Comparing Ratios

Different strategies can be used to compare ratios. The following examples illustrate.

**e.g.** Erica makes her coffee by mixing 2 scoops of coffee with 5 cups of water. Jim makes his coffee by mixing 3 scoops of coffee with 7 cups of water. Who makes stronger coffee?

**Strategy #1:** Draw **pictures** like you have drawn in your Ticket to Ride. Below is an example.

**Strategy #2:** Use **equivalent ratios**.
e.g. The recommended seeding on a package of grass seed is 200 g per 9 m$^2$. Carey spreads 150 g of seed over 6.5 m$^2$. Is this more than, less than or equal to the recommended rate of seeding?

**Strategy #3**: Use a calculator to reduce each ratio to a second term of 1, then compare.

e.g. A customer wants to paint a room blue. The contractor brings two samples: one where he has mixed 5 cans of blue with 3 cans of white paint, and a second where he has mixed 7 cans of blue with 4 cans of white paint. Determine which shade is lighter. (HINT: you will need a part-to-whole ratio to compare.)

**Strategy #4**: Convert each ratio to a percentage and compare.

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#4ac, 5ac, 6 (Use Strategies 1 and 2), 7 (Use strategies 3 and 4), 8, 9, 10, 13ab, 16. (You must demonstrate all four strategies to solve #16!)