

Multiplication of Decimal Fractions

Use the whole number multiplication fact given to work out the answer to the decimal problem, then explain how you got the answer.

$$34 \times 238 = 8092 \text{ so } 0.34 \times 23.8 =$$

Explanation

Gerry tries to work out 23.481×98.670945 by putting $23481 \times 98\ 670\ 945$ into a calculator. It shows an error message and 23168.924 in the display. Gerry knows the digits are correct, although the last ones are missing from the display. Explain why Gerry correctly claims $23.481 \times 98.670945 = 2316.8924$ from this display.

Explanation

Sandra has learnt a rule when multiplying decimals that she should add the decimal places. So to find 3.4×2.03 she works out $34 \times 203 = 6902$, then adds 1 and 2 = 3, then says the answer has 3 dps. So $3.4 \times 2.03 = 6.902$. But Jenny says this is unreliable. Jenny tells Sandra that $23.47105 \times 678.43501 = 1592358204$ except the decimal point is left out. Why does Sandra's method fail to locate the decimal point? By estimation locate where the point goes.

Explanation

Estimate these answers without using a calculator.

Problem	Estimate (Calculation)	Estimate (Answer)
467.78×0.48234	470×0.5	235
0.052×5890		
0.0234×0.789		
$0.475 \div 99.08912$	$400 \div 0.1$	4000
$56.08 \div 0.7912$		
$0.0109 \div 0.009456$		
$0.98 \div 96.6 \times 0.86$		
$109.9 \div 1025.6 \times 94.82$		
$67 \div 0.691 \div 101.878$		
$100.98 \times 0.444 \div 15.878$		
$0.98 \times 0.44 \times 105 \times 10.08$		