

**Study the following.**

The following are units of length for the metric system.

millimeter (**mil-i-mee-tur**) – a dime is about a millimeter thick.

centimeter (**sent-uh-mee-tur**) – a ball point pen is about a centimeter thick.

meter (**mee-tur**) – The distance from the floor to a doorknob is about a meter

kilometer (**kuh-lom-uh-tur**) or (**kil-uh-mee-tur**) –a little more than two times around a running track..

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

millimeter \_\_\_\_\_

centimeter \_\_\_\_\_

meter \_\_\_\_\_

kilometer \_\_\_\_\_

**Write each definition in your own words. (Say about how long it is.)**

millimeter

centimeter

meter

kilometer

**Write one sentence using each word.**

millimeter

1.

centimeter

1.

meter

1.

kilometer

1.

**Matching.**

millimeter	the thickness of a dime
centimeter	the distance two times around a running track
meter	the thickness of a ball point pen
kilometer	the length from the floor to a kitchen counter.

**Study the following.**

- 1 centimeter = 10 millimeters
- 1 meter = 100 centimeters
- 1 meter = 1000 millimeters
- 1 kilometer = 1000 meters

**Matching**

1 centimeter	100 centimeters
1 meter	1000 millimeters
1 meter	1000 meters
1 kilometer	10 millimeters

**Study the following.**

The metric system is a very organized system with all the units in multiples of 10 of each other. (Multiples of 10 are 10, 100, 1000, etc.)  
See how all the relationships above are in multiples of 10.

The names of the units in the metric system are logical also.

Meter is the basic unit for length. All the other units contain this word.

Milli means a thousandth, so the millimeter is a thousandth of a meter.

(Milli – meter = thousandth - meter.)

1000 millimeters are in 1 meter

Centi means a hundredth, so the centimeter is a hundredth of a meter.

(Centi-meter = hundredth - meter.)

100 centimeters are in 1 meter

Kilo means a thousand, so the kilometer is a thousand meters.

(Kilo-meter = thousand meters)

1 kilometer is 1000 meters

**Answer the following questions.**

1. What does milli mean? \_\_\_\_\_
2. What does centi mean? \_\_\_\_\_
3. What does kilo mean? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Metric system units of measure are all in multiples of \_\_\_\_\_.
5. What is the basic unit of length in the metric system? \_\_\_\_\_
6. 1000 millimeters = 1 \_\_\_\_\_
7. 100 centimeters = 1 \_\_\_\_\_
8. 1000 meters = 1 \_\_\_\_\_

**Study the following.**

Millimeters and centimeters are a multiple of 10 apart.  
There are 10 millimeters in 1 centimeter.

This is because milli is thousandth, centi is hundredth, and a thousandth and a hundredth are a multiple of 10 apart.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
mm	mm	mm	mm	mm	mm	mm	mm	mm	mm

1 centimeter
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**Fill in the blanks.**

1. Milli means \_\_\_\_\_, and centi means \_\_\_\_\_ so a millimeter and a centimeter are one multiple of \_\_\_\_\_ apart.
2. There are \_\_\_\_\_ millimeters in \_\_\_\_\_ centimeter.

**Matching**

- |                  |              |
|------------------|--------------|
| 100 centimeters  | 1 centimeter |
| 1000 millimeters | 1 meter      |
| 10 millimeters   | 1 meter      |
| 1000 meters      | 1 kilometer  |

**Study the following abbreviations.**

millimeter (mm)

centimeter (cm)

meter (m)

kilometer (km)

**Write the following numbers with the abbreviations for the units.**

1. 36 millimeters \_\_\_\_\_
2. 80 centimeters \_\_\_\_\_
3. 5 meters \_\_\_\_\_
4. 3 kilometers \_\_\_\_\_

**Fill in the blanks with the correct number, and use the abbreviation for each unit.**

1. 1 centimeter = \_\_\_\_\_
2. 1 meter = \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_
3. 1 kilometer = \_\_\_\_\_

**Study the following.**

ruler (**roo-lur**) – a flat stick with centimeters and millimeters marked on it. It is used to measure things in millimeters or centimeters. Rulers are usually about 15 to 32 centimeters long.

meter stick (**mee-tur stik**) – a meter long flat stick with centimeters and millimeters marked on it. It is used to measure things in millimeters, centimeters, or meters. It is called a meter stick because it is a meter long.

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

ruler \_\_\_\_\_  
stick \_\_\_\_\_

**Write each definition in your own words.**

ruler

meter stick

**Write one sentence using each word.**

ruler

1.

meter stick

1.

**Using a ruler or meter stick, find 5 things that measure about a millimeter.**

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

**Using a ruler or meter stick, find 5 things that measure about a centimeter.**

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

**Using a ruler or meter stick, find 5 things that measure about a meter.**

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

**Find 5 items and measure them in millimeters.**

	Item	Length in millimeters
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		

**Find 5 items and measure them in centimeters.**

	Item	Length in centimeters
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		

**Find 5 items and measure them in meters. ( You can measure floors, walls, etc.)**

	Item	Length in meters
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		



**Now before you measure, take a guess of the length. Write it down. Then measure the item and write down the length.**

**Guess and measure 5 items in millimeters.**

	Item	guess	Length in millimeters
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			

**Guess and measure 5 items in centimeters.**

	Item	guess	Length in centimeters
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			

**Guess and measure 5 items in meters.**

	Item	guess	Length in meters
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			

**Review. Fill in the blanks.**

1. 1 kilometer = \_\_\_\_\_
2. 1 meter = \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_
3. 1 centimeter = \_\_\_\_\_
4. The abbreviation for millimeters is \_\_\_\_\_.
5. The abbreviation for centimeters is \_\_\_\_\_.
6. The abbreviation for meters is \_\_\_\_\_.
7. The abbreviation for kilometers is \_\_\_\_\_.
8. Milli means \_\_\_\_\_.
9. Kilo means \_\_\_\_\_.
10. Centi means \_\_\_\_\_.
11. The basic unit of length is \_\_\_\_\_.