Lesson 5: Simplifying fractions

➜ pages 83–85

1. a) $\frac{2}{10} = \frac{1}{5}$
b) Dividing the numerator and denominator by 5; $\frac{5}{10} = \frac{1}{2}$

2. a) $\frac{6}{9} = \frac{2}{3}$ b) $\frac{10}{12} = \frac{5}{6}$

3. Lines drawn to match the diagrams with the fractions:
Top diagram ➜ $\frac{3}{4}$
Middle diagram ➜ $\frac{1}{2}$
Bottom diagram ➜ $\frac{4}{5}$

4. Richard ate $\frac{8}{20}$, Zac ate $\frac{3}{5} = \frac{12}{20}$ and Ambika ate $\frac{8}{10} = \frac{16}{20}$.
Richard ate the least amount of chocolate.

5. a) Divide numerator and denominator by 6 (giving $\frac{2}{5}$).
b) Divide numerator and denominator by 8 (giving $\frac{1}{4}$).
c) Divide numerator and denominator by 18 (giving $\frac{1}{2}$).

6. No, Lee is incorrect. The numerator and denominator are both divisible by 3 and so can be simplified further, i.e. $\frac{3}{9} = \frac{1}{3}$.

Reflect

Explanations may vary, but should reference that a fraction is in its simplest form when there is no number (other than 1) that will divide into both the numerator and the denominator.