

Sales Tax and Tip

Reporting Category Computation and Estimation

Topic Solving problems, using proportional reasoning

Primary SOL 7.4 The student will solve single-step and multistep practical problems, using proportional reasoning.

Materials

- Menus
- Calculators
- Customer Sales Receipt handout (attached)

Vocabulary

percent (earlier grade)

sales tax, tip (7.4)

Student/Teacher Actions (what students and teachers should be doing to facilitate learning)

1. Review how to calculate the percent of a number.
2. Place students in pairs, and give each pair a copy of the menu. Have students take turns being the waiter/waitress and the customer. Direct the customer to order a meal including at least three items from the menu.
3. Direct the waiter/waitress to record the order on a customer sales receipt. He/she will compute the amount of the meal, including a sales tax of 5% and a tip of 15%, and give it to the customer.
4. Direct the customer to review the bill for accuracy. If there are no errors, the customer will sign the bill. If the customer feels there is an error, he/she must work together with the waiter/waitress to reconcile the bill.
5. Have students reverse roles and repeat the process of ordering a meal.

Assessment

- **Questions**
 - How do you calculate a tip?
 - How do you calculate sales tax?
- **Journal/Writing Prompts**
 - Explain how you would estimate a 4% sales tax on a purchase.
 - Explain how you would find a 15% tip on a bill of \$25 without using a calculator?
- **Other**
 - Using your original meal order, calculate the total, using a 10% sales tax and a 10% tip. How does this total compare to the original total?

Extensions and Connections (for all students)

- Coordinate with the language arts or art teacher to have students create their own menu to use for this activity.

- Create a sales flyer for a store having a sale. Ask a friend to buy three items. Calculate the total amount of the purchase including a 5% sales tax.

Strategies for Differentiation

- Have students highlight key words and amounts in a problem.
- Have each student make a list of information needed to solve a problem. The list could be used to create a chart.

