Spot The Mistakes – Fractions 2 - Answers

Read the notes in the table below which contain some deliberate mistakes. Find the mistakes by circling or highlighting them in the notes and use the blank column on the right-hand side to correct the mistake.

When you think you've finished ask the person you are sitting beside to check your corrections.

Fractions of Amounts If I was asked to find a fraction of a number or an amount then I would do the following: Divide by the bottom Multiply by the top You must do it in this order to get the correct answer.	Error: you can multiply or divide in any order
For example: Find $\frac{1}{7}$ of 35. In order to find $\frac{1}{7}$ of a number just divide that number by 7. So the answer to $\frac{1}{7}$ of 35 is $35 \div 7 = 5$.	
$\frac{1}{7}$ is a "unit fraction" because it has 7 on the bottom. I use the same principle when finding non-unit fractions of a number. For example: Find $\frac{4}{7}$ of 35. I've already found $\frac{1}{7}$ of 35 = 5. So $\frac{4}{7}$ of 35 is "4 lots of $\frac{1}{7}$ of 35". Answer is $4 \times 5 = 25$.	Error: it's a unit fraction because it has 1 on top. Error: the answer is 20
Mixed and Improper Fractions Mixed numbers are whole numbers and fractions together like $2\frac{3}{4}$. Improper fractions are fractions where the top number is larger than the bottom number like $\frac{11}{4}$.	
In fact $2\frac{3}{4}$ and $\frac{11}{4}$ are equivalent fractions. How do I know that? In $2\frac{3}{4}$ the "2" is "2 wholes" which make a total of "8 quarters" because 1 whole = 4 quarters. Add the "3 quarters" and we have a total of "11 quarters" which is our improper fraction.	
If I do this as a calculation it looks like this: $2\frac{3}{4} = \frac{2 \times 4 + 3}{4} = \frac{11}{4}$ "Big multiplied by top, add the bottom."	Error: "top" and "bottom" are the wrong way around

Clue: there are four mistakes for you to spot.