

VCAL NUMERACY - Numeracy for Practical Purposes - Measuring
 Outcome 2 - Foundation - SECTION C

Until 1970 Australia used the imperial system of measurement. Between 1970 and 1980 the Government changed to the Metric system. Many people still use both metric and imperial measurements. The table below shows some conversions from imperial to metric. There are many other Imperial measurement units.

Imperial Unit (1)	Abbreviation	=	Metric Unit	Abbreviation
acre	acs	0.404685642 ha	hectare	ha
mile	mi	1.609344 km	kilometre	km
yard	yd	0.9144 m	meter	m
foot	Ft'	30.48 cm	centimetre	cm
inch	in"	2.54 cm		
stone	st	6.35029318 kg	kilogram	kg
pound	lb	453.59237 g	grams	g
ounce	oz	28.3495231 g		
points	pts	4 points = 1 mm 100 points = 1 inch 25mm = 1 inch	millimetre	mm
chain	chain	20.1168 m	metre	M
Degrees Fahrenheit	° F	Subtract 32 from °F Divide by 1.8 = ° C	Degrees Celsius	° C
gallon	gal	4.5461 litres	litre	Lt
hands high	hh	10.16 cm		

1/ Country singer Lee Kernaghan sings about a "3 Chain Road" and there is a "3 Chain Road" north of Nhill between the Netherby Rd and Woorak Ni Ni Lorquon Road. What are 3 chains equal to in today's measurements? What do you think 3 Chains refers to?

2/ The local farmers often refer to rainfall in points, inches or millimetres. If a farmer had 2 inches of rain in 24 hours, how many mm would have fallen?

3/ A newborn baby weighed 7 lb 6 oz. What metric weight was the baby? Give your answer in g and kg.

4/ Older people often express a hot day as '100 in the shade'. How hot is this temperature in modern language?

5/ A favourite chocolate cake recipe says to heat the oven to 180°C. This is considered to be a moderate oven. If you had an old oven with only a Fahrenheit thermostat, what temperature would the oven need to be heated to?

6/ Farmer Jo has obtained a Global Positioning System in the tractor but it only gives measurements in hectares. Farmer Jo is more familiar with acres and wants to know what a 150 hectare paddock is in acres.

7/ A person is 5'10" tall. How tall is the person in cm?

8/ Julie just bought a 10,000 Lt water tank for her house but her grandfather understands gallons better. What will Julie need to tell her grandfather so that he can understand the size of the water tank properly?

9/ The famous racehorse Phar Lap was 17.1 hh. How tall is this in cm and m?

10/ If it is 75 km from Nhill to Horsham via the Western Highway, how far is it in miles?