



Measuring weights, precision & errors

Grade 5 Measurement Worksheet

Scale A

How heavy is the guitar? _____

Scale B

How heavy is the guitar? _____

1. Which scale is more precise, A or B? Why?

2. Are your measurements exact? Explain.

3. Rey recorded the weight of the sack of harvested potatoes and wrote the measurement as 43 ± 5 lbs. Why do you think Rey wrote the weight like that?

4. What do you think the minimum weight of the potatoes is?

5. What do you think the maximum weight of the potatoes is?



Answers

Scale A
How heavy is the guitar? $5 \frac{5}{16}$ lbs

Scale B
How heavy is the guitar? **Between** $5 \frac{1}{4}$ and $5 \frac{3}{8}$ lbs

1. Which scale is more precise, A or B? Why?

Scale A is more precise because it has smaller divisions.

2. Are your measurements exact? Explain.

All physical measurements contain some uncertainty.

3. Rey recorded the weight of the sack of harvested potatoes and wrote the measurement as 43 ± 5 lbs. Why do you think Rey wrote the weight like that?

Rey knew that his measurement was not exact, and wanted to show that the weight was between 38 and 48 lbs.

4. What do you think the minimum weight of the potatoes is?

38 lbs

5. What do you think the maximum weight of the potatoes is?

48 lbs