

Use Properties of Addition

Properties of addition can help you group and order addends so you can use mental math to find sums.

The **Commutative Property of Addition** states that when the order of two addends is changed, the sum is the same.

$$6 + 3 = 3 + 6$$

The **Associative Property of Addition** states that when the grouping of addends is changed, the sum is the same.

$$(3 + 6) + 4 = 3 + (6 + 4)$$

Use the properties and mental math to add $10\frac{3}{8} + 4\frac{7}{8} + 6\frac{5}{8}$.

Step 1 Look for fractions that combine to make 1. $10\frac{3}{8} + 4\frac{7}{8} + 6\frac{5}{8}$

Step 2 Use the Commutative Property to order the addends so that the fractions with a sum of 1 are together.

$$10\frac{3}{8} + 4\frac{7}{8} + 6\frac{5}{8} = 10\frac{3}{8} + 6\frac{5}{8} + 4\frac{7}{8}$$

Step 3 Use the Associative Property to group the addends that you can add mentally.

$$= (10\frac{3}{8} + 6\frac{5}{8}) + 4\frac{7}{8}$$

Step 4 Add the grouped numbers and then add the other mixed number.

$$= (17) + 4\frac{7}{8}$$

Step 5 Write the sum.

$$= 21\frac{7}{8}$$

Use the properties and mental math to find the sum.

1 $(3\frac{1}{5} + 1\frac{2}{5}) + 4\frac{4}{5}$

2 $(5\frac{7}{10} + 1\frac{4}{10}) + 6\frac{3}{10}$

3 $7\frac{3}{4} + (5 + 3\frac{1}{4})$

4 $(2\frac{5}{12} + 3\frac{11}{12}) + 1\frac{7}{12}$

5 $4\frac{7}{8} + (6\frac{3}{8} + \frac{1}{8})$

6 $9\frac{2}{6} + (4\frac{1}{6} + 7\frac{4}{6})$