Read out the following news item:

In an opinion poll published today, over ¾ of the electorate say they intend to vote in next month's referendum. ¼ of voters say they will definitely vote Yes, while ⅓ will vote No. But that leaves over ⅖ of the voters who haven't made up their minds. Both sides remain hopeful. A spokesman for the 'Yes' campaign said, 'At the moment, ⅔ of the electorate won't vote No.' A spokeswoman for the other side replied, 'That's true, but ¾ won't vote Yes!'

9 Calculating

$10 + 4 = 14$ ten **plus** *or* **and** four **is** *or* **equals** fourteen

Remember to pronounce the *s* in *equals* as /z/. It is singular: the left side **equals** the right side.

$10 - 4 = 6$ ten **minus** *or* **take away** four is *or* equals six

$10 \times 4 = 40$ ten **times** *or* **multiplied by** four is *or* equals forty

$10 \div 4 = 2\frac{1}{2}$ ten **divided by** four is *or* equals two and a half

$+$ = **add** $-$ = **subtract** (or **deduct**) $\times$ = **multiply** $\div$ = **divide**

Other ways of saying divide are:

per		**over**	
¥/$	yen per dollar	$(x - y)/z$	x minus y, over z
6% p.a.	six percent per annum		which is not the same as
750 kph	750 kilometers per hour		x, minus y over z $x - y/z$

10^2 ten squared

index 10^3 *radix*   ten cubed

radi $\sqrt{10}$ *radi cand*   the square root of 10   *cube root of 64; the fourth root of · the 20th root of 1*

$x^2 + y^3 = z$ x squared plus y cubed equals zed (British) *or* zee (American)

10 Numbers as adjectives

When a number is used before a noun – like an adjective – it is always singular (i.e. without *-s* at the end).

a fifty-minute lesson (**not** a fifty-minutes lesson)

a fourteen-week semester	a seven-person team
a fifteen-minute walk	a six-week waiting list
a twenty-pound reduction	a two and a half litre bottle
a six billion euro loan	a two-litre engine
a three-syllable word	a nine-figure number
a fifty-thousand dollar bonus	a two-hour flight
a three-day holiday	