Vocabulary Reference

Every term taught in Lessons 1 through 8

Term	What it means	Lesson
absolute value	How far a number is from zero. Never negative.	1
addend	A number being added.	1
additive inverse	The formal name for the opposite. A number plus its opposite is 0.	2
balance	How much is in an account, or how much is left after what has been used is taken away.	5, 8
common denominator	A shared denominator that lets two fractions be added or subtracted.	1
credit	Money added to an account. Written as a positive number.	5
debit	Money taken out of an account. Written as a negative number.	5
departure from the average	The actual value minus the average value.	5
depreciation	The loss in value of something over time.	6
difference	The result of subtracting. Its size is how far apart the numbers are; its sign shows which way.	2
discount	An amount taken off the price of an item.	7
dividend	The number being divided.	4
divisor	The number you are dividing by — the one that flips.	4
error analysis	Working out what someone else did right, what they did wrong, and where.	7
factor	A number being multiplied.	3
markup	The amount a store adds to what it paid.	6
one-time fee	A charge added once, no matter how large the job is.	8
opposite	The number the same distance from zero, on the other side.	2
order of operations	Grouping symbols, then exponents, then multiplication and division left to right, then addition and subtraction left to right.	7
per-unit charge	A charge repeated for every mile, minute, visit or pound.	8
product	The result of multiplying.	3
profit	The store price minus what the store paid.	6
quotient	The result of dividing.	4
rate	How much something changes per unit — per hour, per mile, per pound.	6

Term	What it means	Lesson
rational number	Any number that can be written as a fraction of two integers, with a denominator that is not zero.	1
reciprocal	The fraction flipped upside down. A number times its reciprocal is 1.	3, 4

Terms are listed alphabetically. The lesson column shows where each one is taught.

The Four Operations

Adding	Same signs — add and keep that sign. Different signs — subtract, and keep the sign of the number farther from zero.
Subtracting	Add the opposite. Keep the first number, change the operation, change the second number to its opposite.
Multiplying	Count the negative factors. An even number of them gives a positive product; an odd number gives a negative one.
Dividing	The same counting rule as multiplying — because dividing by a number is multiplying by its reciprocal.

Adding and subtracting each have their own rule. Multiplying and dividing share one.

Notation Worth Knowing

$a - b = a + (-b)$	Subtracting is adding the opposite. This is what turns every subtraction into an addition.
$a + (-a) = 0$	A number plus its additive inverse is zero. That is what makes “the opposite” useful.
$\frac{3}{4} \times \frac{4}{3} = 1$	A number times its reciprocal is 1. Flip the fraction — do not change its sign.
$\frac{a}{b} \div \frac{c}{d} = \frac{a}{b} \times \frac{d}{c}$	Keep, change, flip. Only the divisor flips.