Lesson 12 Summary

To find a 30% increase over 50, we can find 130% of 50. $1.3 \cdot 50 = 65$

To find a 30% decrease from 50, we can find 70% of 50. $0.7 \cdot 50 = 35$

If we know the initial amount and the final amount, we can also find the percent increase or percent decrease. For example, a plant was 12 inches tall and grew to be 15 inches tall. What percent increase is this? Here are two ways to solve this problem:

The plant grew 3 inches, because $15 - 12 = 3$. We can divide this growth by the original height, $3 \div 12 = 0.25$. So the height of the plant increased by 25%.

The plant's new height is 125% of the original height, because $15 \div 12 = 1.25$. This means the height increased by 25%, because $125 - 100 = 25$.

Here are two ways to solve the problem: A rope was 2.4 meters long. Someone cut it down to 1.9 meters. What percent decrease is this?

The rope is now $2.4 - 1.9$, or 0.5 meters shorter. We can divide this decrease by the original length, $0.5 \div 2.4 = 0.208\overline{3}$. So the length of the rope decreased by approximately 20.8%.

The rope's new length is about 79.2% of the original length, because $1.9 \div 2.4 = 0.791\overline{6}$. The length decreased by approximately 20.8%, because $100 - 79.2 = 20.8$.