## Working with scales worksheet

Here is a map of north-western Tasmania. On the map is a 4 cm line that represents an actual distance of 50 km .


1 Without making any measurements or calculations, estimate the direct distance between:

- Strahan and Queenstown
- Stanley and Wynyard
- Devonport and Queenstown
- Wynyard and Cressy
- Strahan and Cressy

On the map, 4 cm represents 50 km .

We can write this as a ratio of $4 \mathrm{~cm}: 50 \mathrm{~km}$.

However, ratios and scales should use the same units for each value. Using centimetres we have:

4 : $\qquad$

Which is equivalent to
1 : $\qquad$

2 Now measure the straight-line map distances between the towns in question 1. Calculate the distances using the scale and complete the table.

For example: Strahan to Queenstown

Map distance is 1.8 cm .

Map scale 1:1 250000

Actual distance $1.8 \times 1250000=2250000 \mathrm{~cm}$

$$
=22.5 \mathrm{~km}
$$

|  | Map distance | Calculated distance |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Strahan to Queenstown |  |  |
| Stanley to Wynyard |  |  |
| Devonport to Queenstown |  |  |
| Wynyard to Cressy |  |  |
| Strahan to Cressy |  |  |

3 Comment upon the accuracy of your estimations in question 1.

This is a map of north-west Western Australia. On this map is a 2 cm line that represents an actual distance of 50 km .


4 Without making any measurements or calculations, estimate the direct distance between:

- Dampier and Roebourne
- Pannawonica and Karratha
- Whim Creek and Karratha
- Dampier and Pannawonica
- Roebourne and Whim Creek

5 The scale on this map is 2 cm represents 50 km . Using centimetres for both measurements we have a scale of:

2 : $\qquad$

Which is equivalent to 1 : $\qquad$

6 Measure the straight line distances between the towns in question 4. Calculate the distances using the scale and complete this table.

|  | Map distance (km) | Calculated distance <br> (km) |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Dampier to Roebourne |  |  |
| Pannawonica to <br> Karratha |  |  |
| Whim Creek to <br> Karratha |  |  |
| Dampier to <br> Pannawonica |  |  |
| Roebourne to Whim <br> Creek |  |  |

7 Reference to a road atlas of Australia gives the following distances between towns:

| Tasmanian <br> towns | Road distance <br> $\mathbf{( k m})$ | WA towns | Road distance (km) |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Strahan to <br> Queenstown | 41 | Dampier to <br> Roebourne | 60 |
| Stanley to <br> Wynyard | 61 | Pannawonica to <br> Karratha | 200 |
| Devonport to <br> Queenstown | 182 | Whim Creek to <br> Karratha | 124 |
| Wynyard to <br> Cressy | 174 | Dampier to <br> Pannawonica | 219 |
| Strahan to <br> Cressy | 260 | Roebourne to <br> Whim Creek | 84 |

8 How close are your calculations and these distances?

9 Does one map appear to be more accurate than the other?

10 Discuss possible reasons for your answers to these questions.

