

1. Round values to a specified degree of accuracy

Key Concepts:

- Rounding to decimal places (dp): Focuses on how many digits appear **after** the decimal point.
- Rounding to significant figures (sf): Focuses on the **important** digits in a number, starting from the first non-zero digit.

Examples:

a) Round 3.6789 to:

- 2 decimal places (2 dp) \rightarrow 3.68
- 3 significant figures (3 sf) \rightarrow 3.68

b) Round 0.004567 to:

- 2 dp \rightarrow 0.00
- 2 sf \rightarrow 0.0046

c) Round 58,921 to:

- Nearest 10 \rightarrow 58,920
- Nearest 1000 \rightarrow 59,000
- 1 sf \rightarrow 60,000

2. Make estimates for calculations involving numbers, quantities and measurements

Key Concepts:

- Estimation helps simplify calculations by using **rounded values**.
- Used to **check reasonableness** of answers or for **quick mental calculations**.

Strategies:

- Round numbers to 1 or 2 significant figures.
- Use easy-to-work-with numbers (like 10, 100, etc.).
- Estimate **before** calculating.

Examples:

a) Estimate 19.8×3.92

Round: $20 \times 4 = 80$

b) Estimate $\frac{98.2}{4.91}$

Round: $\frac{100}{5} = 20$

c) A bottle holds 1.97 litres. Estimate the volume of 6 such bottles.

Round: $2 \text{ L} \times 6 = 12 \text{ litres}$



3. Round answers to a reasonable degree of accuracy in the context of a given problem

Key Concepts:

- The **context** of a problem determines how accurately to round.
- Always consider:
 - **Units** (e.g., money, time, people).
 - The **precision of given data**.
 - Whether overestimating/underestimating is appropriate.

Examples:

a) A car travels 157.62 km in 2.47 hours. Find the speed.

- $\text{Speed} = \frac{157.62}{2.47} \approx 63.83 \text{ km/h}$
- Given the data has **3 sf**, round to **3 sf**:
Answer: 63.8 km/h

b) A store sold 341 tickets. Each ticket cost \$12.75. Estimate the revenue.

- Round 341 \rightarrow 340
- Round \$12.75 \rightarrow \$13
- $340 \times 13 = 4420$
Estimated Revenue: \$4420

Final Tips:

- Use **estimation** to check if your final answer is **reasonable**.
- Be clear whether the question asks for an **exact** answer or an **estimate**.
- Pay attention to the **units** and **context** before rounding your final answer.