

Vocabulary Review Sheet Lesson

Absolute Value and Fairness in Education

How to Use

- Read each term before watching or reviewing the lesson video.
- Study how each word connects math, real life, and fairness.
- Notice that **absolute value measures distance** —not direction — and fairness is about how far schools are from equal opportunity.
- Keep this sheet in your *Equity in Numbers Student Journal* for self-study and quiz review.

Absolute Value

- **Definition:** The distance a number is from 0 on a number line; always positive.
- **Math Examples:**
 - $|-7| = 7$
 - $|+7| = 7$
 - $|82 - 75| = |+7| = 7$
- **Real-Life Example:** The district checks how far each school's test score is from 75%.
- **Fairness Example:** Absolute value lets us compare all schools fairly — it measures *how far* each one is from the goal, not which side they're on.

Distance

- **Definition:** How far apart two values are on a number line or scale.
- **Math Examples:**
 - Distance = $|75 - 68| = 7$
 - Distance = $|75 - 82| = 7$
 - Distance = $|90 - 75| = 15$

- **Real-Life Example:** The farther a score is from 75%, the greater the improvement needed.
- **Fairness Example:** Measuring distance helps identify which schools are closer to or farther from educational goals.

Goal

- **Definition:** The target value a group aims to reach.
- **Math Examples:**
 - Target = 75; $|68 - 75| = 7$ away
 - Target = 75; $|82 - 75| = 7$ away
 - Target = 75; $|78 - 75| = 3$ away
- **Real-Life Example:** Every school's goal is to reach 75% proficiency.
- **Fairness Example:** Setting the same goal ensures all schools are measured by an equal standard of achievement.

Difference

- **Definition:** The result of subtracting one number from another; shows change.
- **Math Examples:**
 - $68 - 75 = -7$
 - $82 - 75 = +7$
 - $70 - 75 = -5$
- **Real-Life Example:** The difference between a school's score and the goal shows how much growth is needed.
- **Fairness Example:** Differences reveal gaps between schools and highlight where support is most needed.

Fairness

- **Definition:** Treating everyone justly so each has what they need to meet the same standard.
- **Math Examples:**
 - $|-7| = |+7| \rightarrow$ both 7 away from the goal
 - $|-3| = 3 \rightarrow$ closer to goal
 - $|-12| = 12 \rightarrow$ farther from goal
- **Real-Life Example:** Two schools may be below or above the goal but still equally distant from it.
- **Fairness Example:** Fairness means focusing on *distance from opportunity* instead of assigning blame for direction.

Gap

- **Definition:** The numerical or performance difference between two values or groups.
- **Math Examples:**
 - $|82 - 68| = 14$
 - $|75 - 63| = 12$
 - $|78 - 70| = 8$
- **Real-Life Example:** The gap between schools' test scores shows inequality in outcomes.
- **Fairness Example:** Closing score gaps is essential to achieving equity across districts.

Closer / Farther

- **Definition:** Comparison terms describing which value is nearer to or farther from the goal.
- **Math Examples:**
 - $|78 - 75| = 3 \rightarrow$ closer
 - $|63 - 75| = 12 \rightarrow$ farther

- $|70 - 75| = 5 \rightarrow$ moderate distance
- **Real-Life Example:** School D (78%) is closer to the district goal than School E (63%).
- **Fairness Example:** Identifying who is closer or farther helps educators target resources fairly.

Support

- **Definition:** The extra help given to bring numbers or results closer to the target.
- **Math Examples:**
 - $63 + 12 = 75 \rightarrow$ needs 12 points of support
 - $70 + 5 = 75 \rightarrow$ needs 5 points of support
 - $78 - 3 = 75 \rightarrow$ 3 above target \rightarrow share strategies
- **Real-Life Example:** Schools farther below the goal receive tutoring or funding support.
- **Fairness Example:** Support ensures that every learner has an equal chance to meet or exceed the target.

Equity

- **Definition:** Providing what each school or student needs to reach the shared goal.
- **Math Examples:**
 - $(68 + 7 = 75) \rightarrow$ equity support = 7
 - $(63 + 12 = 75) \rightarrow$ equity support = 12
 - $(70 + 5 = 75) \rightarrow$ equity support = 5
- **Real-Life Example:** Schools below the goal receive proportional help based on their distance from 75%.
- **Fairness Example:** Equity means adjusting resources so that all schools can stand at the same level of success.

Absolute Distance from Goal

- **Definition:** The total number of points away from a target, ignoring direction.
- **Math Examples:**
 - $|68 - 75| = 7$
 - $|82 - 75| = 7$
 - $|63 - 75| = 12$
- **Real-Life Example:** This shows how far each school's test score is from the goal, regardless of being higher or lower.
- **Fairness Example:** Measuring absolute distance helps educators focus on how much improvement is needed, not on which side of average a school falls.