fraction questions

### **Examples with Solutions**

Example 1: Identify which group is like fractions

Group A:  $\frac{2}{6}, \frac{4}{6}, \frac{5}{6}$ Group B:  $\frac{1}{2}, \frac{3}{4}, \frac{5}{8}$ 

Solution: Group A has like fractions

Example 2: Which are unlike fractions

**Fractions:**  $\frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{5}$ 

Solution: These are unlike fractions as all denominators are different

#### **Example 3: Word Problem**

Ravi drank  $\frac{2}{7}$  of juice and Tina drank  $\frac{3}{7}$  of juice. Are the fractions like or unlike

Solution: Like fractions because both have denominator 7

#### **Example 4: Fill in the blank**

Fractions with same denominators are called \_\_\_\_\_ fractions

Solution: Like fractions

Example 5: Match the pair

- $\frac{1}{6}$  and  $\frac{2}{6} \rightarrow$  Like
- $\frac{1}{5}$  and  $\frac{1}{3} \rightarrow$  Unlike
- $\frac{3}{9}$  and  $\frac{5}{9} \rightarrow$  Like

## **Summary Point**

- Like fractions have the same denominator.
- Unlike fractions have different denominators.
- Like fractions are easy to compare and calculate.
- Understanding the type of fraction helps in solving problems correctly.
- Always look at the denominator to know if the fractions are like or unlike.

- $\frac{4}{7}$  and  $\frac{4}{8} \rightarrow$  Unlike
- $\frac{2}{10}$  and  $\frac{6}{10}$   $\rightarrow$  Like