



*Stuck? Scan
for the anchor
chart*

WHAT DIVISION MEANS • SET 5 • GRADE 3

Combinations: The Matching Machine

Shirts and pants make outfits. Cones and flavors make treats.
When you know the matches, division finds a **missing choice**.

	pants A	pants B
red shirt	outfit 1	outfit 2
blue shirt	outfit 3	outfit 4
green shirt	outfit 5	outfit 6

every shirt meets every pants

$$3 \times 2 = 6$$

shirts $\times$ pants = outfits

$$6 \div 3 = 2$$

outfits $\div$ shirts = pants

$$6 \div 2 = 3$$

outfits $\div$ pants = shirts

The chart is just an array in disguise: shirts are the rows, pants are the columns. Set 2's tricks all work here.

Roots of Reason

Combinations · Set 5

Name _____ Date _____

Build the Matching Chart

The ice cream stand has **2 cones** and **3 flavors**.
How many different treats can it make?

1. Fill every empty box with its treat. Write it like "cake + mint". The first one is done for you.

	mint	berry	mango
cake cone	<i>cake + mint</i>		
sugar cone			

The stand can make different treats. $2 \times 3 =$

2. A new flavor arrives! Now there are 4 flavors and still 2 cones. Do NOT draw the new chart. Just picture one more column. How many treats now?

$2 \times 4 =$ treats

Roots of Reason

Combinations · Set 5

Name _____ Date _____

The Missing Choice

Now division gets its turn. You know the **TOTAL** of matches.
You know **ONE** of the choices. Find the other.

1. A sandwich shop brags: "**12 different sandwiches!**" It has **3 breads**. How many fillings must it have? Finish the chart: label the bread rows, then split the 12 sandwiches evenly among them and count the columns you need.

	filling ____	filling ____	filling ____	filling ____
bread ____				
bread ____				
bread ____				

$$12 \text{ sandwiches} \div 3 \text{ breads} = \boxed{} \text{ fillings}$$

2. A game has **10 characters** made from hats and faces. There are **5 faces**. How many hats? No chart needed if you can see it.

$$10 \div 5 = \boxed{} \text{ hats}$$

Roots of Reason

Combinations · Set 5

Name _____ Date _____

Branch It Out

Another way to see matches: a tree.
Each choice branches into all the next choices.

1. Trace the tree with your finger: 2 cones, each branching to 3 flavors. Count the ends.



The tree has ends. Same 6 as the chart!

2. Draw the tree for this one: **8 outfits** come from **2 jackets**, each branching into some shirts. Start with the 2 jackets and figure out how many branches each one needs.

A large dashed rectangular box intended for drawing a tree diagram for 2 jackets branching into shirts to reach 8 outfits.

$8 \div 2 =$ shirts

Roots of Reason

Combinations · Set 5

Name _____ Date _____

Design Your Own Menu

You own a food truck. Your menu must offer **exactly 12 different meals**. You decide how.

1. Pick your two categories (like tacos and salsas, or noodles and toppings). Decide how many of each so the matches make exactly 12. Draw your menu chart with real names for everything.

2. Prove your menu works:

I chose _____ and _____ .

× = 12, and 12 ÷ =

Hint: there are three ways to hit 12 with two categories. 2 and 6, 3 and 4, or 1 and 12 (a boring truck).



WHAT DIVISION MEANS · SET 5 · GRADE 3

Answer Key and Teacher Notes

Build the Matching Chart (page 2)

1. 6 treats (cake/sugar × mint/berry/mango) 2. $2 \times 4 = 8$

The Missing Choice (page 3)

1. $12 \div 3 = 4$ fillings (all four columns used) 2. $10 \div 5 = 2$ hats

Branch It Out (page 4)

1. 6 ends 2. Each jacket branches into 4 shirts; $8 \div 2 = 4$

Design Your Own Menu (page 5)

Answers vary: 2×6 , 3×4 , 4×3 , 6×2 , or the boring 1×12 . Check the chart really shows every match and the division sentence uses their own numbers.

This closes the loop on the whole series: the combination chart IS the array from Set 2, the "how many treats now?" question is Set 3's stretch, and the menu design forces a student to run multiplication and division as one machine. A student who designs a working 3-by-4 menu and can say why $12 \div 3 = 4$ has all five meanings in hand.