

**SECTION**

**5A**

**Ready to Go On? Skills Intervention**

**5-5 Customary Measurements**

You can use customary units to describe the length, weight, or capacity of objects. Benchmarks help you to choose the unit and estimate the measurement.

**Choosing the Appropriate Customary Unit**

Use lines to connect each of the three measurements with its benchmark and customary unit.

Measurement of the . . .	Benchmark	Customary Unit for the Measurement
<input type="checkbox"/> weight of cloth glove <input type="checkbox"/> capacity of a test tube <input type="checkbox"/> width of the space bar on a keyboard	<input type="checkbox"/> weight of 3 apples <input type="checkbox"/> capacity of a large milk jug <input type="checkbox"/> length of a small paper clip <input type="checkbox"/> weight of a slice of bread <input type="checkbox"/> amount of water in two tablespoons	<input type="checkbox"/> foot (ft) <input type="checkbox"/> ounce (oz) <input type="checkbox"/> cup (c) <input type="checkbox"/> inch (in.) <input type="checkbox"/> fluid ounce (fl oz)

**Converting Customary Units**

Convert 15 pounds to ounces. There are 16 ounces in one pound.

**A. Method 1: Use a proportion.**

First, write a proportion using equivalent ratios.

$$\frac{\text{ounces}}{\text{pounds}} = \frac{\quad}{\quad} = \frac{x}{\quad}$$

Next, cross-multiply and solve.

$$\underline{\quad} \cdot \underline{\quad} = \underline{\quad} \cdot x$$

$$\underline{\quad} = x$$

$$15 \text{ pounds} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$$

**B. Method 2: Multiply by 1.**

Multiply by a ratio equal to 1, and cancel the units. (*Think: 15 pounds times 16 ounces per pound.*)

$$\begin{aligned} \text{lb} &= \frac{\quad}{1} \times \frac{\text{oz}}{1} \\ &= \frac{\quad \times \quad \text{oz}}{1} \\ &= \underline{\quad} \text{ oz} \end{aligned}$$

$$15 \text{ pounds} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$$