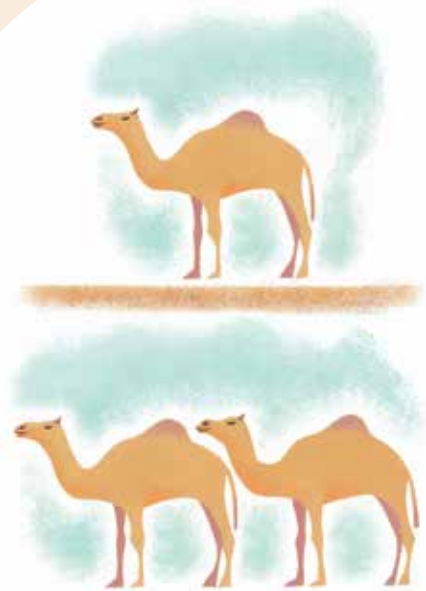
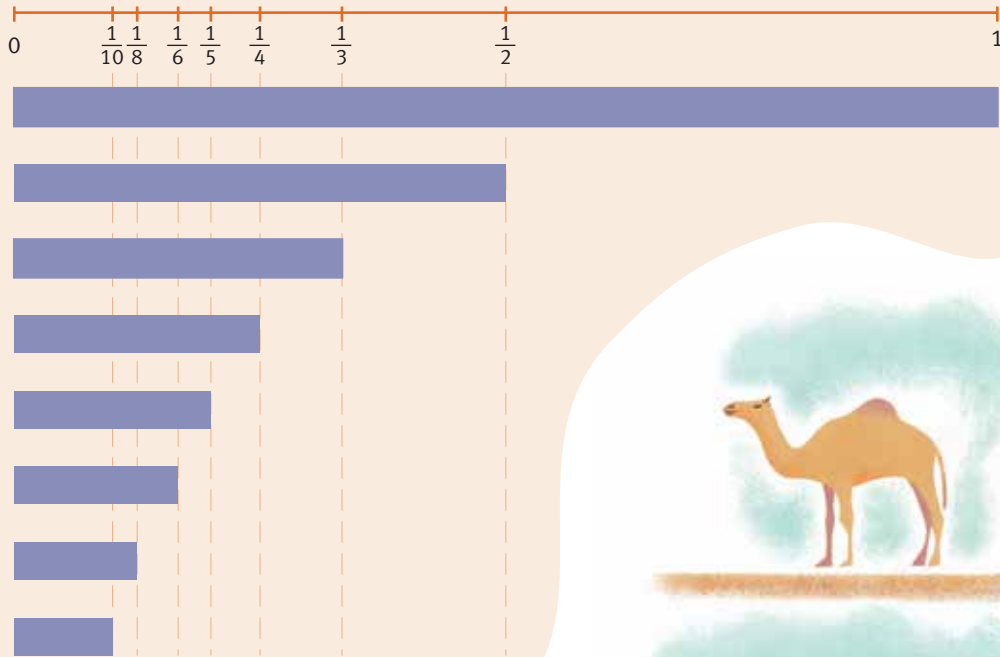


# Egyptian Fractions

ACTIVITY

All the fractions that the ancient Egyptians used had a 1 on the top line (the numerator). These are sometimes called unit fractions.



So instead of  $\frac{2}{3}$ , they wrote  $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{6}$ ,  
and instead of  $\frac{3}{4}$ , they wrote  $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4}$ .

1. Write these unit fraction statements as one fraction:

a.  $\frac{1}{5} + \frac{1}{5} + \frac{1}{5}$

b.  $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}$

c.  $\frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{8}$

d.  $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3}$

e.  $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{5} + \frac{1}{10}$

f.  $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{8}$

2. Write these fractions as unit fractions:

a.  $\frac{4}{5}$

b.  $\frac{7}{10}$

c.  $\frac{4}{9}$

3. Some fractions could be written in more than one way. For

example:  $\frac{2}{3} = \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{3}$  or  $\frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{6} + \frac{1}{6}$  or  $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{6}$ .

How many ways can you find to write  $\frac{3}{4}$  in Egyptian fractions?

