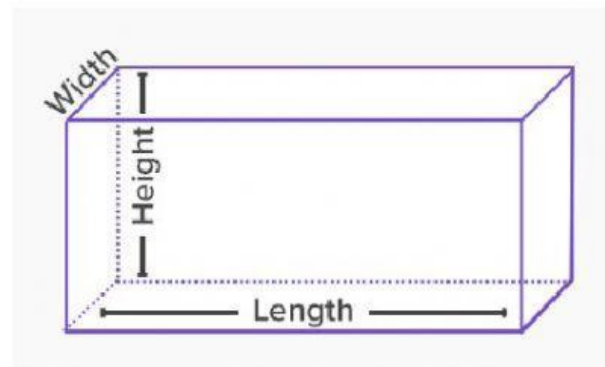


THE METRIC SYSTEM & THE IMPERIAL SYSTEM

Measurements: metric vs. imperial

Most countries in the world use the metric system of measurement. In the past, the United Kingdom used the imperial system. British people still use some imperial measurements today, such as *miles* to express distance, and *pints* to express capacity.

50**Glossary:****FUEL TANK**

hold: agarrar, contener, sostener

**flour: harina**

1 Write the Spanish translations of these units of measurement.

foot (ft) _____

gram (g) _____

kilogram (kg) _____

mile (m) _____

kilometre (km) _____

inch (in) _____

metre (m) _____

pound (lb) _____

centimetre (cm) _____

litre (l) _____

centilitre (cl) _____

pint (pt) _____

gallon (gal) _____

80

2 Now write the units of measurement from Ex.1 in the correct column.

	METRIC	IMPERIAL
LENGTH		
WEIGHT		
CAPACITY		

3 Which units would you use to describe the following?
Give each answer in both metric and imperial.

1 the distance from Buenos Aires to Neuquén

2 a bag of flour

3 a bottle of milk

4 the size of your Computer screen

5 the size of your bedroom

6 your height

DOING CONVERSIONS

1 km	=	0.625 mile
30.5 cm	=	1 foot
2.54 cm	=	1 inch
1 kg	=	2.2lb
4.5 litres	=	1 gallon
1 litre	=	1.75 pints

Example:

1 foot = 30.5 cm

To convert from feet to centimetres, we multiply by 30.5

e.g. 2 feet = $2 \times 30.5 = 61$ cm

To convert from centimetres to feet, we divide by 30.5

e.g. 885 cm = $885 \div 30.5 = 29$ feet

5 Now do the conversion exercises.

- 1 Rob is 5.5 feet tall. What is his height in metres? _____
- 2 Susan's son weighs 30 kilograms. What is his weight in pounds? _____
- 3 Helen runs 3.5 miles every day. How far does she run in kilometres? _____
- 4 I drink 2 litres of water a day. How much do I drink in pints? _____
- 5 We've got a 32-inch television screen. What is its size in centimetres? _____
- 6 The car's fuel tank capacity is 56 litres. How many gallons can it hold? _____

Write 6 similar conversion exercises to those in Ex.5. Write the Solutions.