



## Math-Based Decisions in Air Traffic Control

### Student Workbook D

#### Understanding the Effects of **Differences in Speed.**

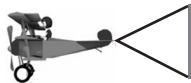
- Plot distances traveled at different speeds.
- Change knots to nautical miles per minute.



At 600 knots, a plane travels 10 nautical miles in 1 minute.

Investigator: \_\_\_\_\_

An Airspace Systems  
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# Introduction to Travel at Different Speeds



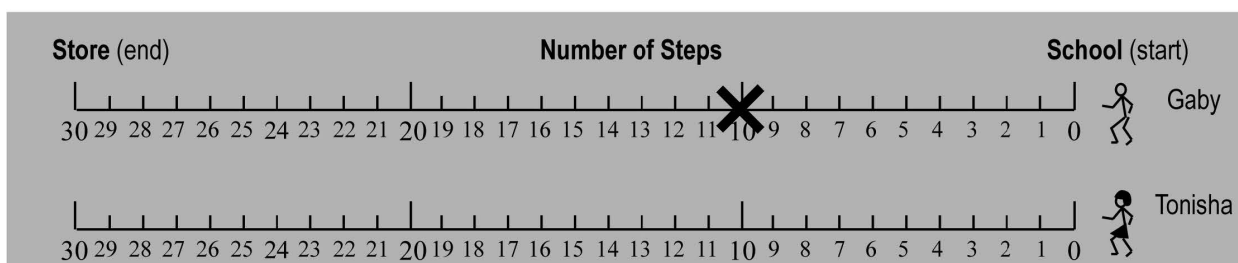
Investigator: \_\_\_\_\_

- Gaby and Tonisha are walking from school to a store. (Neither has a "headstart.")
- Each walks at a different speed (steps/minute) as shown in the speed table. →
- Gaby and Tonisha each tak the same size steps.

Speed Table

Name	Speed
Gaby	10 Steps/minute
Tonisha	9 Steps/minute

1 The number of steps that Gaby takes in 1 minute is:  steps      Tonisha:  steps



On Gaby's line, an **X** is shown where he will be in 1 minute.

2 On Tonisha's line, put an **X** where she will be in 1 minute.

3 How many steps is Tonisha behind Gaby after 1 minute?  steps

4 Mark Gaby's position and Tonisha's position after 2 minutes.

5 How many steps is Tonisha behind Gaby after 2 minutes.  steps

6 Mark Gaby's position and Tonisha's position after 3 minutes.

7 How many steps is Tonisha behind Gaby after 3 minutes?  steps

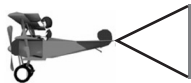
8 How many steps does Tonisha fall behind Gaby **each** minute?  steps per minute

9 How many steps would Tonisha fall behind in 5 minutes?  steps

10 If Tonisha takes 8 steps per minute, how many steps would she fall behind Gaby in 5 minutes?  steps

The number of steps Tonisha falls behind each minute is the same as the difference between the speeds.

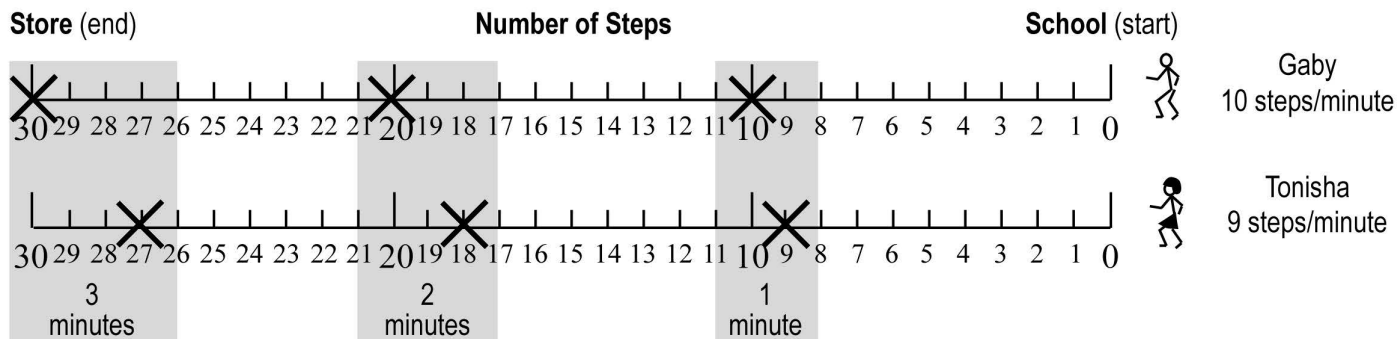




# Introduction to Travel at Different Speeds (continued)

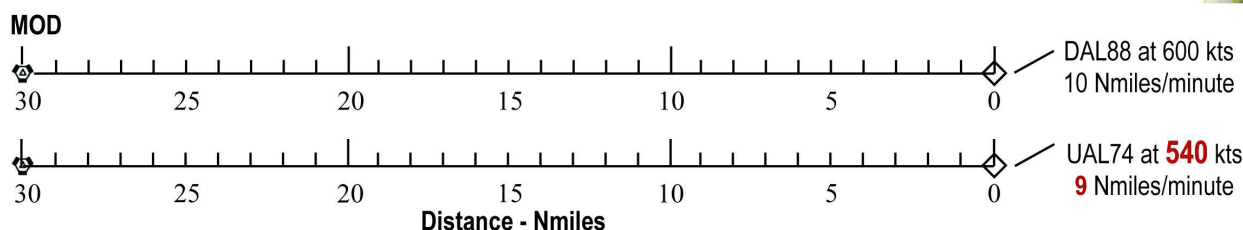


Investigator: \_\_\_\_\_



- DAL88 and UAL74 are each **30** nautical miles from MOD.
- DAL88 is traveling at 600 knots. That's 10 nautical miles per minute. (In 1 minute, the plane travels 1/60th the distance it travels in 60 minutes.)
- UAL74 is traveling 540 knots. That's 9 nautical miles per minute.  $540 \cdot 1/60 = 9$ .

Let's look at planes at different speeds!



11 On the DAL88 line, put an **X** through the number of miles it will travel in 1, 2, and 3 minutes.

12 On the UAL74 line, put an **X** through the number of miles it will travel in 1, 2, and 3 minutes.

13 How many miles is UAL74 behind DAL88 after:

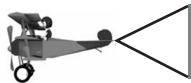
1 minute:  Nmiles      2 minutes:  Nmiles      3 minutes:  Nmiles

14 How many fewer nautical miles will UAL74 travel in **each** minute?  nautical miles per minute

15 When DAL88 has traveled 30 nautical miles to MOD, how many nautical miles behind is UAL74?  nautical miles

- **At 600 knots, a 60-knot speed drop causes a 1 nautical mile distance drop every minute.**

End of Worksheet



# Change Knots to Nautical Miles per Minute



Investigator: \_\_\_\_\_

Recall: 1 Knot = 1 Nautical mile per Hour  
1 Hour = 60 Minutes

- Since planes fly so fast, air traffic controllers need to make decisions in minutes.
- To do this they need to know how many nautical miles a plane will travel in 1, 2 and 3 minutes.

1 To change from nautical miles per hour (knots) to nautical miles per minute, divide by **60**.



Speed in knots (Nmiles/hour)	To change Knots to Nmiles per minute, divide by 60	Speed in Nmiles/minute
600 knots	$600 \div 60 = 10$	10 Nmiles/minute
540 knots	$500 \div \square = 9$	9 Nmiles/minute
480 knots	$\square \div \square$	$= \square$ Nmiles/minute

In 1 minute, a plane travels 1/60th the distance it travels in 60 minutes.



2 In the table below, fill in the total distance a plane travels in the times shown for each speed.

	1 minute	2 minutes	3 minutes
600 knots	$\square$ Nmiles	$\square$ Nmiles	$\square$ Nmiles
540 knots	$\square$ Nmiles	$\square$ Nmiles	$\square$ Nmiles

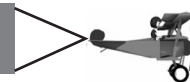
3 With a 60-knot speed reduction, how much less distance does the plane travel in the times below?

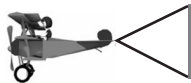
Speed Reduction	1 minute	2 minutes	3 minutes
60 knots	$\square$ Nmiles	$\square$ Nmiles	$\square$ Nmiles

4 If a plane slows its speed by 60 knots,  $\square$  nautical miles less will it travel each minute?

5 A controller reduces a plane's speed from 600 knots to 540 knots.  $\square$  nautical miles less will the plane travel in 5 minutes?

End of Worksheet

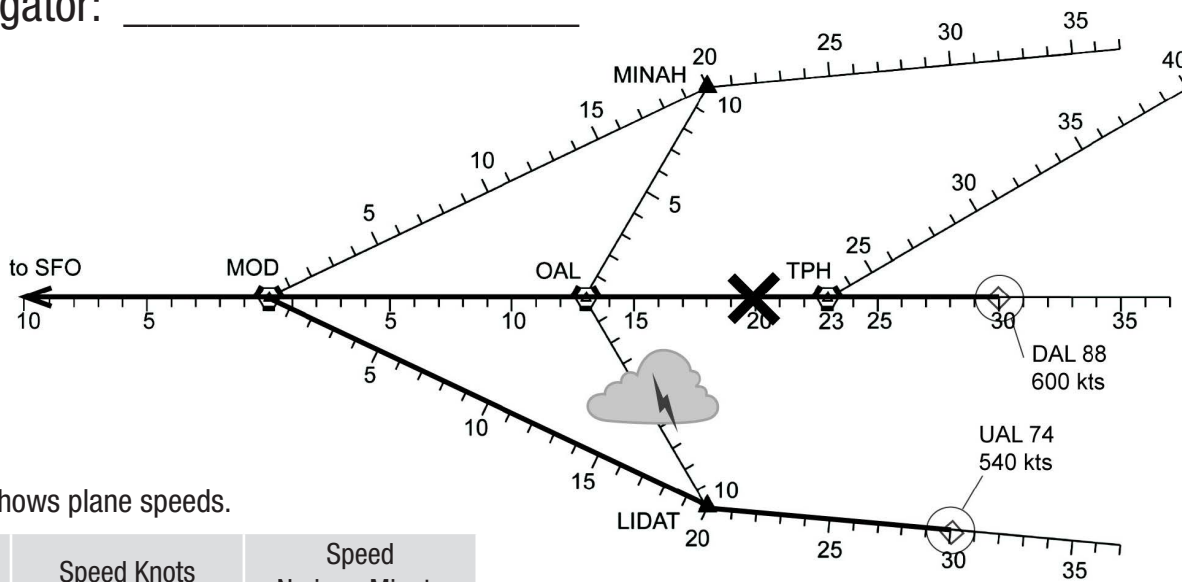




# Plot Distances for Different Plane Speeds



Investigator: \_\_\_\_\_



This table shows plane speeds.

Call Sign	Speed Knots	Speed Nmi per Minute
DAL88	600	10
UAL74	540	9

- How many nautical miles does each plane travel in 1 minute? DAL88  nautical miles UAL74  nautical miles
- For **each** plane, use an **X** to plot its position at 1, 2, and 3 minutes. Put a 3 near each plane's 3-minute mark: **X**<sub>3</sub>
- How many nautical miles does UAL74 fall behind DAL88 each minute?  nautical miles per minute
- Using the speed table, the difference in plane speeds **in nautical miles per minute** is:  nautical miles per **minute**
- The number of nautical miles that UAL74 falls behind each minute is the  same as  different than the difference between plane speeds in nautical miles per minute.
- How far will UAL74 fall behind in 3 minutes?  nautical miles
- Suppose the difference in speed is 2 nautical miles/minute.
  - How far would UAL74 fall behind in 3 minutes?  nautical miles
  - How many minutes will it take UAL74 to fall 8 nautical miles behind?  minutes



End of Worksheet

