

Liquid Unit Detectives

Choose milliliters or liters for real-life liquid amounts.

GRADE 5 • 5.MG.1.a.iii

5.MG.1.a.iii "Determine the most appropriate unit of measure to use in a contextual problem that involves metric units: liquid volume (milliliters and liters)."

NAME _____

DATE _____

PICK THE RIGHT SIZE

Use milliliters (mL) for a small amount of liquid, such as a spoonful. Use liters (L) for a larger amount of liquid, such as a bucket. Think about the size of the container and how much liquid it can hold.

WORKED EXAMPLE

A juice box holds 180 ____ of apple juice. Should the blank be mL or L?

1. A juice box is a small container.
2. Milliliters measure small amounts of liquid.
3. 180 mL is reasonable. 180 L would be far too much.

Answer: mL

PRACTICE 6 problems

- 1** A travel-size shampoo bottle holds a small amount of shampoo. Choose mL or L.

ANSWER _____

- 2** A bathtub holds water for a bath. Choose mL or L.

ANSWER _____

- 3** A medicine dropper holds a small amount of liquid medicine. Choose mL or L.

ANSWER _____

- 4** A large cooler holds punch for a class party. Choose mL or L.

ANSWER _____

- 5** A marker holds a small amount of ink. Choose mL or L.

ANSWER _____

- 6** A cafeteria milk dispenser holds milk for many students. Choose mL or L.

ANSWER _____

APPLY IT Show your work

- 1** During field day, the coach fills a large water cooler for the teams. Should the amount of water in the cooler be measured in milliliters or liters? Explain your choice.

WORK SPACE

ANSWER _____

- 2** The media club uses a tiny bottle of lens-cleaning liquid for cameras. Should the amount in the bottle be measured in milliliters or liters? Explain your choice.

WORK SPACE

ANSWER _____

CHALLENGE One step up

CHALLENGE

A student labels a reusable drink bottle "750 L." Explain why this label is not appropriate. What unit should the label use instead?

PART 1 • PRACTICE

#	PROBLEM	ANSWER
1	A travel-size shampoo bottle holds a small amount of shampoo. Choose mL or L.	mL
2	A bathtub holds water for a bath. Choose mL or L.	L
3	A medicine dropper holds a small amount of liquid medicine. Choose mL or L.	mL
4	A large cooler holds punch for a class party. Choose mL or L.	L
5	A marker holds a small amount of ink. Choose mL or L.	mL
6	A cafeteria milk dispenser holds milk for many students. Choose mL or L.	L

PART 2 • APPLY IT

1. **liters (L)** A large water cooler holds a large amount of liquid, so liters are the appropriate unit.
2. **milliliters (mL)** A tiny bottle holds a small amount of liquid, so milliliters are the appropriate unit.

CHALLENGE

The label should say 750 mL because a reusable drink bottle holds a small amount of liquid, not 750 liters.

Accept mL or milliliters, and L or liters. For explanations, accept correct reasoning based on whether the container holds a small or large amount of liquid.