Study what a fraction looks like.

numerator (**noo**-muh-ray-tur) - the top number in a fraction. It means the number of equal parts being described.

denominator (di-**nom**-uh-nay-tur) - the bottom number in a fraction. It means the total number of equal parts.

—   this symbol in a fraction shows it is a fraction.   It means divided by.
      Example: $\underline{2}$ is 2 divided by 3, and is the fraction two-thirds.
            3

/   this symbol means the same as the above symbol. It is often used to
      make typing easier. Example: 2/3 is the fraction two-thirds or
      2 divided by 3

Summary: 2/3   is a fraction with 2 the numerator and 3 the denominator. The /
or — means divided by. It can also be written $\underline{2}$
                                               3

numerator ——→ $\underline{4}$
denominator —→ 8 ←— divided by

To remember which is the numerator and which is the denominator, think "d" for down, and "d" for denominator. The denominator is the number down on the bottom of the fraction.

Say each word out loud and write it in the blank.

numerator_____
denominator_____

Write each definition in your own words.

numerator

denominator

Write 4 fractions using the — symbol and label all the parts.

Write 4 fractions using the / symbol and label all the parts.

Circle the numerators.

3/8   9/10   3   ½   7/10   6   9
                             5   11   25

Circle the denominators.

3/8   9/10   3   ½   7/10   6   9
                             5   11   25

Circle the divided by symbols.

3/8   9/10   3   ½   7/10   6   9
                             5   11   25