

Activity 5 Scale – of your desk

Study pages 15 & 16 in the lesson notes. Contact your teacher if you need some extra advice.

Try this exercise.

1. Draw a straight line 10cm long without using your ruler.

2. Measure your line carefully with your ruler.

Were you a good judge of 10cm distance? _____

3. Now let's make a map of the top of your desk. Measure its length and width. These distances just don't fit on to the page or paper.

Problem: How can you show the desk on this page? Try drawing it smaller than it really is. Your desk might be about 100 centimetres long. Rule it in the space below as a line one-tenth as long, that is, a line 10cm long. Now draw another line only one-tenth the width of your desk. Finish drawing your desktop.



The result is a simple map. It is probably a small rectangle, much smaller than the real desk it shows. You have drawn a map of your desk **to scale**. The size of the desk is only one-tenth its real size. The scale of your map is 1 to 10, because 1cm on the map shows 10cm on the desk. So scale is a **RATIO**.