Unit Fractions

Understanding Notes

- A unit fraction is a fraction that has 1 as its numerator
- It shows one part of a whole that is divided into equal parts
- Unit fractions are written as $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{1}{3}$, $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{1}{5}$ and so on
- The number below the line is the denominator and it tells how many equal parts the whole is divided into
- The larger the denominator, the smaller the part
- All unit fractions are less than 1
- They are helpful in dividing things equally
- Unit fractions are the basic building blocks of other fractions
- They are used in day-to-day life like dividing pizza, sharing sweets, or cutting paper equally
- Unit fractions are easy to understand and are important for learning bigger fractions

Examples with Solutions

Example 1: What is the unit fraction of a circle cut into 3 equal parts

```
Solution: One part of 3 is written as \frac{1}{2}
```

Example 2: A rope is cut into 4 equal parts. What is the length of one part as a unit fraction

Solution: 1 part out of $4 = \frac{1}{4}$

Example 3: Fill in the blank

A fraction with 1 as numerator is called a _____

Solution: Unit Fraction

Example 4: Word Problem

A watermelon is cut into 6 equal slices. Sohan eats one slice. What part of watermelon did he eat

Solution: $\frac{1}{6}$

Example 5: Comparison

Which is smaller: $\frac{1}{5}$ or $\frac{1}{7}$

Solution: $\frac{1}{7}$ is smaller because the parts are divided into more pieces

Summary Point

- Unit fractions have 1 as the numerator and show one part of a whole.
- The denominator tells the number of equal parts.
- Unit fractions are always less than 1.
- As the denominator increases, the part becomes smaller.
- Unit fractions are used in sharing, cutting, and dividing things equally.