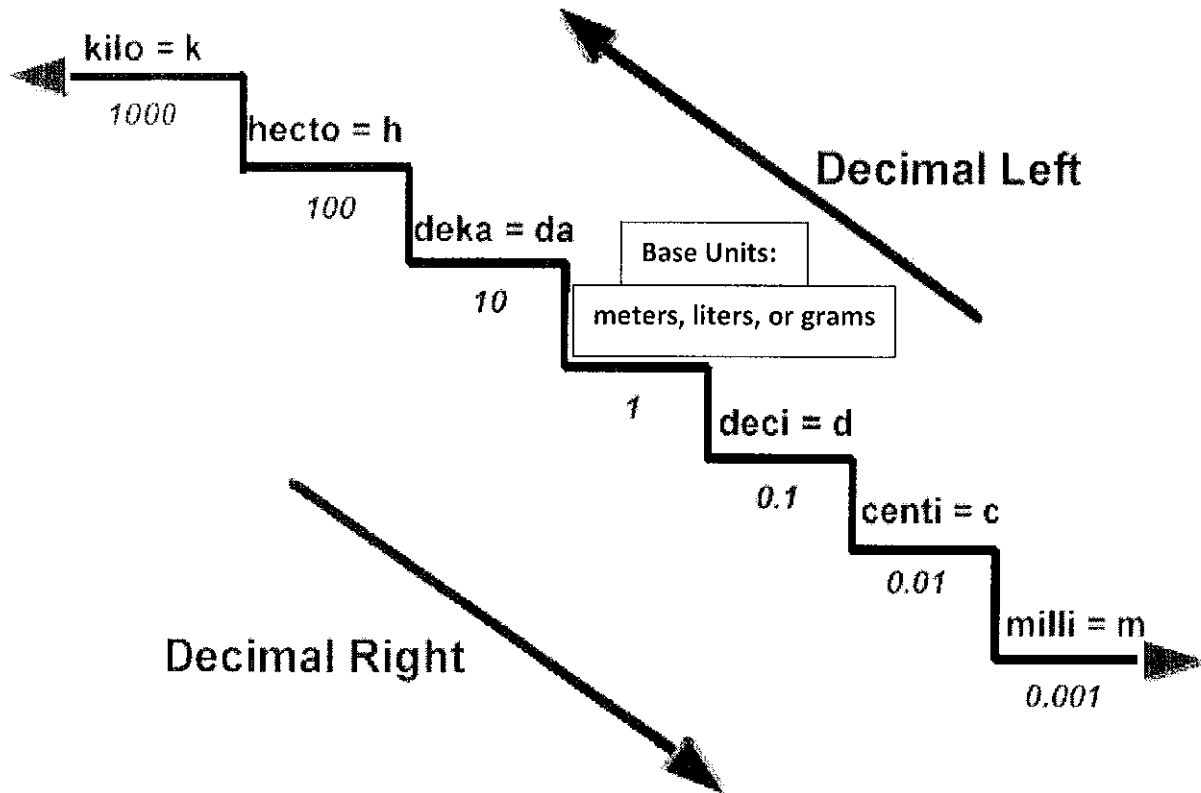


Name : _____ Period: _____ Date: _____

Metric Conversion Using the Stair Step Method



Example: Convert 2500.0 centimeters to _____ kilometers

1. Locate the beginning metric unit prefix on the metric stairs. (centi)
2. Locate the ending metric unit prefix on the metric stairs. (kilo)
3. Count the number of times you would put your foot down on a new step if you moved on the stairs from the beginning metric unit prefix to the ending metric unit prefix. (5)
4. Did you go left or right on the metric stairs? (Left)
5. Move the decimal (.) the number of steps you took on the stairs in the direction you went in the known number and you have converted to the unknown metric unit number. (0.025)

(Hint: When you go up the metric stairs, the number will become smaller. When you go down the metric stairs, the number will become larger.)