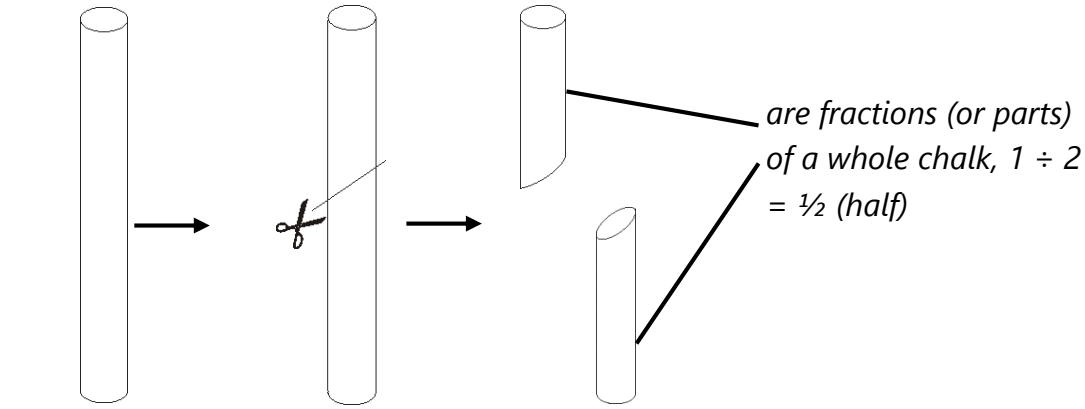
FRACTION

Fraction is a part of a whole thing. A whole thing is a complete thing, also it means just one (1) thing. For example, a whole stick of chalk is a complete piece of chalk. If we break the whole chalk into two (2) parts we've divided the whole chalk into *fractions* of it.



A whole chalk, i.e. 1 complete chalk

dividing (breaking or sharing) of a whole chalk into two (2): 1÷2

Writing Fractions in Mathematics

For fractions to made, a whole thing would been shared, divided or broken into a number places. For instance, the illustration above shows that "1 chalk is *broken* into 2". We can write this English statement in fractional form in mathematics, thus:

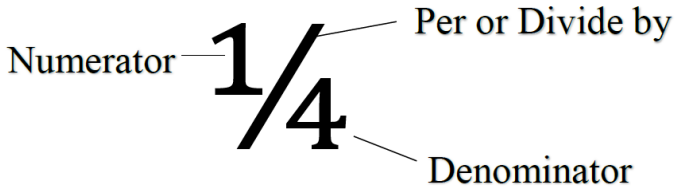
1 chalk ÷ 2 = ½ chalk

The symbol *divided by* or *broken* (÷) is usually replaced with *per* (/), such that 1 ÷ 2 = 1 / 2 = ½. ½ is a number, not a *mathematical expression* like 1 ÷ 2, however we could easily interconvert the forms.

3 ÷ 4 = 3 / 4 = ¾

$$\mathbf{5 \div 4 = 5 / 4 = \frac{5}{4}}$$

In writing fractions, the upper number is known as the *numerator* and the down numbers is called the *denominator*.



Converting some English Phrase into Fractions

Half of a bread = half (½) of (×) a bread (1 bread)
= ½ × 1 bread.

Two people among five = $\frac{2}{5}$ people

A quarter = ¼

A third = $\frac{1}{3}$

Two-sixth = $\frac{2}{6}$