

4.16 Medals

Topic: Measurement

Subtopic: Length

Activity type/skill: Reading tables

Literacy focus: Reading

Genre: Mathematical problems

Objective

- Become familiar with simple tables commonly used in mathematics.
- Read and extract required information from tables.

What you need

- Student worksheet (see next page)

What to do

1. Look at the top of the student worksheet and read it together.
2. Have students recall tables they have used in other subject areas. (New learners of English often are unfamiliar with the range of graphics used in English, how to interpret them and how to answer questions about them.)
3. Talk about the medals table and make sure students can distinguish rows from columns.
4. Show them how the first answer was worked out, then have them work in pairs to answer the rest of the questions. Check that they all agree on the correct answers.

Answers:

60

38

118

72

Extending the activity

- Have students ask and answer more questions using the table.
- Have students make their own tables recording familiar information such as how they travel to school, what sport they play, what TV programmes they like. They can work together, then exchange tables with other pairs of students and ask questions.

Activity sixteen

Reading tables

Tables are a useful way to show information.

Tables usually have rows and columns.

Rows go across (→)

Columns go down (↓)

The words in the top row tell you what sort of information is in the column.

Tables usually have a title.

Medals won at a sports meeting

Country	Gold	Silver	Total
USA	46	72	118
China	38	112	150
Germany	11	48	59
New Zealand	8	22	30
Australia	7	32	39



How many gold medals did Australia win?

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Try these

What was the total number of medals New Zealand won?

How many gold medals did China win?

How many medals did Germany win in total?

How many silver medals did USA win?

